

COMMUNITY COMMENT FOR September 11, 2013

This is Phil Arnot for Community Comment on KINS Radio.

Labor Day and working is the topic for today's Community Comment. Governor Mike Huckabee did a great job on this subject about three weeks ago. He said joblessness is an economic problem and we talk about the financial implications of widespread unemployment.

Following his TV show, Peggy Noonan wrote an opinion piece in the Wall Street Journal. She said that when you work you take part in society. She says to work is to be integrated into the daily life of this nation. There is pride and satisfaction in doing work well, in working with others and earning a discipline, a craft or an art. This article went on to say that to work is to grow and to find out who you really are. Governor Huckabee worked in very minimal jobs when he was younger. But was able to grow and find more meaningful jobs as he got older.

My own personal experience was my first real job outside of mowing lawns, which was at Daly Bros. I was 14 and a friend of mine and I were in charge of delivering all of the COD purchases and collecting the purchase price. We each made 65 cents per hour. My friend who was older, had a drivers license so he drove the store's van. Later, my friend quit this job and I had an offer for a job paying \$1.00 per hour. I went to talk to Charlie Daly and said I wanted a raise because I was now working alone and had an offer at \$100 per hour. He offered 85 cents per hour. I quit and took the job that paid me \$1.00 per hour and ultimately gave me the incentive and the career that shaped my life, college, law school and.. eventually ownership of that business that paid me that \$1.00 per hour.

What Peggy Noonan wrote is correct, work gives us purpose, stabilization, integration and a shared mission. Even in the 1970's there were people like Steve Job in his parent's garage working on circuit boards and Billo Gates creating Microsoft. Peggy Noonan went on to say that what we need now is a political leader, not one who tries to sound optimistic but someone with real passion about the idea of new businesses, new inventions, growth, productivity, and breakthroughs along with jobs, jobs, jobs.

She says we need someone in love with the market place and we do not have the political leaders to lead us in the right direction. American genius is still there it's in our garages and it's been there since Ben Franklin, his key and the kite and the bolt of lightning.

I leave you with a point to ponder. Don't you think that we need to elect political leaders at the national, state and local levels that are in love with the romance of the marketplace.

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