

Hello, this is Tom Cookman with a Community Comment.

I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. I really don't understand why the word Christmas is offensive to anyone. Eighty five percent of the people who live in this great nation claim to believe in God. Fortunately, we are a nation that allows us the freedom to choose God and go to a church of our choosing, or to believe that God doesn't exist. The problem I have with this debate is that the fifteen percent of our population that are atheists, want to remove God from every aspect of our public domain. This mentality is just wrong. We are so sensitive to offending anyone, that we go out of our way to make sure God isn't mentioned in anything, which is weird, because removing God offends a majority of us. We've kicked God out of our Courthouses. We've kicked God out of our City Halls and we've kicked God out of our schools. I often wonder what the motive is behind removing God from everything. It is weird to think that fifteen percent of our population is dictating public policy. The Bible teaches us to love thy neighbor. It teaches us that selfishness is wrong and we should help others. The Bible is full of moral fiber. This moral fiber has been lacking in the education of our school children ever since the ACLU and their horde of lawyers have become more and more successful in kicking God out the door. We are appalled at all the shootings, bombings, and murders that we hear about on a daily basis and yet we think it is wrong to teach our children absolutes. We want little Johnny to embrace his feelings and let him be whatever he wants to be. Today the moral teachings in the Bible are somehow viewed as intolerant and wrong. We allow video game manufacturers to produce the most hideous and violent games you can imagine. These games put weapons in the hands of the characters, and the child playing the game spends

countless hours every day killing. Some of these games allow you to connect online and your team kills the team of other kids online. They have games where the player steals a car and can run people down on the sidewalks. There are video games that improve your score by shooting police officers. The most violent things you can imagine are available on a video game today. Kids are left unattended for hours and hours every day with these violent games, and yet when a tragedy happens where some psychopath kills innocent people, somehow it is the guns fault. We have been an armed country since the first ship hit our shores. We have stricter and stricter gun laws every year. We have fewer Americans, as a percentage, who own guns today than at anytime in our history. Instead of attacking the guns, we need to attack the moral decay that has spread like cancer through our society. This moral decay is the root cause of these vicious crimes. I don't think it is a coincidence that we have seen an increase in this violence as we've kicked God out of our schools. The Bible needs to be the number one text book in our education system. If you don't believe in God, that is fine, that is between you and God, but, the moral standards set forth in the Bible, like the Ten Commandments, are needed by everyone. If we let God back into the public sector, teach our children that there are lines you cannot cross and there are feelings that are not ok to have, then we will be one step closer to repairing our morally deficient society. Whether you believe in God or not, we are celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, you shouldn't be offended by this fact. So, once again, I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, not Happy Holidays or Seasons Greetings, but Merry Christmas.

This has been Tom Cookman with a Community Comment