



GO FUND ME: LEGALIZED BEGGING

BY: Mindy Rader, Rockland Post Contributor



I hear all these people set up GoFundMe pages. It's just another sign of laziness. It used to be if you wanted money and didn't want to work, you did it the old-fashioned way. You stood on the corner with a cup and a monkey and an organ and begged. If you're a little more ambitious, you got a squeegee and stood at the exits of the old Westside highway and washed windows. People would throw you a dollar. You made a living. What happened to ambitious begging?

The internet has ruined life for beggars. The fact that everybody has access to the internet means people can't beg. People are afraid of strangers asking for a dollar. So, the whole industry has dried up. And busking on the streets and in the subway was an art form. People would bring out their guitar or other instruments, and the public would throw them a buck or so. No more. The Bowery, where it used to be the hobos lived, is now gentrified. The Bowery Boys would never recognize it. No more begging there.

So, what's happened? Well, it's called GoFundMe. On trial for murder? GoFundMe your defense. Not only do you get money for a lawyer, but your family ends up with a new fancy house and expensive cars, even if you have to spend 25 years in jail. Any problem you got, go beg for money by setting up a GoFundMe page. And you just don't get dollars. You may get hundreds of dollars, and your begging is now national, not local. Just with the click of a Venmo or PayPal you can get rich. I think this is so absurd that you can find enough suckers in this country to thrust you into a rich life.

It used to be when I was asked to contribute, for example to our local school, the kids would be selling candy or cookies or the like. Now they send me an invitation to give money at GoFundMe. They don't even have to ask me; they just send an email. Why should I send them money for no reason. Kids don't know what it is to have initiative and work to raise money. Just send an email and ask for it.

I really have to find out how to do this. I wish I had GoFundMe the roof we just had installed. Imagine having a luxury lifestyle by crying poverty and asking other people to pay for your misdeeds, laziness or your lifestyle. Commit a crime, make fools on the internet sympathetic to you and you got the "ticket to ride". And nobody cares.

Let me be blunt about this. A sucker is born every minute. We shouldn't be funding anybody for any reason any more than giving money to a beggar on the street. As a matter of fact, I would rather give it to the beggar on the street than to somebody who has committed murder and asking for their defense to be funded on GoFundMe. I should join the millions of people who set up a GoFundMe page so I too can pay for new stuff, said tongue in cheek!



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