

LIFE GOES ON IN THE MATRIX WORLD OF SOCIAL MEDIA

The Voice from the Pavement - Peter Adamis 22 March 2013

Unlike the movie MATRIX where the good guys always win, it is not always possible in social media circles. Egos get bruised, professionalism is questioned and normal behaviour patterns are put aside for the online debate. But life still goes on. As one of the administrators, I am always mindful of our international audience and have only been partially successful in enticing their participation. A few have ventured in providing an opinion and others submitting their views privately because of personal connections.

Well we had two debacles and sagas it could appear in the past two days. One online and the other politically. Whatever the case, neither was pretty sight to see all the "bodies of the slain" strewn across the battle field. The best victory is when no battle has been conducted but the battle lines have now been established.

Such is life and therefore as always we move onto other challenges and projects that we may find more suitable to our tastes and amusement. This author for one appreciates the methodology of research, the thrill of a vigorous and stimulating debate with the odd humour throw in for good measure. Those a little more adventurous take time off to get a boost to their adrenalin by taking part in more risqué chat lines. There is nothing wrong with that as long as the antics of one does not spill over into the next and so forth like a pack of dominoes.

So far this group has managed to entangle itself from discussing religious matters to spanking of children, the care and respect for the elderly, the crisis in Greece and Cyprus, to views on globalisation and the types of food we enjoy amongst other matters. There is always a time for fun and a time for serious discussion and while some seek to enjoy themselves by not taking the issues seriously there are equally the same amount that do.

This therefore raises a places the administrators in a dilemma, in trying to balance the topics being raised and supporting the facilitator who submits a topic. In a number of cases where a facilitator fails to provide a statement or an opinion, that topic may well fail, even though it is a topic worth exploring and discussing. The administrator will become proactive and look for provocative ways of attracting members or enticing them to the discussion, but is of no use if at the facilitator does not contribute.

Having said the above, let's now concentrate on the future and to a new beginning as we near the Anniversary of the Hellenic War of Independence. No matter what part of the world we all reside in, we must remember that its one of the few days that all Greeks are united. As such , may the weekends celebration be a joyful one that we all can remember.



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