

Karen Hanson (*former MTHS teacher*)

Modest Proposal Model Essay

AP English

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### Cool It, Young Lovers!

She ran excitedly towards her lover. As their eyes met, she felt her heart quicken. They fell into each other's arms and their lips met in a passionate kiss. His hands ran slowly down her back; their bodies quivered in the heat of their embrace...

Is it a scene of an R-rated movie? A page from a trashy romance novel? No, it's the hallway of Mountlake Terrace High School between classes. Yes, a problem exists in the halls of MTHS; it is succinctly called PDA, the short acronym for "public displays of affection." Each day, between classes, students wrap themselves around significant others, engage in long slobbery kisses, gaze passionately into each other's eyes, and let the rest of the world in on their intimate exchanges. All too often, these PDA's occur between couples who have dated only a few short weeks. To many of us these scenes are offensive, distracting, and inappropriate. They block the regular flow of traffic in the hallways, and they often cause the lovebirds to be late to class. It's time that those of us who choose to have our halls returned to PG status speak out and offer a solution to the PDA problem.

My solution, after interviewing a number of my colleagues, is a three-fold one. First, we give the offenders a taste of their own unattractive behavior. Teachers will sponsor a "Love Day" upon which they will bring their own significant others, stand outside their classrooms and madly "make out," ignoring students' groans and shouts of "GROSS," swaying to the music of their feverous

fervor. If the thought of this makes Terrace teens sick to their stomachs (and it should), solution number two stands ready.

Alternatively, teachers will be issued tazers to shock highly hormonal students who regularly display inappropriate forms of affection. While slightly invasive, these tazers might serve two purposes – breaking up the PDA and getting the students to classes more promptly. The tazers could be designed in bright colors and worn on chains around faculty waists where they are easily accessible at all times. Too dangerous? Perhaps solution number three is a preferable answer.

Solution number three involves storing large, super-blast water guns in receptacles in the hallway, much like fire extinguishers. If student couples persist in heating up their relationships in public hallways, any teacher (or offended classmate) may grab a water cannon, aim, and fire away, thus cooling the union much like dog owners sometimes separate mating canines. This will surely kill the urges and make it necessary for those offending students to bring several clothing changes if they persist in their seduction rituals.

My solutions may not make me a candidate for teacher of the year with some, but I think they may raise the grade point averages of a number of students who will be less distracted by sex and thus more attracted to education. A higher moral standard at school might actually raise students' respect for themselves and others in today's morally compromised society. Fewer PDA's will also result in fewer tardies by clearing the hallways for those students who actually believe the five minutes between classes is for traveling to other classrooms and engaging in friendly verbal banter with friends. Let's eliminate sexually explicit action from our high school hallways; after all, we can view it on our local television stations every night at prime-time. (But that's another cause!)