

An Open Letter to an Anonymous Critic

Sometime on Wednesday the 9th or Thursday the 10th of February (2011), some anonymous person scrawled “Do you educate? Or indoctrinate?” at the top of the poster that was in this position on the cork board.

Here’s my response.

First, if you don’t like one of my commie-pinko radical cartoons, **GOOD!** Come and argue about it! That’s the point of posting them – to stimulate discussion; to encourage dissent; to challenge authority; to break a mold of routine assumptions and cause surprise, indignation, outrage – and most of all, **THOUGHT**.

Second, ask my students if I impose an ideology on them. I’m convinced that you will find that they repeatedly see and hear me reminding them that just because I (or anyone else with positional authority) have an opinion, it doesn’t mean it’s right! They hear me asking them to challenge anything I say – and see me responding with courtesy and encouragement. That applies to information assurance and to politics. I actually *enjoy* reasoned argument!

So the next time I post a good one – that is, one that you find irritating – come and give me hell. My door is open if I’m here.

But don’t scrawl an *anonymous* posting on the wall.