

Adults have a problem with story-time? Grow up!



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I have very few concerns with the drag queen story-time that took place at the Kincardine Library this past Saturday, October 5. One concern I do have is why two police vehicles and officers were needed to “guard” a story-time. I am thankful for the police presence, and had no issue with them being there – my issue is the fact that they were necessary.

I attended the story-time, and I loved it. I’m no five-year old, but these two drag-queens were so expressive and colourful – if I was a young child I can see the appeal. Story-time reached beyond books and they even had the kids get up to sing and dance. To these children, it likely felt like they were at an event with Snippity the clown – there is no difference between adults entertaining children in a costume.

One thing needs to be understood before I continue – this story-time simply outlined inclusion. They weren’t preaching gender changes and same-sex couples – they were telling boys that they can like the colour pink, and playing with dolls, and explaining that if one of their friends had two dad’s or two mum’s, it wasn’t anything out of the ordinary.

I respect the opinions of those who feel it’s too young to be teaching children about sexual orientation. It’s too young for children to be taught about sex at all. Luckily for those individuals, this event wasn’t about sex-ed (until you brought it up!). I can assure you that these children went in for their regular story-time and got just that – with a small twist.

Children don’t see the difference, they are taught to see the difference. In this case, they were taught to respect and understand the differences. Children grow up fast, and in ten years time they will be asking questions. There is no question that they will meet people from the LGBTQ

community in their life, it is so important that they are taught this kindness and respect from a young age. I am thankful that this event planted the seed for some.

These children will grow up to be so accepting of others and have much better understanding of them-selves. I wonder what those standing outside of the library in protest, or those writing angry letters to the newspapers, would be like if they had grown up with opportunities like this. I know so many people who struggled to come out in or after high-school, and I can only imagine how much easier it would have been for them if my generation had been raised to understand people's differences. I hope that those who attended the story-time – and those who didn't – won't bat an eyelash when their friend's or family take that deep breath and say, "I'm gay". I can't wait for an entire generation to understand that everyone is human.

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