

Insensitive dog walker has reader seeing red

Dear Editor,
On Tuesday morning I witnessed

something that not only made me angry but sick to my stomach.

My husband parked the car in the east driveway of Orchard Park Public School while he kindly took some papers to the office for me. While I waited in the car, I saw a woman walk her dog from the rear playground and down the east sidewalk. Then she yanked him back to the strip of grass along the walk, where he just sniffed around. From there she took him to the front of the school and let him walk all over the top of the flower bed. Then she yanked him to the grass between the bed and the school where he had a bowel movement. Although she picked his deposit up in a bag, I thought what if he had a loose bowel movement? From there the dog was walked across the front sidewalk to the flower bed on the other side. Then the lady walked with her dog right along in front of the classroom windows. I wondered why the parade there disturbing the students inside the class-

rooms. Was she demonstrating disrespect to public property? What made me sick I thought back to one year I taught Grade 2 in that school. It was the end of June and the primary end was so hot the hall floors sweat with the heat. We took the children outside to read under the trees. There was always a lovely breeze from the north. I could only think of the children that sat on the grass. I know we would often see dog dirt on the playground where the Night Rider or the Shadow must have walked their dogs at night. They were never seen and didn't clean up the mess.

Why would someone walk her dog all over the ground where children play, roll and tumble? Does she not know how unhealthy this is for children? I know this goes on in public parks but a school yard! Have you ever seen a dog taken for a walk that it didn't have to urinate somewhere?

I heard that people and their dogs often resemble each other and as I watched this lady an expression, that I had heard years ago, came back to me. I thought the expression suited people like her "nincompoops." So parents, if you read this article would you please help to do something about the situation, for the sake of your children's health.

Of course, I guess I could have been a good samaritan and gone over with a roll of Bounty and said, "No need to worry about your dog urinating on the grass. Bounty is strong and will absorb anything."

Doreen Brown
Stouffville

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