

A Contrarian's Dictionary Strikes Again! : 2001 Impudent Definitions For the 21st Century

Murray L. Bob

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Murray L. Bob : A Contrarian's Dictionary Strikes Again! : 2001 Impudent Definitions For the 21st Century before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Contrarian's Dictionary Strikes Again! : 2001 Impudent Definitions For the 21st Century:

Original, arresting, witty, impudent, pithy definitions of words, people, and events in the news of today and the past are featured in this second but independent volume of *The Contrarian's Dictionary*. For example: "Anti-Abortionist: Believer in mandatory motherhood." "Moral Man: Hasn't sold any arms, drugs or health foods." "The State Religion: Looking Young." "Philanthropy: "The Alms Industry." "Ten Commandments: Clearly, they need ten amendments." "Win-Win situation: One side wins, the other side winces." A book that can be read all at once or in snatches - the reader may laugh out loud, disagree, ponder the meaning of the definitions, but he will always be challenged to think. The book is illustrated with amusing line drawings.

"A pleasing mixture of good thinking, good writing and good fun. I recommend it." -- Thomas Szasz, M.D. "I like it." -- Edward Hoagland "Thank you so much for your book. We are enjoying its definitions." -- Gunther Grass "What a wonderful book. . . I was smiling within minutes." -- Leigh Estabrook, Dean, University of Illinois From the Publisher Using humor as a scalpel to cut beneath the surface of a sick society has a few advantages. The humorist is not expected to say the usual things; he is freer to make end runs around the defenses mounted by the status quo, to try trick plays and unexpected ploys to get at the underside of problems or to uncover unexplored or under-explored aspects of reality. Humor allows one to swiftly cut through the all-enveloping bologna in which social relations are swathed: if you want to speak clearly and bluntly, humor has it all over pedantry. And since, for the time being anyway, head-on collisions with power appear to be doomed to failure, you might as well try to combat the cannons of conventions with darts of derision. Darts may not win battles, but they can, at least, puncture pretention - and usually you are able to dart away to fight another day. Here, there, are 2001 non-standard "definitions" for the disenchanting - for those who look at things in a non-standard way. From the Author In order of importance, my intention is, first, to make you smile inwardly if not outwardly and then to make you think. Not every definition will do both (some may not do either), but I'd like to believe that most readers will do at least one or the other, most times. If you laugh out loud, it will be a bonus. If your life is changed, it will be a miracle - and I don't believe in miracles. But, if some of the definitions cause you to say, "Aha," or to view a thing from a fresh perspective, they will have done their job - which is to tickle or provoke. Some definitions are pure wordplay - nonsense, kidding around. So what? Shakespeare was the Pontiff of Pun. If he could do it, surely we pygmies can. This is a book for sceptics, cynics, sinners, and deep-dyed contrarians. True believers read it at their own risk.