

Caught on Tape!

By Rabbi Yehudah ben Shomeyr

The liberal media (which is 99% of the news affiliates on TV) runs stories that shock, disgust and appall us. But when we read between the lines it's more like a story of a caged animal having to be put down only after an ornery brat has teased, poked, prodded and provoked the poor animal till it felt it necessary to fight back.

Now I'm not defending or justifying police brutality, child abuse or teachers berating students, but all we see are the "shocking" video clips of a cop hitting a perpetrator, all we here are the sound bites of an authority figure say something like, "You're a stupid little kid!" Again, I'm not justifying the reaction or behavior of these authority figures who have been, "caught on tape", but I ask you; "What drove these people to this point?" Maybe it's a smug perpetrator who taunts police after eluding capture or getting off because of some slick attorney. Maybe the criminal was acting crazy and the cop genuinely feared for his life? Maybe the criminal is totally belligerent and disrespectful to the cops and all we see is the cop hitting this so called "victim". When a U.S./Mexican border crossing guard gets in trouble for shooting a Mexican drug dealer trying to get into the U.S. and a prison sentence is the thanks he gets, no wonder some cops may go off the deep end. All we hear is a teacher verbally abusing students, but we don't see the foul language, the utter disrespect, attitudes and deliberate disobedience that the teacher has to put up with day in and day out for years without any support or backing from the parents or educational system. After a teacher gets jumped after school on the way to their car, or spit in the face in the middle of class and the parent chews you out for giving the kid detention, no wonder a teacher will go off. Again, I am not justifying their actions or behavior, but could you blame them!? Anyone of us could be driven to a breaking point such as what we see on the nightly news. Now does this deem termination from their jobs necessary? I don't think so. Suspension, counseling, time to switch careers, new job training and job placement? Yes! Firing? No!