



Raising Awareness About Protecting Boys From Sexual Violence

Observed on April 16, Blue Umbrella Day is a global awareness campaign focused on preventing sexual violence against boys and strengthening protection systems for vulnerable children. Launched by the international network, Family for Every Child, the initiative highlights the often-overlooked issue of abuse faced by boys and advocates for greater recognition, care and support services. The blue umbrella symbol represents protection, safety and solidarity. The campaign also seeks to challenge harmful gender stereotypes that discourage boys from speaking up, while urging governments and institutions to prioritise child protection and push for formal recognition of the cause at the United Nations.

#CAPE BUFFALO

The "Black Death" of the African Savannah

This isn't just a cow. It's a 900-kg vengeance machine that fights as a family. Strong, intelligent, and relentless, the Cape Buffalo embodies the raw power



When you think of deadly African animals, lions, leopards, and crocodiles usually come to mind. But the Cape Buffalo, nicknamed the 'Black Death,' has earned a fearsome reputation that rivals even Africa's top predators.

Not Just a Cow
Weighing up to 900 kg, the Cape Buffalo is far more than a grazing herbivore. Its horns fuse into a solid bone shield attached to its skull, turning its head into a natural battering ram. When threatened, the herd doesn't scatter. Instead, it forms a living fortress, a horn-wall that protects the young and even turns predators like lions into prey.

Memory and Revenge
Buffaloes are intelligent and vengeful. If one is wounded, it remembers the threat, and the Cape Buffalo embodies the raw power and strategy of African wildlife.



Roman Empire's King.



Vikings.



English Is Not English

The Anglo-Saxon peasants used words like cow, pig, and deer to refer to the animals they raised, while the French-speaking Normans used beef, pork, and venison to describe the meat from these animals. This division remains in modern English, where many food-related words are of French origin, while the names for the animals themselves are of Anglo-Saxon origin. The introduction of Old French greatly enriched English, adding thousands of Latin-based words to its lexicon.

Verna Mohon
The English language, as we know it today, is a complex and diverse blend of influences from different cultures, languages, and historical events. From its roots in ancient British speech to the modern vocabulary we use, the development of English is a fascinating story of adaptation, conquest, and assimilation. The language has absorbed elements from Latin, Old Norse, Old French, Italian, and even Greek, alongside its Anglo-Saxon heritage. It's an interesting journey of how it became the global language we speak today.

The Beginnings: Old British and the Roman Influence
Over 2,000 years ago, the land that we now call Britain was inhabited by Celtic tribes who spoke what we refer to as Old British, a language of the Celtic family. These early languages are still seen today in Welsh, Irish, and Scottish Gaelic. However, when the Romans invaded Britain in 43 AD, they brought with them their language, Latin, which started to influence the native Celtic dialects, especially in the fields of trade, law, and administration.

While Latin did not replace the Celtic languages in everyday speech, it left a strong imprint on English, especially in words related to governance, military, and the church. For instance, terms like street, camp, military, and emperor have their roots in Latin. The Romans' presence in Britain for almost four centuries laid the groundwork for later linguistic changes, though its influence on the vernacular remained limited mainly to vocabulary.

The Anglo-Saxons: Shaping the Core of English
In the 5th century AD, after the fall of the Roman Empire, the Anglo-Saxons, a group of tribes from what is now Germany, Denmark, and the Netherlands, began to migrate to Britain. They brought their Germanic languages with them, which formed the backbone of Old English. Over the next several centuries, Anglo-Saxon became the dominant language in Britain, pushing the Celtic-speaking Welsh people further west and solidifying its roots in everyday life.

During this period, the English language began to take shape as we know it today. Words related to everyday life, such as man, woman, house, child, mother, and father, came from the Anglo-Saxon Germanic language. Furthermore, place names like Tor, Crag, and many river names (such as Avon, which means 'river') originated from the Anglo-Saxon language.

The Norman Conquest: Old French and the Rise of the Nobility
The most transformative event in the history of the English language occurred in 1066 with the Norman Conquest. The Normans, who

spoke Old Norse, a North Germanic language, defeated the Anglo-Saxons at the Battle of Hastings and established their rule over England. With the Normans in power, Old French became the language of the royal court, the law, and the church, while the Anglo-Saxons continued to speak their Germanic language.

This period led to a clear division in the vocabulary of English. The Anglo-Saxon peasants used words like cow, pig, and deer to refer to the animals they raised, while the French-speaking Normans used beef, pork, and venison to describe the meat from these animals. This division remains in modern English, where many food-related words are of French origin, while the names for the animals themselves are of Anglo-Saxon origin. The introduction of Old French greatly enriched English, adding thousands of Latin-based words to its lexicon.

The Viking Invasions: Old Norse Enters English
In the 8th and 9th centuries, Britain faced invasions from Scandinavian Vikings, who spoke Old Norse, a North Germanic language. The Vikings settled in large parts of England, particularly in the north-east, and their language began to mingle with Old English. This period of linguistic contact brought new words into the English lexicon, particularly in areas such as law, governance, and daily life.

Words like sky, window, and happy are of Old Norse origin, reflecting the significant impact of the Viking settlers on the English language. In fact, the Old Norse influence on Old English was so strong that the two languages began to merge, leading to a more robust vocabulary.

#A JOURNEY



Geschichte des Kostüms (1905).

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Christianity and Latin: The Church's Influence
The conversion of the Anglo-Saxons to Christianity in the 6th century brought about a renewed influence of Latin on the English language. As the church became a center of power and learning, Latin became the official language of worship and scholarship. The arrival of Christianity also introduced Latin terms related to religion, law, and education. Many of these words, such as angel, bishop, altar, and scripture, entered English through religious contexts and remained deeply ingrained in the language.

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Owain Glyndŵr at Cardiff City Hall.

The Renaissance: Italian and Latin Revive

The Renaissance in the 14th and 15th centuries brought renewed interest in classical Latin and Greek, especially in the fields of science, art, and philosophy. Italian, as a language influenced by Latin, contributed many new words to English, including terms like tempo, duo, and ballet. Many of these words have their roots in Latin and reflect the artistic and cultural movements of the time. As Latin was widely used by scholars and intellectuals during the Renaissance, English continued to absorb Latin-based vocabulary, particularly in academic and scientific contexts. Words like camouflage and chic were introduced into English from French during this period, further enriching the language's connection to Latin and French.

The Scientific Revolution: Greek and Latin

With the rise of scientific thought and inquiry in the 17th century, Latin and Greek became the dominant languages for scholarly and scientific discourse. Many scientific terms, such as telephone, vaccine, and aquarium, are derived from Latin and Greek roots. The use of Latin as the language of science helped standardize terminology, and



Anglo-Saxon Warriors.

The British Empire: Borrowing from the World

As the British Empire expanded in the 18th and 19th centuries, English came into contact with numerous other languages. Words like shampoo, avatar, and pyjamas entered English from languages like Hindi and Urdu, reflecting the global influence of British colonialism. The Empire's reach brought a wealth of new vocabulary, incorporating terms for foods, customs, and ideas from across the world.

Modern English: A Global Language

What we call Modern English today is the result of over 1,000 years of blending, borrowing, and adaptation. Its vocabulary is a rich mixture of Anglo-Saxon, Latin, Old Norse, Old French, Greek, Italian, and countless other languages. This remarkable history of linguistic evolution has turned English into a global language, spoken by millions around the world. From the ancient Anglo-Saxon roots to the modern borrowings from languages as diverse as Hindi, French, and Italian, English continues to evolve, embracing influences from all corners of the world.

rajeshsharma1049@gmail.com

#MUSE

The Great Drama

Indian vs. Western Theatre - A Human Drama, the other is a living art



Imagine the stage as a vast, cosmic battlefield. On one side, we have the majestic Indian theatre, where the actors dance with the gods, and the universe itself seems to hold its breath. On the other, we have the gritty, personal dramas of Western theatre, where human emotions spill over like a well-poured glass of wine, and usually, someone's going to end up regretting it. Let's take a fun stroll through these two theatrical worlds, where divine destinies meet earthly desires, and the curtain rises on stories that speak to the very soul of humanity.

The Big Picture vs. The Selfie
In the grand world of Indian theatre, the stakes are nothing short of cosmic. Picture it: epic battles between gods, humans, and mythical beasts, all playing out against the vast backdrop of the universe. Characters aren't just struggling with petty personal issues, they're caught in the eternal cycle of karma and dharma. They're figuring out how to be good while also juggling everything from divine duties to the occasional epic love affair. This is no small thing. The stakes? Universal harmony. Characters might



lose the battle, but they're still working for the greater balance of the cosmos. It's like every play is a cosmic yoga session for the soul.

Meanwhile, in the Western theatre, the focus shifts sharply to you, yes, you, the individual. Forget universal balance, this is all about the real world, no frills. The stage might have a few dramatic curtains, but it's the real emotions that steal the show. These aren't gods with perfect abs, they're people, sweaty and frazzled, dealing with the mess of life. From Shakespeare's characters who seem perpetually on the edge of a mental breakdown to Chekhov's quiet suburban crises, the drama unfolds in the mundane. There's a stage, a few props, and a lot of angst. It's all about showing the ugly, beautiful complexity of being human, whether it's a tragic breakup or just figuring out how to live with yourself.

Sacred Rituals vs. Real Life Meltdowns

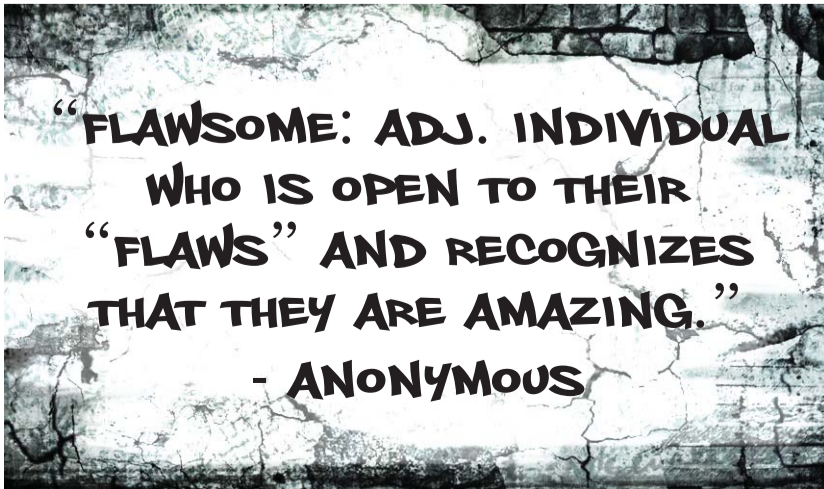
Now, let's talk about how these worlds look when the lights go up. Indian theatre is like stepping into an ancient ritual, but with a whole lot of style. It's not just acting, it's living art. The performers aren't just on stage; they're weaving stories through dance, music, and symbolism. Every gesture is loaded with meaning, and every piece of fabric twirls with divine intent. If you've ever watched Kathakali, it's like watching gods themselves rehearse for an intergalactic concert. It's fancy, it's ethereal, and most of all, it's spiritual. You don't just watch; you feel the universe unfolding in front of you. Now, in Western theatre, it's all about the real world, no frills. The stage might have a few dramatic curtains, but it's the real emotions that steal the show. These aren't gods with perfect abs, they're people, sweaty and frazzled, dealing with the mess of life. From Shakespeare's characters who seem perpetually on the edge of a mental breakdown to Chekhov's quiet suburban crises, the drama unfolds in the mundane. There's a stage, a few props, and a lot of angst. It's all about showing the ugly, beautiful complexity of being human, whether it's a tragic breakup or just figuring out how to live with yourself.



The Final Bow

So, what's the verdict? Indian theatre takes you on a cosmic ride through the heavens and earth, reminding you that everything is interconnected and, yes, you're probably just a speck in the grand scheme of things. But it's a speck that's part of something beautiful, and that's a pretty sweet thought. On the other hand, Western theatre dives deep into the trenches of human nature, pulling out all the messy, complicated emotions that make us who we are. If you want to feel something real, something raw, you go there.

THE WALL

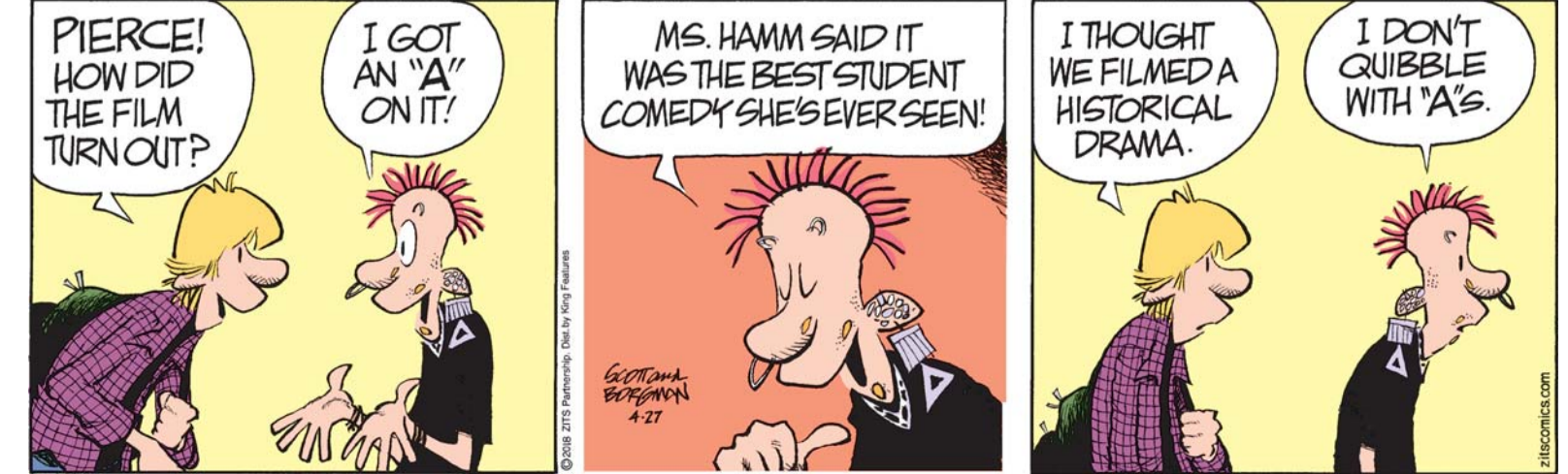


BABY BLUES



By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

ZITS



By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman