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## N°5 COX NAIROBI EAU DE NEWSLETTER



That's why they call me Slim Coxy (I'm back) I'm back. Hello everyone welcome back to the newsletter show. I know my last one was a doozy! I hope that satiated your hunger for Kenyan news. School has been exhausting especially when it is ~11 hours a day 6 days a week. I've been surviving on 2 cups of coffee, 2 cups of tea, and the occasional Predator energy drink. Basically the red bull of Kenya. See right. (FYI that's not my hand! I am not pulling a Jimmy Kimmel!) Well, we are at the end of our second term and I finally have some free time to bang out this fifth newsletter. I'll keep this one somewhat short, and it'll have a lot of photos because my Instagram itch is real! This newsletter contains humorous vignettes, a special thanks to everyone who has sent me letters, a fashion report, a toy report, and it ends with random photos & complaints. So buckle in get ready drink some PREDATOR ENERGY and read the damn newsletter! (Or at least look at the pretty pictures). Okay, Twendy! That's "let's go" in Swahili.



## Dispatches

The following chain mail was forwarded to me by three different colleagues, and now I am forwarding it to you my 200 some readers. Enjoy!

### Only Tears 🙄🙄🙄

1-The United States has confirmed that all countries in the world, in order to establish good relations with the great powers, must accept same-sex marriage (woman/woman or man/man). There are currently 34 countries where same-sex marriage is legal: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Uruguay. 🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄

2- Germany has just signed the law that declares that there is no more incest, that is to say: brother and sister can get married, mom and son, dad and daughter, etc. 🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄

3-The city of Miami is now proclaimed the city of purchase of public sex. That means: on the way, to church, at the mosque, at the market, at the football field, if you need sex you can enjoy it at any time without any problem. 🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄

4-Canada has allowed bestiality (sex with animals) 🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄

5- In Spain: pornographic films are allowed in high school and universities. 🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄

6- The authorization of the prostitution of minors is given. Marg Luker states that any young girl at the age of 10 who feels sexual pleasure, no one should defend her from find out how his body works. 🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄

7- Finally the USA allowed the Satanic churches to be opened publicly. Dear brothers and sisters, the end is near, the departure in Glory is approaching. People are being distracted and the devil wants to drag the maximum number of souls with him in order to remove them from divine mercy. Let's be careful. 🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄  
If you have a minute...share this message. Why do we sleep in Churches, and stay awake in bars? Why is it so hard to talk about Jesus but so easy to gossip? Why is it so easy to ignore messages from God but send back dirty messages? Are you going to send this message to your friends or are you going to ignore it? If you love God, send this message to your true best friends in 60 sec. 🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄🙄

May God bless you. Amen!!!

: SEXUAL IMMORALITY IS RAVAGING THE WORLD AT PRESENT.

God Said: There will come a time when mankind will love five things and forget five things.\*

1. They will love the enjoyment of this world and forget the day of judgment.

2. They will love money and forget the day of accountability of how they acquired and spent the money.

3. They will fear things that are created and forget the creator.
4. They will love beautiful mansions and forget their graves.
5. They will love sins and forget to seek for God's forgiveness.

Come to think of this?.....

1. Eternal life = free
2. Church entrance = free
3. Christ's salvation = free
4. God's love = free
5. Breath of life = free

- A. Cigarette = pay
- B. Prostitution = pay
- C. Alcohol = pay
- D. Nightclub entrance fee = pay
- E. Powers to rule the world = pay

Then why are people paying for hell while PARADISE is free?

Think twice

Believe in Christ and you shall be saved..

We always think of Valentine's day

Birth day

Father's day

Mother's day

Children's day

Farmer's day

Teacher's day

Christmas day

Independence day

Boxing day,

This day,

That day,

Day in Day out.

Have you ever thought of DEATH DAY and JUDGMENT DAY? Is it going to be a day of celebration or condemnation for you?

If you're safe, what about your friends & loved ones. Show them love by telling them about the \*DEATH DAY and JUDGEMENT DAY.\*

Please pass this to any group let heaven be happy for you today. Please don't say later, do it now because tomorrow may be too late.

Oh God, bless those who spread this message.

Thanks and God bless you.

Needless to say, I never know how to respond to chain-mail like these. Sometimes I reply tersely "Thanks," "Okay," "Wow didn't know this," "News to me!" or "Asante sanna!" If it is football season I'll ask them about their favorite club. Kenyans only root for the dominant clubs like Man. City, Man. U, Arsenal, Chelsea, and Liverpool. I'm stuck rooting for Everton because my uncle from Liverpool rooted for Everton. Fantastic! When I tell a Kenyan that I support Everton they always look at me bewildered. Then they'll say something like:

“Trevor, what do you mean you support Everton? They always perform poorly. I fear you will be relegated soon, my friend. You must pray for them.”

“Tell me about it,” I reply.

Yes, it’s been two consecutive years of barely avoiding relegation. Everton seems to have the same track record as all the other teams I root for: the Mets, the Jets, the Knicks, and the Islanders. RIP.

Well, football isn’t in season so I can also leave these chain messages on read. Here this is known as leaving you with “the blue ticks” because that’s what appears on WhatsApp when you ghost.

### **Father’s Day Message**

The principal had a very funny Father’s Day message, and I would be remiss if I did not share it with you. Shout out to all the dads.

A father may not carry pregnancy for nine months, but he is always pregnant with family needs, dreams and visions of a better future.

A father may not know how labor pains feels like, but his pains are not physical, his pains are emotional, and he suffers mental injuries from time to time

A father may not have breasts to breastfeed babies, yet everyone sucks from his unseen breasts.

A father may not experience monthly periods, but he bleeds from inside when he has no means to provide for his family, when he gets blames for not being like his fellow men, and when he is rarely appreciated for His daily struggles and push just to keep the family together.

May god strengthen all Father’s!.....

HAPPY FATHER’S DAY

The above was shared in our school’s WhatsApp group and read aloud at a faculty meeting. I’m thankful that it was shared because I had no idea it was Father’s Day. You lose track of days here. The seasonal changes are imperceptible and, being on the equator, the amount of daylight and darkness is perennial. Meaning no matter the time of year there’s always 12 hours of day and 12 hours of night.

There was no equivalent message shared for Mother’s Day, which occurred a month prior. In fact, Mother’s Day was never mentioned at school, and I must have missed it. Ooops! Happy Mother’s Day Mom and shout out to all the other Moms reading this. I decided to create a Mother’s Day message in the style of the principal’s.

This one goes out to all the Moms, Mothers, Mommies, Grandmas, Grandmothers, Grannies, Nana, Memaw, Mamie, Bubbe, Nyanya, Gigi, Tutu, Gogo, Gaga, Savta, Lala, Nenek, Bomma, Grams, Abuela, Lola, Baba, Yaya, Maw Maw (Hey that's the name of an uprising!) Enjoy:

A mother may not experience the pleasure of standing and peeing, but she is constantly standing up for herself and her family.

A mother may not know how to kill people at war, but she will kill herself for her children.

A mother may not know about the ever-present macro conspiracies and deep-state machinations but she knows everything about the micro conspiracies and functions of serial killers and true crime.

A mother may not know how to do astrophysics like Stephen Hawking but she knows all about astrology, star signs, and planetary motions.

A mother may not know how it feels to bust in someone but she is constantly busting her back for her family.

May the earth's mother Gaea support and bless all Mothers!.....  
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

### **Guidance & Counseling**

As a member of the Guidance & Counseling committee, I act as a guidance counselor at our school on top of being a full-time teacher. In Kenya administrators, students, and teachers wear many hats.

Administrators (principals, assistant principals, and head teachers i.e. dean of students) are required to perform all their administrative duties. Create the school schedule, report to the board of education, create the school's budget, organize parent assemblies, and fundraise. And they must teach a full load of classes.

Students are required to report to school by 6:30 am and are not allowed to depart until 6:30 pm. The average student lives an hour's walk from the school. (Some live as far as a two hours walk away!) Fortunately, half of the students have bicycles, which they double up and triple up on. Some students hire motorcycle taxis or tuk-tuks to get to and from school. Classes start at 8:00 am. So they spend the morning cleaning the school's grounds which includes the students' toilets. Yikes!

Also, Throughout the day students must act as little servants for any adult at the school. If the school gets a food delivery students are unloading it. If a politician is visiting students are setting up and breaking down the event. If a teacher determines that a classroom is dirty the lesson ends early and students must sweep and mop. If a teacher wants a plastic chair brought from one room to another they will pull a student

from class and have them move the chair. This is a cultural difference that I am adjusting to. Anyway, it seems to me that students have a lot of extra work they are required to do, which makes opportunities for homework, personal reading, and self-study limited.

Teachers are not just required to teach, but they also act as hall monitors, child psychologists, guidance counselors, and spiritual counselors. For three weeks every year, a teacher joins a triumvirate of “on-duty” teachers. Meaning they have to open the school at 6:00 am and close the school at 7:00 pm. FUN! For me, these weeks are brutal. 13 hours a day six days a week with a limited coffee supply is a horror. (I thought I was volunteering!) Whenever I am “on duty” I am quite pissy, to say the least. As you know I am not a morning person. Whenever I am on duty I constantly commit blasphemy by cursing every god under the sun. I wonder if the Kenyans can hear me. I don’t think I’ll ever get used to this part of the job.

As a member of the Guidance & Counseling Committee aka G&C, I help organize the weekly G&C assembly, which is every Wednesday morning at 7 am. I am required to lead this assembly once a month. During them, I pontificate on various subjects that I have no business talking about. These subjects include hygiene, meditation, stress relief, abstinence, alcohol abuse reduction, how to live drug-free, study habits, etc. Many of you may not know this but I come from New York, not the city, but the real New York: Long Island. AKA Lawnguyland. Which means I have a Ph.D. in Bullshitting. So I’m always able to improvise a somewhat coherent spiel. Introduce the topic, cite some made-up statistics, have an interactive activity, and conclude. Boom. That’s another productive hour of G&C in the books. You’re welcome!

Fortunately, I’m not the only person who speaks at these sessions. We often have guest speakers that educate our students on various challenges they will face in life. Sometimes their presentations are bizarre. My favorite presenter, so far, was a Doctor that came to speak to our students about a month or so ago. Here are some hits from his session:

Do not join the club do not be a homosexual. Why do you want to be gay like the other boys in the club? Just choose to be yourself. Be Unique!

People take drugs and alcohol because of religion and those religions become Illuminati and that is not good.

The homosexual drug users are colluding with their parents to spread it. HIV is spreading because of homosexuals and drugs.

We did a survey at this school a few years ago. It was confidential of course and we found that one-quarter of you are drug addicts. This has probably increased to over half now I suspect. Next, you will do homosexuality because all of your friends do it! Then devil worship. Then HIV. Are a quarter of you now homosexual? Don’t answer that! I don’t want to know.

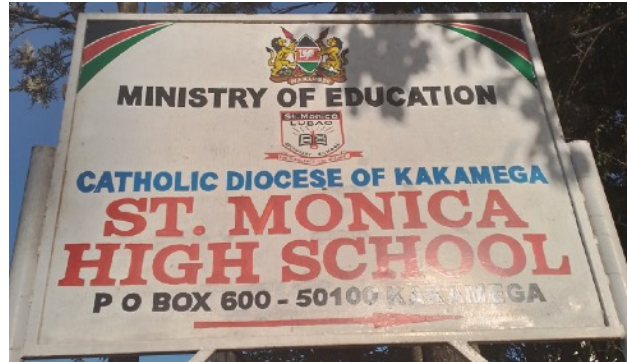
*(The Guidance and Counseling Chairman is sitting next to me asking: "Trevor the speaker is cutting out can you please fix this." I reply: "No. Your guest speaker is screaming into the microphone. If he stops the speaker will stop cutting." 🙄)*

After our guest speaker's presentation, I was obligated to have tea with him in the principal's office. I learned that he is indeed a doctor. He received his Ph.D. in agriculture sometime in the 80s. (Many people here are obsessed with degrees, certificates, diplomas, and especially the Ph.D. distinction. So much so that there is a cottage industry of Ph.D. dissertation ghostwriters, but more on that in a later newsletter maybe.) He elaborated on some points that he made during his session: "Drug dealers are homosexuals because they smuggle with the but." *Oooohhh that's the reason.* He continued: "I talk to students all over the country about the drug issue and they look at me all confused. You know they pretend like they don't know what I'm talking about! They hide their drug use and pretend like they don't use, but check the bathroom you will find." *New mission unlocked: check the bathrooms. But wait! The students are the ones who clean the bathrooms! How deep does this conspiracy go? Deeper than the toilets?*

Now the Peace Corps has trained us to not judge or push back when we encounter such opinions. So all I can do is smile and nod smile and nod.

## Fan Mail

This is a special shout-out to those of you who have written to me. Again my address is on the right. So far I have successfully received three letters and one package. Thank you, Aunt Liz, Claire, Charlotte, and Dadler. They have all written beautiful letters. Special shout out to Claire who sent me an 8-page letter! Oye vey! What are we in the eighteenth century? Also, a special thanks to Dadler who sent me a care package of Sacramento goodies! Check it out

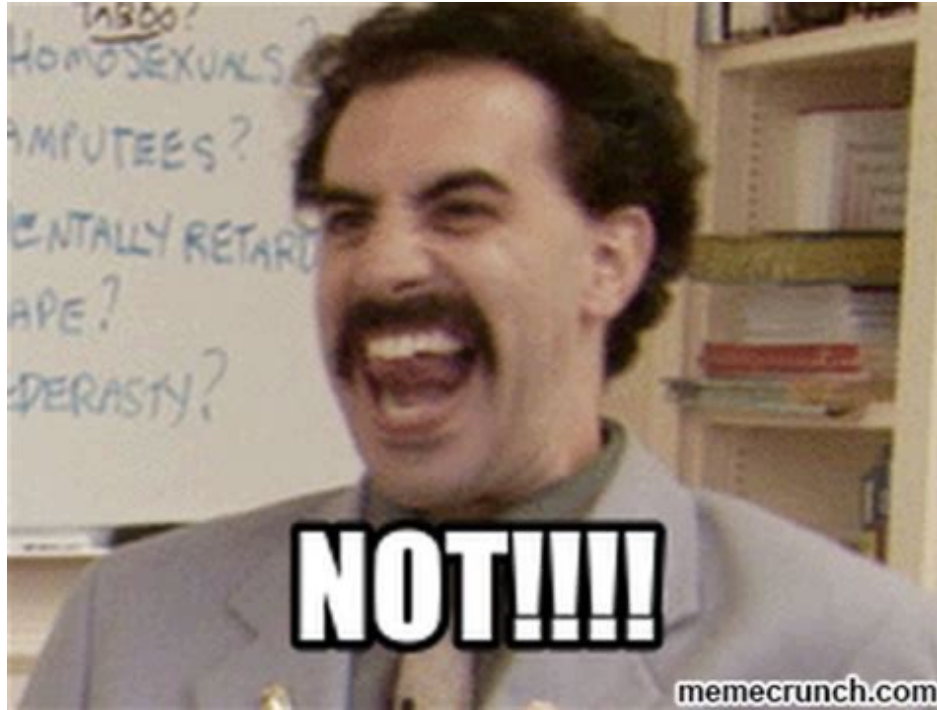


The package contained Peeps, Pop Rocks, Razzles, mints, toffee, a mini harmonica, a travel straw, chalk, a scented candle, and a pagan unicorn idol. My coworkers thought



the Peeps were stuffed animals, and they feared biting into them. I'm known as a little mischief-maker in these parts so their fears were warranted.

Anyway, if you send me a letter I will reply promptly with a letter in kind.



But seriously I will reply within a few months with a sick Kenyan postcard. Check out these beautiful postcards on the right. Also, I might include a little Kenyan memento. Some of you are getting a beautiful postcard painted by a local artist and some of you are getting some Kenyan Shillings! Shilling Shilling COIN Y'ALL! And I'll shout you out in this newsletter duh!



**The FASHION!!!**

As you know in fashion, “one day you’re in; the next you’re out.” Here in Kenya, my friends have learned to “make it work!” Check it out:



So in the previous page going clockwise from top left we have Louis with the grey Golden State Warriors Cap, Fred rocking the Stanford Graduate School of Education sweatshirt (I told him “Fuck the trees!” He did not understand. Is he really an alumni?), next is my student’s AARP Satchel, a Mew York Yankees cap, my student’s “The Best Beers by Far” undershirt from some bar in Colorado, my colleagues, Curious Man backpack (curious in what way?), and lastly Damaris with the classic Snoopy brooch. Hope you all enjoyed these fashion oddities as much as I did.

## Toy Report



As you can see on the previous page the children in Kenya entertain themselves in creative ways. We've got little Peter playing with a panga (machete) aka kisu kubwa (big knife.) Moments before I took those photos he was using that machete to cut up mahindi (dried corn)! Don't worry his mom was supervising him. They teach knife skills early here! Next, we have little Thomas playing with a plastic bag. He's the son of one of my colleagues. I tried taking away his plastic bag but was met with resistance. It looked like he was really enjoying his cellophane crown so I gave up. Plastic bags are a rarity here. The government banned plastic bags from stores in 2017. What is this Commie California? Now only cloth ones are available for a small fee.

## Random Photos & Thoughts:



My dad was curious about the beer situation so here's a photo of a cooler from my local bar. The classic Kenyan beer is Tusker Lager, which you can see on the third row. Next, there's a photo of about 35 freshman girls crammed into our little computer lab. Then we have a photo of my school's cow, (I don't know her name) but she provides the milk for our daily tea. Lastly, on the bottom are two photos from my two freshman boys' classes. My school has significantly fewer boys than girls. A common complaint in Kenya is that Western NGOs focus too much on the girl child. "The boy child is being left behind. He is turning to things like drug dealing, hustling, and homosexuality." This sentiment is commonly preached at many churches in my area. I've heard it said at nearly every church except, ironically enough, the Catholic service. (Maybe this is because there's a greater emphasis on heavenly matters over earthly

concerns in the Catholic tradition? IDK just pondering. ) Finally, I'll end with a complaint about Kenyan dental floss:

### **Coxnoy's Complaint: What's the Deal with Kenyan Dental Floss?**

The dental floss here does not resemble American dental floss. The floss I'm used to in the US is Oral B Glide all-in-one Comfort Plus Floss Mint. It is a flat delicate string that gently caresses my teeth. It gets the job done perfectly. Kenyan floss on the other hand resembles something closer to fishing wire. Every time I use this stuff it feels like I will rip out a tooth. Out of an abundance of caution, I have stopped using the Kenyan floss. However, my American floss stash is running low! Hopefully, it lasts until December when I can restock. Pray for me.

### **Fin**

Thanks for reading! I look forward to your letters. Even a digital response to this newsletter will suffice! My school goes on break for two weeks in August, so my family will be visiting. We'll travel to Maasai Mara for a week. Then Mombassa for a week. This means my next newsletter will contain plenty of photos. Photos of Lions, Giraffes, Elephants, and Rhinos Oh My! Thanks, for reading!

P.S. I'm looking forward to voting via write-in in the 2024 election. Obviously, I'll be voting for the party that Stans Africa. Thank You, Nancy!

