

THEY SAY, NEVER DISCUSS

Politics, religion, or money with your friends ...

by Vic Berecz

I'm not much of a conversationalist. Yes, I can tell a pretty good story now or then, usually about family ... probably the grandkids ... or about family history. Among those of you who know me personally, who hasn't heard the tale of the distant ancestor or relative who ... started the *Nez Percé Indian War* ... drowned in a vat of wine at age 105 ... was called *The Bag Lady* ... was jailed for inciting a bloody religious riot ... had nine wives, no children, and was cut-in-half by a train ... fought alongside Wellington at the *Battle of Waterloo* ... or was the Budapest town drunk? Those stories go only so far. We need more ... we also need discussions that relate to the realities of our everyday lives.

But, does discussion of politics, religion, or money risk the ruin of friendships? I suppose it could, but it sure doesn't have to. In all my verbal discussions ... and this website ... I'll try to be civil, open-minded, and willing to listen to all sides. That kind of discussion, I believe, can work to everyone's benefit. Besides, difficult and controversial topics are the issues that affect our lives from day-to-day. Who better to discuss them with than friends. Anyway, I really don't enjoy talking about *Bennifer* or the weather. Do you? So friend ...

... let's take the risk.

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