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## THANK YOU FOR YOUR REFERRALS!



We appreciate referrals from our friends, clients, and colleagues – they are the lifeblood of our business. We limit our practice to helping people in accident cases, personal injury and employment matters, and you can be assured that we will treat your referrals exactly as we would want to be treated if we had a problem: with respect, empathy, sound guidance and strong advocacy. While we cannot help everyone, we do our best to dole out sound advice to those who take the step to contact a lawyer.

## What We're Watching

The Netflix documentary *Wild, Wild Country* is absolutely fascinating. The six-part series tells the story of a commune and its guru that relocated from India to rural Oregon in the 1980's, and looks at what happens when two polar opposite cultures collide. This is one of those, "you cannot make this up" stories that features an especially intriguing cast of characters. You don't want to miss this.



*"Throw out your conceited opinions,  
for it is impossible for a person to begin  
to learn what he thinks he already knows."*

- Epictetus



If you have questions, or would like to be removed from this list, just send an email to [newsletter@doraziopeterson.com](mailto:newsletter@doraziopeterson.com), or call the office.



## OUR TAKE

*Leading by example.*

April is distracted driving month. The goal of our distracted driving campaign is to lead by example; to show others that we are choosing to ignore the phone while driving. This got us thinking about parenting, and about how leading by example applies in many aspects of life. Here are a few ways we can lead our children by example (which, of course, can apply in the business/leadership context as well) (excerpted from *Parents Magazine*)

**1. Practice empathy and respect.** If your daughter hears you bad-mouthing your father-in-law, what's to stop her from bad-mouthing her little brother? Show your child that even though the things other people do may upset us, it's best to try to understand someone's motives and to discuss your feelings directly with that person, rather than complain behind his back.

**2. Make a difference.** Show your child that our actions matter by finding a cause you can wholeheartedly support and get involved. Then, take your children along -- whether it's volunteering at a senior citizens' center or handing out leaflets for a school board candidate. You'll be doing good and demonstrating to your kids that there are plenty of positive ways to make an impact on the world. Check out [www.volunteermatch.com](http://www.volunteermatch.com) for organizations in your community that

need your help.

**3. Value your time.** Be living proof that life is too precious to be spent channel-surfing. If your kids are accustomed to seeing you collapsed in front of the TV, let them catch you in the act of reading a book, gardening, doing an art project, or even practicing a musical instrument instead.

**4. Keep your word.** To raise a trustworthy child, be a trustworthy adult. When you make a promise, follow through. What happens when you've promise to be at your daughter's swim meet, but end up stalled in traffic while she's racing toward the finish line? Explain what happened as honestly and clearly as possible, then vow to make it up to her -- and, by all means, keep that vow. Remember, your words have incredible power with your kids -- even your toddler understands more than you think.

**5. Take joy in the simple things.** Kids today are bombarded by materialistic messages; it's easy for them to think that their happiness depends upon acquiring the latest robot-pup or the hippest pair of jeans. How to counteract this belief? Demonstrate that the best things in life are free. When your birthday rolls around, tell your son that, rather than a gift bought at the mall, you'd like a Saturday spent just with him, cooking up a special meal at home or hiking in the woods.

APRIL 2018  
NEWSLETTER



D'Orazio  
PETERSON  
ATTORNEYS

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**WHY YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL ABOUT  
TAKING LEGAL ADVICE FROM YOUR DOCTOR/  
SIBLING/PARENT/SPOUSE/FAMILY MEMBER/  
CO-WORKER/THE INTERNET.**

We live in an interesting time. Now more than ever we have access to an amount of information that was quite literally unfathomable just twenty years ago.

You can, with the click of a button, find out how many strikeouts David Cone had for the Yankees in 1996 (71), how old Marcus Aurelius was when he died (58), and how many eggs Paul Newman ate in *Cool Hand Luke* (50).

You can also, for better or worse, find forums online where people are happy to give legal/medical or other professional “advice” based upon their own personal or anecdotal experience.

This can be dangerous.

And it’s not only limited to conversations online. You can also get this “advice” from anyone in your circle: your parent, spouse, sibling, cousin, doctor or co-worker. Everyone has an opinion, because a) they genuinely want to help; and b) they or someone they know may have experienced something that vaguely resembled your situation.

Why is this a concern?

For several reasons. Not the least of which is...

**Your doctor/friend/family member/the internet has never practiced law.**

Just as we have never practiced medicine/accounting/engineering/plumbing, etc. Because of this, the person giving you advice has not considered (and is most likely not even aware of) the significant number of legal issues that come into play in assessing the likelihood of success (let alone recovery) in a discrimination or complex catastrophic injury lawsuit.

This makes sense, of course. The fact that we have represented many people who have broken legs in accidents does not render us qualified to perform orthopedic surgery, because we have no experience with the technical details of the procedure. And it’s these details that separate the professionals from those of us with no experience.

We firmly believe that an educated client is a good client, which is why we post so much free information on our website and in this newsletter. But it’s important not to confuse having read about something on the internet; or having heard from a friend that he or she

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settled her case for x dollars, with having had real world experience with the subtleties and nuances of individual situations.

So, the next time that your doctor, friend, family member

or the internet tells you how great your case is? Smile, nod and thank them for their concern. Then call an experienced lawyer and find out the real answer. Oh, and don’t take medical advice from us either...

**SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY**

We were very proud this month to support an event for Wellspring, a local non-profit that supports victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse. We’ve been supporters of the agency for some time, but the cause never gets old.

This year’s event highlighted a program aimed towards helping boys become good men. The program targets student athletes and empowers coaches to teach them about how to handle various situations in a positive way. This is a great cause, and we encourage you to check out Wellspring for yourself.



Also, April is Distracted Driving Month. Our re-designed “Ignore the Phone” stickers have arrived, so help support your community and let others know that you’re choosing to Ignore the Phone. To request a sticker, visit [www.ignorethephone.com](http://www.ignorethephone.com) or send us a note to [newsletter@doraziopeterson.com](mailto:newsletter@doraziopeterson.com)

