

Right of Way vs. Right Response

A Formation Reflection

Sometimes being a heathen makes us laugh. But next time, let's be serious.

Here is the God's honest truth!

Pastors are not formed on perfect roads. We are formed in wild~ traffic, on jagged'r unconventional sidewalks, and in let's say, ~eccentric~ moments when our nervous system reacts before our theology has time to speak.

Today, while running, I approached an intersection where I clearly had the right of way (again). I was moving at an alert, steady pace. An older red truck turned the corner with two [Hispanic] women inside. Instead of slowing, the driver honked aggressively and continued forward.

In that moment, I reacted with a hand gesture and raised my voice. It was human, but was it wise? *Could have been wiser, but I had a good laugh at my reaction once I got home. Woops.*

The Reality

The driver's behavior was unsafe and unlawful. In Arizona, a horn is to be used only to warn of imminent danger—not to express impatience. As a pedestrian, I was visible, lawful, and vulnerable.

And still, my response did not protect me.

The Lesson

Being right does not always mean being protected.

Anger is normal; it is information. It tells us a boundary has been crossed. But anger is meant to alert, not to lead.

My mistake, was choosing lol, "*heatheness*" expression over protection. So here is my *correction*.

A wiser response would have been to step fully clear, note the time, observe the vehicle and license plate, and report the violation. Calm documentation preserves safety, credibility, and lawful accountability.

Formation Over Performance

As a pastor—and as someone training in the law—I am learning restraint. It is the decision to preserve power for the right forum.

Spiritual formation often happens after the moment has passed. We review our reactions not to put ourselves down, the opposite, to grow in wisdom.

Law, therapy, and spirit all model restraint: power held within the self, ordered toward higher wisdom.

For Next Time

The goal is not perfection, but **formation**:

✓ Awareness

Recognizing the legal violation (improper horn use).

✓ Self-critique

Identifying that my best response is not emotional, but strategic.

✓ Legal reasoning

Articulating a better, lawful alternative (documentation and reporting).

✓ Growth

Converting a real incident into a lesson in restraint and accountability.

This signals excellent lawyerly instincts—and pastoral maturity.

Formation is about learning how to respond with greater care for ourselves and for others.

Reporting Procedure (Arizona – Pedestrian Safety)

If you encounter aggressive driving or improper horn use as a pedestrian, the most effective response is documentation followed by reporting.

1. Get to safety first

Step fully clear of the roadway. Do not engage further.

2. Note key details immediately

- Time and location (intersection, direction of travel) - Vehicle description (color, make, older/newer model) - License plate number (full or partial) - Behavior observed (aggressive honking, failure to yield)

3. Preserve evidence if available

- Written notes as soon as possible
- Phone voice memo or text to yourself
- Any photos or videos taken safely and lawfully (never while in danger)

4. Report the incident

- For non-emergency situations: contact the local police department's non-emergency line or submit an online traffic complaint if available in your jurisdiction.
- For immediate danger or repeated aggressive behavior: call 911 once you are safe.

5. Why reporting matters

Reporting creates a record. Even when no citation is issued immediately, patterns of behavior matter. Documentation protects pedestrians and supports broader public safety.

This approach prioritizes safety, preserves credibility, and uses lawful channels to address harm.

— Union of Saints

Note for the White Ladies out there:

We are dealing with horrific levels of racism. So~sew: if you mess with us, remember—we are not Karens (red, fiery-eyed OZIRAH does not like racist hatred and aggression at all), more like ~ Susie Qs ~ (HAPPY, FLOWING MAMAS, SISTERS, QUEENS, OZIRAH IN NATURAL FORM), actually.

We ask questions first, but if you grab at our spirits enough, we might just Sue-ya later.

For the love of a more perfect America.
That is US.

US IS THE QUEEN OF JUSTICE.

She is red-eyed when humans grab at her and try to hurt her, but her true form is compassionate, merciful, loving, free-flowing.

City of Tuscon Violation Reporting:

1. Tuscon Reporting: https://www.arcgis.com/sharing/rest/oauth2/authorize?client_id=survey123hub&response_type=token&expiration=20160&redirect_uri=https%3A%2F%2Fsurvey123.arcgis.com%2Fshare%2Fb831037dea9a425d83fa836628c7f87e&resourceItemId=b831037dea9a425d83fa836628c7f87e&canHandleCrossOrgSignIn=true

2. Mini Body Camera: https://www.amazon.com/Wearable-Camera%EF%BC%8CThumb-Hands-Free-Recording-Camcorder/dp/B0DXVLFHH4/ref=sxin_28_sbv_search_btf?content-id=amzn1.sym.c8b39f81-ded8-4d75-80c2-6dfa03cbb699%3Aamzn1.sym.c8b39f81-ded8-4d75-80c2-6dfa03cbb699&cv_ct_cx=mini%2Bbody%2Bcamera%2Bbrunners&keywords=mini%2Bbody%2Bcamera%2Bbrunners&pd_rd_i=B0DXVLFHH4&pd_rd_r=b82242ed-f877-43ce-846d-37f348963b92&pd_rd_w=DSkGV&pd_rd_wg=DBXPL&pf_rd_p=c8b39f81-ded8-4d75-80c2-6dfa03cbb699&pf_rd_r=YJCJH6FE4Z39H9G9W2QS&qid=1770851861&s=electronics&sbo=RZvfv%2F%2FHxDF%2BO5021pAnSA%3D%3D&sr=1-1-5190daf0-67e3-427c-bea6-c72c1df98776&th=1

3. Pepper Spray: https://www.amazon.com/SABRE-Maximum-Strength-Keychain-Accurate/dp/B0B9F3995B/ref=sr_1_23?crid=287HBC4RDOUG2&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.KsuFxEetIOMmM2AP1FWuddtCIIIGIK6k0Bqd-pP-9KxNxvt_qZ5wkD1yvgUE87O_clpX8uEVWh2zuPthygqb6uMm2_Sx-ufU6XHkiR1JcFAbeEHU0H13Sq5_iUWgyVyBDH7F-w14BscCqNaNFvypWkM65DjnChUBEYnt5fSKexlOaCMzDbLBZg-w1T5QncsjxRHxG50tJPdwxblt8j4nrrn64aPnGjleJtEKnwuHA50uDF92IY27lgYhKXrn4VcNHI8TLeJa-

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