

## First Response

No sex. Agreed.

Decidedly 420 unfriendly.

Arrogant enough to consider myself in the top half of the top half of, well, pretty much everything.

Arrogant enough to consider most folks not worth the time.

So, the obvious question is what makes you different.

Perhaps one of those liberally expressed opinions might be the place to start?

What's on your mind?

The rant of the day?

## Second Response

I think of myself as 50, but I'm a year or two younger. Some things I round up. Some things I round down.

Special? Not the word I would use. Better? Sure. Why not?

Last decade I spent writing fiction rather than reading it. Next decade I'm going to spend programming computer games rather than playing them. In the dynamic of life, I think that gives me the upper hand over the typical passive bystander.

I believe you indicated you were opinionated. You know what they say about opinions? Everybody has one. I'm thinking hearing some of your favorites would likely be the best way for us to gauge the potential. And I'll even go so far as to match you tit for tat, returning the favor and letting you gauge my mindset, as well.

Hence, I'll ask again.

If you're so opinionated, let me hear one.

Let 'er rip.

Tell me something I've never hear before... and mean it.

## Third Response

Your ad in full: *{redacted ad in full, in which (and I'm paraphrasing here) intellectual push back is specifically requested}*

What does the highlighted section mean if not 'opinionated'?

Also, I would say that if one prefers one thing over another, then they are making an implicit value judgment that the one is better than the other. One can trivialize this (hamburgers vs pizza), but the concept holds for anything meaningful. For instance, I prefer life over death even if metaphysically they may be equal, or if in the long run it turns out that death (Heaven?) is preferable to the here and now.

Your ad states you're looking for above average intelligence. I would make the argument that this implies that you value intellect, that you believe it is better than the alternative. Or why search it out? If we are indeed all equal, wouldn't any old schlub do?

*{quoted comment}*

So accomplishment matters not?

Action is equal to inaction?

Success is equal to failure?

They are all the same?

So then, how does Intellect differ from Stupidity in all this? Intellect is not a birthright. It is a matter of effort. And is an accomplishment that you yourself have indicated that you are looking for in others (and presumably yourself)?

#### Fourth and Final Response

Yes. It's been helpful.

Have a great year.

amended as appropriate, mostly for clarity

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