

Topic: Hard times force me to sell my beloved items

Abstract: How the hard economic times force me to sell my horse and other stuff. The way things are now has changed my course of action in my life and adapting to this new hard lifestyle. Jobs being the hardest thing for me to get over.

Key Words : valuables being sold, economy, jobs, horses.

Horses

All my life I had owned horses, that was my hobby, something I really enjoyed. Unfortunately that was a really expensive hobby, which is why I worked so hard to keep it. The price for owning a horse was roughly four hundred dollars. That was a place to keep her, vet bills, food bills, gas back and forth, and tack. I started noticing my bills getting higher when board fees went up due to gas going up and hay prices on a steep incline. When that happened I noticed how one thing really affects another and the snowball effect begins. The year was 2009 when the bad economy took effect on me. I was a senior in high school and needed to focus on collage. I also needed to work less so I could go to school, which meant not enough money to support my hobby. Once I saw all my bills getting higher I took a long look at my surroundings like my neighborhood. No one wanted to spend the extra cash to water the lawns or finish projects that stayed untouched. Along with people not wanting to do much on the house there was less traveling because of gas prices.

I wanted to do my best in school and find a good job, well that did not work out as planned. No one was hiring even if you had the best schooling that was offered no one could afford to take on another employee. I thought that that mad people of my age not motivated to go to school al all, why pay for the school if no one is hiring. Not only not hiring but lay offs were the worst I had ever seen, hundreds of firefighters, police just getting

laid off. At that point of laying off our public safety it became so real that it was hard to feel

like anything was going to go right at that point, even now they continue to lay off people. It seemed like if anyone had something that was a luxury it was going up for sale like boats, big trucks, fancy cars, horses, even houses that people could not afford and just needed to down size. I personally sold my horse and horse trailer that I worked so hard for just to be safe with the money issue. This recession or depression has not hit me as hard as I have seen it hit others, I did not lose a house, car, or anything else really big like others have. When I think of our times now that we are in I think back to the Great Depression. My Grandpa has told me stories before of how they had to stand in the lines just to get their food and not good food at that. Our situation is not as bad but some people would disagree, the people who are homeless or without a car due to this economy. I have never seen so many businesses shut down because they can't afford to survive. All this is new to me, I was born in a time (1991) when it was unheard of to be so hard to find a job or to be able to afford whatever it is that you want. I am fortunate to have not been hit as hard with this economy as others had in the past and now.

Where I work I see people out in front of it begging for money and it shocks me because I have been there for three years and that has never happened. That just goes to show how harder times have gotten. I see people being careful about what they spend their money on while others still spend like they used to, I think to just ignore the problem. Since I graduated high school I have a hard time deciding what I should do I wanted to put myself through a police academy but it's hard to spend money on that when they are laying off so much.

It's hard to make decisions about my future when I have no idea how this economy is going to be the next five years. I have also noticed that people keep talking about health issues with stress and suicide rates and they have increased a lot. I do catch myself dwelling on the fact that our lives are not what they used to be but I can tell we are trying to overcome that feeling of being depressed just with simple things like smiling or not getting upset so fast. I have seen holidays go from such a big event to something that makes my stomach ache. Six years ago things like Christmas was huge with family traveling to come see one another and so many gifts they wouldn't even fit in the car. Now I look and see how different things like that holiday are, my family comes down every now and then with just little things to give because they don't have much. It is a sad thing to see, our economy the way it is, but I am still hoping that we could all make it through this without losing too much of our lives and go back to a comfortable life style. Let's try not to repeat something as horrible as the Great Depression. Being as I am so young and have not been through a great deal like this it has taught me a lot and made me realize that things can go wrong at any time but to just stick through it.

