



*by Jack Bowen*

## What Separates Us From The Animals?

“What separates us from the animals is the ability to accessorize!”

That funny line delivered by Olympia Dukakis in the movie “Steel Magnolias” is funny, but not exactly true. The most enjoyable thing I’ve ever seen that separates us from the animals is civility.

I miss the days of visiting my grandparents in Central Texas, where everybody passing you, whether you were on foot or driving, would either wave at you, or at least lift their index finger from the steering wheel to acknowledge you.

I miss the days when a funeral procession was passing, and everybody on the other side of the road pulled over and waited until it was past, as a show of respect.

I miss the days when EVERYBODY pulled to the side of the road when an emergency vehicle approached, because you wanted to make sure that whoever needed help got it as soon as possible.

I miss the days when most folks, at least where I grew up, had time to be polite, courteous, and visit for a few minutes.

Have you made the time lately to show your civility? You’ll be amazed how much improving others’ day will improve yours!