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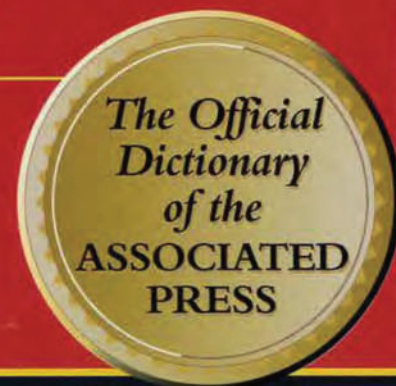
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Fourth Edition

Michael Agnes
EDITOR IN CHIEF

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advance —vi. to lend or sell with discounts —at a discount 1 below the regular price; below face value 2 worth little; unwanted and easily obtained

dis-coun-ten-ance (dis kount'ən əns) vt. --nanced, --nanc-ing [DIS- + COUNTER] 1 to make ashamed or embarrassed; disconcert 2 to refuse approval or support to; discourage

dis-coun-ter (dis'kount tər) n. one that discounts; specif., DISCOUNT HOUSE

discount house (or store) a retail store that sells its goods for less than the regular or list prices

discount rate 1 DISCOUNT (n. 3) 2 the rate at which the Federal Reserve Banks discount or rediscount securities offered by member banks

dis-cour-age (di skur'ij) vt. --aged, --ag-ing [ME *discoragen* < OFr *discoragier*; see DIS- & COURAGE] 1 to deprive of courage, hope, or confidence; dishearten 2 to advise or persuade (a person) to refrain 3 to prevent or try to prevent by disapproving or raising objections or obstacles —vi. to become discouraged

dis-cour-age-ment (-mant) n. [OFr *descouragement*] 1 a discouraging 2 the fact, state, or feeling of being discouraged 3 anything that discourages

dis-cour-ag-ing (-in) adj. that discourages; disheartening; depressing —dis-cour-ag-ingly adv.

dis-course (dis'kōrs; also, & for v. usually, dis kōrs') n. [ME & OFr *discours* < L *discursus*, discourse < pp. of *discurrere*, to run to and fro < *dis-*, from, apart + *currere*, to run; see CURRENT] 1 communication of ideas, information, etc., esp. by talking; conversation 2 a long and formal treatment of a subject, in speech or writing; lecture; treatise; dissertation 3 [Archaic] ability to reason; rationality —vi. --coursed, --cours-ing 1 to carry on conversation; talk; confer 2 to speak or write (on or upon a subject) formally and at some length —vt. [Archaic] to utter or tell —SYN. SPEAK —dis-cours'er n.

dis-cour-teous (dis kur'tē əs) adj. not courteous; impolite; rude; ill-mannered —SYN. RUDE —dis-cour-teous-ly adv. —dis-cour-teous-ness n.

dis-cour-tesy (dis kur'tē sē) n. 1 lack of courtesy; impoliteness; bad manners; rudeness 2 pl. --sies a rude or impolite act or remark

dis-cover (di skuv'ər) vt. [ME *discoveren* < OFr *descouvrir* < LL *discoperire*, to discover, reveal; see DIS- & COVER] 1 to be the first to find out, see, or know about 2 to find out; learn of the existence of; realize 3 to be the first nonnative person to find, come to, or see (a continent, river, etc.) 4 to bring to prominence; make famous 5 a) [Now Rare] to reveal; disclose; expose b) [Archaic] to uncover —SYN. LEARN —dis-cov'er-able adj. —dis-cov'er-er n.

dis-cov-ert (dis kuv'ərt) adj. [ME < OFr *descouvert*, lit., not covered, hence not protected; see DIS- & COVER] Law having no husband; said of a spinster, widow, or divorcée —dis-cov'er-ture (-ər chər) n.

dis-cov-ery (di skuv'ər ē) n., pl. --eries 1 the act of discovering 2 anything discovered 3 [Archaic] the act of revealing; disclosure 4 Law any pretrial procedures, as the taking of depositions, for compelling the disclosure of pertinent factual information

Discovery Day COLUMBUS DAY

dis-credit (dis kred'it) vt. 1 to reject as untrue; disbelieve 2 to be a reason for disbelieving or distrusting; cast doubt on (their earlier lies) discredit anything they may say/ 3 to damage the credit or reputation of; disgrace —n. 1 absence or loss of belief or trust; disbelief; doubt 2 damage to one's reputation; loss of respect or status; disgrace; dishonor 3 something that causes disgrace or loss of status

dis-cred-it-able (-ə bəl) adj. damaging to one's reputation or status; disgraceful —dis-cred-it-ably adv.

dis-creet (di skrēt') adj. [ME & OFr *discret* < L *discretus*, pp. of *discernere*; see DISCERN] careful about what one says or does; prudent; esp., keeping silent or preserving confidences when necessary —SYN. CAREFUL —dis-creet-ly adv. —dis-creet-ness n.

dis-crep-ancy (di skrep'ən sē) n., pl. --cies [ME *discrepancia* < OFr *discrepancia* < L *discrepancia* < *discrepan*, pp. of *discrepare*, to sound differently < *dis-*, from + *crepare*, to rattle; see CRAVEN] lack of agreement, or an instance of this; difference; inconsistency

dis-crep-ant (di skrep'ənt; also dis'krə pənt) adj. [ME *discrepante* < L *discrepans*] lacking agreement; differing; at variance; inconsistent —dis-crep-antly adv.

dis-crete (di skrēt') adj. [ME *discret*; see DISCREET] 1 separate and distinct; not attached to others; unrelated 2 made up of distinct parts; discontinuous 3 designating or of an electronic circuit having separate transistors, resistors, etc. —dis-crete-ly adv. —dis-crete-ness n.

dis-cree-tion (di skresh'ən) n. [ME *discrecioun* < OFr *discrecion* < L *discretio*, separation (in LL, discernment) < *discretus*; see DISCREET] 1 the freedom or authority to make decisions and choices; power to judge or act 2 the quality of being discreet, or careful about what one does and says; prudence 3 [Archaic] the action or power of discerning; judgment —at one's discretion as one wishes

dis-cree-tion-ary (-er ē) adj. left to one's discretion; regulated by one's own choice; also dis-cree-tional

dis-crimi-nable (di skrim'ə nəl) adj. that can be discriminated or distinguished

dis-crimi-nant (-nant) n. Math. an expression whose value or sign is used to classify functions

dis-crimi-nate (di skrim'i nāt; for adj., -nit) vt. --nated, --nat-ing [L *discriminatus*, pp. of *discriminare*, to divide, distinguish < *discrimen*, division, distinction < *discernere*; see DISCERN] 1 to constitute a difference between; differentiate 2 to recognize the difference between; distinguish —vi. 1 to see the difference (between things); distinguish 2 to be discerning 3 to make distinctions

tions in treatment; show partiality (in favor of) or prejudice (against) —adj. involving discrimination; distinguishing carefully —SYN. DISTINGUISH

dis-crimi-nat-ing (-nāt'ing) adj. 1 that discriminates; distinguishing 2 able to make or see fine distinctions; discerning 3 DISCRIMINATORY

dis-crimi-na-tion (di skrim'i nā'shən) n. [L *discriminatio*] 1 the act of discriminating, or distinguishing differences 2 the ability to make or perceive distinctions; perception; discernment 3 a) partiality, or bias, in the treatment of a person or group, which is unfair, illegal, etc. b) an act, policy, pattern of behavior, etc. characterized by such partiality

dis-crimi-na-tive (-nāt'iv, -nə tiv) adj. 1 making fine distinctions; discerning 2 characterized by or showing partiality or prejudice; discriminatory

dis-crimi-na-tor (di skrim'i nāt'ər) n. 1 one that discriminates 2 Radio a circuit for demodulating frequency-modulated or phase-modulated carrier waves

dis-crimi-na-tory (-nə tōr'ē) adj. 1 practicing discrimination, or showing prejudice 2 discriminating, or distinguishing

dis-curs-ive (di skur'siv) adj. [ML *discursivus* < L *discursus*; see DISCOURSE] 1 wandering from one topic to another; skimming over many apparently unconnected subjects; rambling; desultory; digressive 2 based on the conscious use of reasoning rather than on intuition —dis-curs-ively adv. —dis-curs-ive-ness n.

dis-cus (dis'kəs) n., pl. dis-cuses or discs (dis'iz) [L < Gr *diskos* < base of *dihein*, to throw, akin to *deikhynai*, to show, point out; see DICTION] 1 a heavy disk, usually made of metal and wood, that is thrown for distance as a test of strength and skill 2 the throwing of the discus as a field event in track and field meets: in full discus throw

dis-cuss (di skus') vt. [ME *discussen*, to examine, scatter < L *discussus*, pp. of *discutere*, to strike asunder, scatter < *dis-*, apart + *cutere*, to shake, beat; see QUASH'] 1 [Obs.] to disperse; dispel 2 to talk or write about; take up in conversation or in a discourse; consider and argue the pros and cons of —dis-cuss-able adj. or dis-cuss-ible —dis-cuss'er n.

SYN. —discuss implies a talking about something in a deliberative fashion, with varying opinions offered constructively and usually amicably, so as to settle an issue, decide on a course of action, etc.; argue implies the citing of reasons or evidence to support or refute an assertion, belief, proposition, etc.; debate implies a formal argument, usually on public questions, in contests between opposing groups; dispute implies argument in which there is a clash of opposing opinions, often presented in an angry or heated manner

dis-cuss-ant (-ənt) n. a person taking part in an organized discussion

dis-cus-sion (di skush'ən) n. [ME *discussio* < LL *discussio*] the act of discussing; talk or writing in which the pros and cons or various aspects of a subject are considered —under discussion being discussed

dis-dain (dis dān') vt. [ME *disdeinen* < OFr *desdaigner* < VL **disdignare*, for LL *dedignare* < L *dedignari* < *dis-*, DIS- + *dignari*; see DEIGN] to regard or treat as unworthy or beneath one's dignity; specif., to refuse or reject with aloof contempt or scorn —n. the feeling, attitude, or expression of disdain; aloof contempt or scorn —SYN. DESPISE

dis-dain-ful (-fəl) adj. feeling or expressing disdain; scornful and aloof —SYN. PROUD —dis-dain-fully adv. —dis-dain-ful-ness n.

dis-ease (di zēz') n. [ME *dise*, inconvenience, trouble, sickness < OFr *deseise*, discomfort < *des-*, DIS- + *aise*, EASE] 1 any departure from health; illness in general 2 a particular destructive process in an organ or organism, with a specific cause and characteristic symptoms; specif., an illness; ailment 3 any harmful or destructive condition, as of society —vt. --eased', --eas'-ing [ME *disesen* < OFr *desaisier* < the n.] to cause disease in; infect or derange; usually in pp. —dis-eased' adj.

SYN. —disease may apply generally to any deviation of the body from its normal or healthy state, or it may refer to a particular disorder with a specific cause and characteristic symptoms; malady usually refers to a deep-seated chronic disease, frequently one that is ultimately fatal; ailment refers to a mild, chronic disorder (the minor ailments of the aged)

dis-em-bark (dis'im bärk', dis'im bark') vt. [Fr *désambarquer*; see DIS- & EMBARK] to unload (passengers or goods) from a ship, aircraft, etc. —vi. to go ashore from a ship or leave an aircraft or other means of transportation —dis-em-bark-a-tion (dis'em bär kə'shən, dis em'-') n.

dis-em-bar-rass (dis'im bār'əs) vt. to rid or relieve of something embarrassing, annoying, entangling, perplexing, or burdensome

dis-em-body (dis'im bād'ē, dis'im bād'ē) vt. --bod'-ied, --bod'-y-ing to free from bodily existence; make incorporeal —dis-em-bod'-ied adj. —dis-em-bod'-i-ment n.

dis-em-bogue (dis'im bōg') vt., vi. --bogu-ed', --bogu-ing [Sp *desembocar*, to come out of the mouth of a river or haven < *des-* (L



DISCUS