Poem Rebuttal

Kristin L. Heflin's poem in the 9-19 Reveille included the following lines:

"Zsa Zsa slapped a cop,
And she's supposed to go to jail.
She'll endure many hardships -
Things like shopping through the mail,

"Leona is a jail-bird too;
She jipped the I.R.S.
I've heard she tried to locate
A designer prison dress.

"She'll share a cell, the sheets aren't silk,
And to her great dismay
She's found out that the prison food
Cannot be classed 'gourmet.'"

Very nice. So nice, in fact, that she inspired me to write a poem. I call it
"Dear Ms. Heflin."

When you attack these ladies,
Your talents you misuse.
You're knocking them not for vices,
But instead for their virtues!

Zsa Zsa slapped a cop.
Yes, that much is true.
But for that cop's obscenity,
I'll bet - so would you.

And Leona "jipped" the I.R.S.?
But whose money is it, hey?
Since I.R.S. jipped her first
Turnabout is fair play.

Zsa Zsa's fame, success and riches
Must really make you mad;
Leona's great achievements
I guess you think are bad.

A thermometer of our age, Ms. Heflin -
Oh, yes, you tell us plenty.
Such resentment against achievement!
This is the age of envy.

N. Stephan Kinsella

effort to serve God and help out their neighbor, to the best of their ability. Dear Editor, if 50 percent of our fellow citizens are doing this, then something has gone terribly wrong.

Back when "being a Christian" actually meant a statement of personal integrity and not merely a label signifying membership in some spiritual country club, love was a big part of the program.

Jesus, the guy who came up with this whole idea in the first place, taught that following after Him (and thereby "being a Christian") meant denying one's self-interest and seeking to help those who were needy and needed loving.

You know, people still put a lot of stock in the idea, that God is "love." A good friend of Jesus', a fisherman by the name of John, wrote that God showed his love for us by sending his Son Jesus - that if we would believe in Him, we would become the adopted sons and daughters of God, children that would live and reign forever as heirs of the divine kingdom.

"Let us love one another," he wrote, "because love is of God." In other words, a Christian - that is, a Child of God's - is meant to be nothing less than an expression of God's love for humanity. If that is so, then where is that love?

Dearest Editor, it takes very little insight to look around and see the pain that surrounds us - people who are lonely and hurting, searching for a sense of purpose and belonging. Some look for it in their sexuality, only to wake up lonely and reeling with guilt in some stranger's bed.

Some seek a sense of identity by belonging to an organization, then get caught between the pressure to prove themselves at the beer tap and the feeling that somehow, somewhere there has to be more to life. Some hide themselves away in drugs. Still others hide themselves inside white-washed fortresses, translating the Bible into a Book of their fingers...