

Herzmann Family Christmas Letter 2018

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Robert Herzmann⁴, AND Charlotte Herzmann⁵

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Abstract

Attrition prevailed and we arrive at the end of another year. This year's dossier will strive to not violate state gaming laws nor commit mail fraud. It turns out that giving away Amazon.com gift cards via a Christmas Letter (Herzmann et al. 2017) may not be the best means to boost readership. Much has happened in the past year and you are about to be informed of it without any possible direct financial gain.

1 Introduction

The size of our family was not altered this year and comprises Daryl "Daryl" (40), Elizabeth "Liz" (age redacted), Margaret "Miss Maggie" (5), Robert "Ro-Ro" (4), Charlotte "Charly" (1), and one cat with a dog's name of Snoopy (10). The near term probability forecast for increasing the family size is near zero with Figure 1 showing the current stretch of non-pregnancy achieved.

1.1 Housing

No changes have been made with our housing arrangement. 2019 will mark the 'seven year itch' predicted by our real estate agent for when we would desire to move to a different house. Out of spite for that prediction, we will not be moving.

1.2 Conveyances

Herzmann et al. (2017) boasted that no new car, read minivan, would be necessary for Daryl, but one day Mr Robert inquired if he should hide in his seat when we drove past a cop car as his present car seat was not the right size. A few weeks later a new Honda Pilot, read minivan, was purchased. Mr Robert can worry about avoiding the police later in life now.

We loaded up the three kids and took Liz's minivan on a spring break trip to the Big D and I do mean Dallas. The kids did remarkably well for the many hours of riding in the car and enjoyed visiting their Great Grandmother and first-cousins-once-removed there. We stopped at Legoland in Kansas City, which they had great fun at.

1.3 Employment

Daryl remains gainfully employed by Iowa State University. Sadly his friend and supervisor for the past 16 years died suddenly from a stroke on the same date

that Daryl's father died eight years ago (14 November). Daryl has been adopted by another faculty member at ISU and should have funding to keep putzing along.

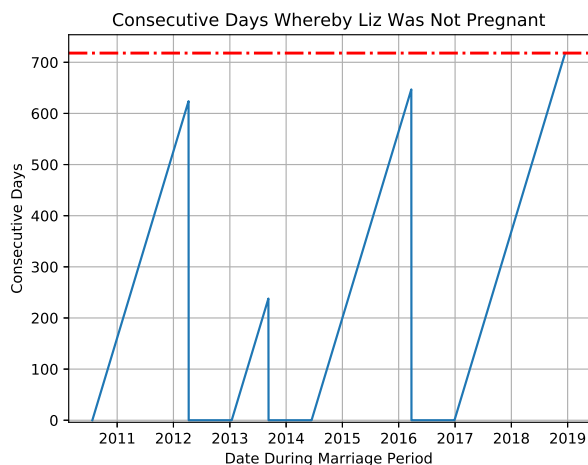


Figure 1: Currently at marriage record duration for not being pregnant.

After a wonderful eight years teaching in Johnston, Liz was able to land a science teaching position in our hometown of Ankeny this school year. She is working with 8th graders at Southview Middle School. The new commute of five minutes has proven beneficial given our children's ever expanding list of activities. Biking to work was seriously considered, but in the end she decided to give it a year to settle in first.

The other 60% of our family is ignorant of minimum wage and happily does odd jobs for shiny pennies. Miss Maggie thought briefly that a dollar could be worth 100 pennies, but the parents squashed that rebellion.

2 Miss Charlotte

Miss Charlotte's development has been fun to observe. She presently knows many words, but has yet to conjugate a sentence. She was recently evicted from her crib and into a standard issue twin bed. Her wake-up routine

is to collect up all her blankeys, stuffed animals, and binkeys before heading downstairs for breakfast. Her stuffed animals are then arranged on the table as shown by Figure 2.



Figure 2: Charlotte eating breakfast with her left hand. Don't worry, will correct this.

Miss Charlotte loves to wrestle with anybody in the family willing and is already roughing up Mr Robert more than he likes. She is still a picky eater and prefers to consume pancakes two at a time, one for each hand.

3 Mr Robert

Mr Robert is handful bundle of joy. While his age is on the fence to be sent to kindergarten in the fall, we are currently leaning toward enrolling him and see what transpires. Mr Robert loves to play, be loud, and complain about his sisters, parents, and the world in general being unfair to him. He has breathtaking moments of lucid deduction though, which are cherished memories for us. For instance, he will scream, while not wanting to go to bed, that if he stays up screaming that he will wake up grumpy tomorrow. The circular logic employed does not phase him. He also seems to have an intrinsic understanding of logistics and will make observations regarding inefficiencies of parental work flows.

4 Miss Maggie

Miss Maggie is enjoying her first year of school at kindergarten and seems to be a model student so far. We were able to get her into our nearby elementary school, which is a quick walk from our house. She has surprised us with how quickly she has picked up reading and doing math tasks. After a quick foray into algebra, a failed attempt was made at trigonometry. She has shown recent

interest in the piano. Her favorite books include "Fancy Nancy", "WellieWishersTM", and "Berenstain Bears".

We asked her if she wanted to contribute a paragraph to this article and she wanted everyone to know that she likes snow and that is all.

5 Summary

We hoped you enjoyed reading this article, which was mailed with great care as shown by Figure 3. While tiring, life in our household is fun and full of love. The three children are such wonderful blessings and we are reminded daily of how fortunate we are.



Figure 3: The children delivering this year's letter to our local Amazon owned US Post Office. Miss Maggie thought it would be fun to place one letter at a time into the mail box. § Kogen et al. 1990

Acknowledgments Our family wishes to thank you for the generous support, prayers, cards, gifts, and visits you have provided us in the past year. With your continued support, this letter will be produced again next year. Please note that the format chosen for this correspondence was completely Daryl's idea and execution. Liz had marginal editorial control. Full L^AT_EX source can be found on Daryl's Github page.

6 References

- Github, 2018: <https://github.com/akrherz/me> , visited 15 Dec 2018.
- Herzmann, Daryl E., et al. Herzmann Family Christmas Letter 2017.
- Kogen, Jay, et al. The Simpsons: Krusty Gets Busted. Season 1 Episode 12. 1990.