

August 26, 18

Inspiration came from a recent national conference workshop that I attended where staff from a dementia care facility described what they are doing to improve communication with the people living in their facility. They used "THEY" at least 15 times when referring to the people living in their facility during their presentation. Each time they used the word "THEY" my stomach would cringe.

THEY

Who are these people who after one word we call them **THEY**

Did they have any choice as to why we call them **THEY**

Sometimes just one word (**DEMENTIA**) is why their **THEY**

Is a person any different after Dementia Diagnosed as **THEY**

We still love, hate, think, enjoy, cry, be depressed after **THEY**

We still love our family, friends, have enemies after **THEY**

We still love movies, parties, vacations, traveling **after THEY**

We still have emotional upsets, anger, frustrations after **THEY**

We do not like the loss of independence after **THEY**

We do not like the loss of social contact after **THEY**

We do not like people deciding and speaking for us after **THEY**

Author – Bob Savage

We do not like being a burden to those we love after **THEY**

We like to continue to speak for ourselves after our **THEY**

We like to be involved in all our decisions after our **THEY**

We like to set up new social contacts others after our **THEY**

We like to be accepted in our communities after our **THEY**