

Subject: Harassment on the Children's Pool at La Jolla Cove

From: Regina Stewman <rstewman@sdale.org>

Date: 3/27/2012 9:13 PM

To: "harassed@san.rr.com" <harassed@san.rr.com>

While in San Diego at a conference, I went to La Jolla Cove to visit the seals. I have been here 15 years previously with my husband, and remember it as such a special experience. I wanted to share this with my friends. The second I set foot on the sand I was approached by a woman who told me that I could not go beyond a yellow rope; yet, when I questioned why other people were on the beach, I was told they did not care about the seals. After further questioning, the woman finally admitted that she was a private citizen trying to protect the seals.

As I ventured down the beach to where others were taking pictures, as well as scuba diving, I was approached by another woman. She reprimanded my friends and I for walking on the beach. Three times I asked her if she worked there or had authority. She would not answer. When a gentleman approached me and told me that the beach was open to all visitors, the young woman walked up behind me and began to argue vehemently and rudely with the man that my friends and I (and the other visitors) were scaring the seals and would cause them to leave. I was very uncomfortable.

I myself had visited over 15 years before, and here the seals were still coming to the beach with many human visitors in close vicinity.

As I tried to leave the beach, I was approached by a third woman who again reprimanded for for not "caring for the seal".

This was the worst part of my trip to San Diego, and I left the beach earlier than planned and with a heavy heart. I wish these ladies and others in their organization were not allowed to harass the tourists.

From an Arkansas Seal Lover,
Dr. Regina R. Stewman

Sent from my iPad