

# UNUSUAL STATE LAWS

## **ALABAMA**

- \* It was illegal to wear a false moustache in church if it made people laugh
- \* It is illegal for a driver to be blindfolded while operating a vehicle.
- \* Bear wrestling matches are prohibited.
- \* Incestuous marriages are legal.
- \* It is illegal to impersonate a person of the clergy.
- \* It is illegal to maim oneself to escape duty.
- \* You may not drive barefooted.
- \* Dominoes may not be played on Sunday.
- \* Putting salt on a railroad track may be punishable by death.
- \* Boogers may not be flicked into the wind.
- \* It is legal to drive the wrong way down a one-way street if you have a lantern attached to the front of your automobile.
- \* You must have windshield wipers on your car.
- \* You may not have an ice cream cone in your back pocket at any time.
- \* Masks may not be worn in public.
- \* Women are able to retain all property they owned prior to marriage in the case of divorce. However, this provision does not apply to men.
- \* Men may not spit in front of the opposite sex.

## **ALASKA**

- \* Moose may not be viewed from an airplane.
- \* While it is legal to shoot bears, waking a sleeping bear for the purpose of taking a photograph is prohibited.
- \* It is considered an offense to push a live moose

## **ARIZONA**

- \* It was illegal to kick a mule, but if the mule kicked a person it could not be prosecuted
- \* It is illegal to refuse a person a drink of water.
- \* It is illegal to hunt camels.
- \* Any misdemeanor committed while wearing a red mask is considered a felony.
- \* There is a possible 25 years in prison for cutting down a cactus.
- \* Donkeys cannot sleep in bathtubs.
- \* A class 2 misdemeanor occurs if one places a mark upon a flag which is "likely to provoke physical retaliation".
- \* It is illegal to manufacture imitation cocaine.
- \* When being attacked by a criminal or burglar, you may only protect yourself with the same weapon that the other person possesses.
- \* You may not have more than two dildos in a house.
- \* In Phoenix, Arizona, you can't walk through a hotel lobby with spurs on.

## **ARKANSAS**

- \* Filing down a mules teeth was forbidden

- \* A law states the name must be pronounced AR KAN SAW
- \* The Arkansas River can rise no higher than to the Main Street bridge in Little Rock.
- \* A law provides that school teachers who bob their hair will not get a raise.
- \* A man can legally beat his wife, but not more than once a month.
- \* Oral sex is considered to be sodomy.
- \* Alligators may not be kept in bathtubs.

## ***CALIFORNIA***

- \* Anyone setting a trap for a mouse had to have a permit
- \* Dancing cheek-to-cheek is prohibited by law.
- \* Sunshine is guaranteed to the masses.
- \* Animals are banned from mating publicly within 1,500 feet of a tavern, school, or place of worship.
- \* Bathhouses are against the law.
- \* It is a misdemeanor to shoot at any kind of game from a moving vehicle, unless the target is a whale.
- \* Women may not drive in a house coat.
- \* No vehicle without a driver may exceed 60 miles per hour
- \* In California, a law created in 1925 makes it illegal to wiggle while dancing.
- \* The law states that more than 3000 sheep cannot be herded down Hollywood Blvd. at any one time.
- \* Detonating a nuclear device within the city limits results in a \$500 fine.
- \* San Francisco, it is illegal to wipe one's car with used underwear.
- \* In San Francisco, there is an ordinance which bans the picking up and throwing of used confetti.
- \* Horses may not wear cowbells inside the city limits of Tahoe City.

## ***COLORADO***

- \* It was not permitted to throw shoes at a bridal couple
- \* One may not mutilate a rock in a state park.
- \* Car dealers may not show cars on a Sunday.
- \* It is illegal for liquor stores to sell food or grocery stores to sell any alcohol except beer that is at most 3.
- \* A pet cat, if loose, must have a tail light.
- \* No liquor may be sold on Sundays or election days.
- \* It is illegal to ride a horse while under the influence.
- \* Tags may be ripped off of pillows and mattresses

## ***CONNECTICUT***

- \* In colonial times, children could face the death penalty for disobeying their parents
- \* It is against the law to a man to write love letters to a woman whose mother or father has prohibited the relationship.
- \* In Willamantic, horses are not allowed on the streets and highways at night unless the animal has a "bright" red taillight securely attached to its rump.
- \* Town records may not be kept where liquor is sold.

- \* You can be stopped by the police for biking over 65 miles per hour.
- \* In order for a pickle to officially be considered a pickle, it must bounce.
- \* It is illegal to dispose of used razor blades.
- \* You cannot buy any alcohol after 9pm or on Sundays after noon on Sunday.
- \* It is illegal to discharge a firearm from a public highway.

## **DELAWARE**

- \* "R" rated movies shall not be shown at drive-in theaters.
- \* It is illegal to fly over any body of water, unless one is carrying sufficient supplies of food and drink.

## **FLORIDA**

- \* Women may be fined for falling asleep under a hair dryer, as can the salon owner.
- \* A special law prohibits unmarried women from parachuting on Sunday or she shall risk arrest, fine, and/or jailing.
- \* If an elephant is left tied to a parking meter, the parking fee has to be paid just as it would for a vehicle.
- \* It is illegal to sing in a public place while attired in a swimsuit.
- \* Men may not be seen publicly in any kind of strapless gown.
- \* Having sexual relations with a porcupine is illegal.
- \* You may not fart in a public place after 6 PM on Thursdays.
- \* Oral sex is illegal.
- \* You may not kiss your wife's breasts.
- \* Horse theft is still punishable by hanging.
- \* All residents had to wear clothing while bathing in a bathtub
- \* In Jacksonville, turtle racing is against the law within city limits.
- \* It is illegal to skateboard without a license.
- \* When having sex, only the missionary position is legal.
- \* The state constitution allows for freedom of speech, a trial by jury, and pregnant pigs to not be confined in cages.
- \* One may not commit any "unnatural acts" with another person.
- \* Unmarried couples may not commit "lewd acts" and live together in the same residence.
- \* Corrupting the public morals is defined as a nuisance, and is declared a misdemeanor offense.
- \* Doors of all public buildings must open outwards.
- \* It is illegal to sell your children.
- \* It is considered an offense to shower naked.
- \* You are not allowed to break more than three dishes per day, or chip the edges of more than four cups and/or saucers.
- \* In Miami, it is forbidden to imitate animals.
- \* It is against the law to put livestock on a school bus.

## **GEORGIA**

- \* It is illegal to use profanity in front of a dead body which lies in a funeral home or in a coroners office.

- \* You have the right to commit simple battery if provoked by "fightin'" words.
- \* In Kennesaw, every head of household must possess a firearm of some kind.
- \* In Atlanta, one man may not be on another man's back.
- \* Signs are required to be written in English.
- \* No one may carry an ice cream cone in their back pocket if it is Sunday.
- \* In Quitman, it is illegal for a chicken to cross the road.
- \* Beach lifeguards had to wear bright red bathing suits and a harness around their necks connected to a 200-foot-long lifeline
- \* In Atlanta, it is illegal to tie a Giraffe to a telephone pole or a street lamp.
- \* It is against the law to slap a man on the back or front.
- \* It is illegal for a barber to advertise his/her price.
- \* If an organization non registered as "non-profit" fails to register their raffle with the local sheriff, that group risks paying up to \$10,000 in fines and spending five years in jail.
- \* While Georgia operates its own lottery, it "protects" its citizens by making it illegal to promote a private lottery.
- \* The term "sodomasochistic abuse" is defined so broadly, that it could possibly be applied to a person handcuffing another in a clown suit.
- \* All sex toys are banned.
- \* Members of the state assembly cannot be ticketed for speeding while the state assembly is in session.
- \* In Georgia, it's against the law to spread a false rumor.
- \* Donkeys may not be kept in bathtubs.

## ***HAWAII***

- \* Barbers were not permitted to lather their customers with a shaving brush
- \* Billboards are outlawed.
- \* All residents may be fined as a result of not owning a boat.
- \* Coins are not allowed to be placed in one's ears.

## ***IDAHO***

- \* No one could buy a chicken after dark without permission from the sheriff
- \* Illegal for a man to give his sweetheart a box of candy weighing less than fifty pounds.
- \* You may not fish on a camel's back.
- \* Riding a merry-go-round on Sundays is considered a crime.

## ***ILLINOIS***

- \* It was permissible to send an animal to jail
- \* You may be arrested for vagrancy if you do not have at least one dollar bill on your person.
- \* It is a felony offense to eavesdrop on your own conversation.
- \* You must contact the police before entering the city in an automobile.
- \* The English language is not to be spoken.
- \* Law forbids eating in a place that is on fire.
- \* It is an offense to feed whiskey to a dog.
- \* It is legal to protest naked in front of city hall as long as you are under

- seventeen years of age and have legal permits.
- \* It is illegal for anyone to give lighted cigars to dogs, cats, and other domesticated animals kept as pets.
- \* A car must be driven with the steering wheel.
- \* In Champaign, one may not pee in his neighbor's mouth.

## **INDIANA**

- \* It is illegal for liquor stores to sell cold soft drinks.
- \* Liquor stores may not sell milk.
- \* Waitresses may not carry drinks into a restaurant or bar.
- \* Hotel sheets must be exactly 99 inches long and 81 inches wide.
- \* If any person has a puppet show, wire dancing or tumbling act in the state of Indiana and receives money for it, they will be fined \$3 under the Act to Prevent Certain Immoral Practices.
- \* Anyone 14 or older who profanely curses, damns or swears by the name of God, Jesus Christ or the Holy Ghost, shall be fined one to three dollars for each offense, with a maximum fine of ten dollars per day.
- \* A three dollar fine per pack will be imposed on anyone playing cards in Indiana under the Act for the Prevention of Gaming.
- \* The value of Pi is 3.
- \* It is illegal for a man to be sexually aroused in public.
- \* One may not sniff glue.
- \* A person must get a referral from a licensed physician if he or she wishes to see a hypnotist unless the desired procedure is to quit smoking or lose weight.
- \* Baths may not be taken between the months of October and March.
- \* It is illegal to sell cars on Sunday.
- \* Oral sex is illegal.
- \* A man over the age of 18 may be arrested for statutory rape if the passenger in his car is not wearing her socks and shoes, and is under the age of 17.
- \* It is against the law to pass a horse on the street.
- \* Grocery stores may not sell any type of cold liquor.
- \* You can get out of paying for a dependent's medical care by praying for him/her.
- \* One man may not back into a parking spot because it prevents police officers from seeing the license plate.
- \* Smoking in the state legislature building is banned, except when the legislature is in session.
- \* French Lick Springs once passed a law requiring all black cats to wear bells on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>.

## **IOWA**

- \* It was illegal for a woman NOT to wear a corset.
- \* It is a violation of the law to sell or distribute drugs or narcotics without having first obtained the appropriate Iowa drug tax stamp.
- \* A man with a moustache may never kiss a woman in public.

- \* One-armed piano players must perform for free.
- \* Kisses may last for no more than five minutes.
- \* Tanning bed facilities must warn of the risk of getting a sunburn.
- \* A board was created to regulate among other things, hearing aids.
- \* Ministers must obtain a permit to carry their liquor across state lines.
- \* Doctors who treat a person with gonorrhea must report this to the local board of health and include the disease's "probable origin".
- \* All boxes used to pick hops must be exactly 36 inches long.

## **KANSAS**

- \* Rabbits may not be shot from motorboats.
- \* Pedestrians crossing the highways at night must wear tail lights.
- \* No one may catch fish with his bare hands.
- \* The state game rule prohibits the use of mules to hunt ducks.
- \* If two trains meet on the same track, neither shall proceed until the other has passed.
- \* It was illegal to exhibit the eating of snakes.
- \* It is illegal for restaurants to sell cherry pie a la mode on Sundays.
- \* In Wichita, a man's mistreatment of his mother-in-law may not be used as grounds for divorce.
- \* In Wichita, it is illegal to carry a concealed bean snapper.
- \* In Lang, it is illegal to ride a mule down Main Street in August, unless the animal is wearing a straw hat.
- \* One may not drive a buffalo through a street.
- \* In Natoma, it is illegal to throw a knife at anyone wearing a striped shirt.
- \* In Lang it is illegal to ride a mule down Main Street in August unless the animal is wearing a straw hat.

## **KENTUCKY**

- \* A man could not buy a coat unless his wife was along to help in the selection.
- \* Throwing eggs at a public speaker could result in up to one year in prison.
- \* One may not dye a duckling blue and offer it for sale unless more than six are for sale at once.
- \* A merchant may not force a person into his/her place of business for the purpose of making a sale.
- \* In Berea horses are not allowed on the streets and highways at night unless the animal has a "bright" red taillight securely attached to its rump.
- \* A person must take a bath once a year.
- \* It is illegal to fish with a bow and arrow in Kentucky.

## **LOUISIANA**

- \* Whistling on Sunday was forbidden.
- \* It is illegal to rob a bank and then shoot the teller with a water pistol.
- \* "Fake" wrestling matches are prohibited.
- \* Spectators at a boxing match may not mock one of the contestants.
- \* A bill was introduced in the State House of Representatives to fix the price of a haircut for a bald man at twenty-five cents.

- \* One could possibly land in jail for 20 years upon urinating in the city's water supply.
- \* A law was passed with the specific intent of stating the punishment for stealing crawfish.
- \* It is a \$500 fine to instruct a pizza delivery man to deliver a pizza to your friend without them knowing.
- \* Running an abortion advertisement can land you in jail for a year.
- \* Biting someone with your natural teeth is "simple assault," while biting someone with your false teeth is "aggravated assault."
- \* It is illegal to gargle in public places.
- \* It is illegal to shoot lasers at police officers.
- \* One may not "dare" another to go onto railroad tracks owned by another.
- \* Stealing an alligator could land a person in jail for up to ten years.
- \* Rituals that involve the ingestion of blood, urine, or fecal matter are not allowed.
- \* One could land in jail for up to a year for making a false promise.
- \* Every time a person is seriously burned, he must report the injury to the fire marshal.
- \* Prisoners who hurt themselves could serve an additional two years in jail.
- \* In New Orleans, fire trucks are required by law to stop at all red lights.

## **MAINE**

- \* Walking the streets with one's shoelaces undone was forbidden.
- \* After January 14, a person can be fined for having Christmas decorations still up
- \* Shotguns are required to be taken to church in the event of a Native American attack.
- \* You may not step out of a plane in flight.
- \* In Portland, it is illegal for men to tickle women under the chin with feather dusters.
- \* The most money one can legally win gambling is three dollars.
- \* In Rumford, it is illegal for a tenant to bite his/her land-lord.
- \* In Waterville, it is illegal to blow one's nose in public.

## **MARYLAND**

- \* It was illegal in parts of Maryland to mistreat an oyster.
- \* Oral sex can not be given or received anywhere.
- \* In Baltimore, it's illegal to take a lion to the movies.
- \* Thistles may not grow in one's yard.

## **MASSACHUSETTS**

- \* It was illegal to show movies that lasted more than twenty minutes
  - \* In 1659, the General Court of Massachusetts ordered that anybody caught feasting or laying off from work, or in any other way goofing off on any other day other than Christmas, would be fined five shillings for each such offense.
  - \* It is illegal to give beer to hospital patients.
  - \* Candy may not contain more than 1% of alcohol.
  - \* Shooting ranges may not set up targets that resemble human beings.
  - \* At a wake, mourners may eat no more than three sandwiches.
  - \* Snoring is prohibited unless all bedroom windows are closed and securely locked.
  - \* Public boxing matches are outlawed.
  - \* An old ordinance declares goatees illegal unless you first pay a special license fee for the privilege of wearing one in public.
- Taxi drivers are prohibited from making love in the front seat of their taxi during their shifts.
- \* All men must carry a rifle to church on Sunday.
  - \* Hunting on Sundays is prohibited.
  - \* It is illegal to go to bed without first having a full bath.
  - \* A woman can not be on top in sexual activities.
  - \* No gorilla is allowed in the back seat of any car.
  - \* Tattooing and body piercing is illegal.
  - \* Children may smoke, but they may not purchase cigarettes.
  - \* Tomatoes may not be used in the production of clam chowder.
  - \* Quakers and witches are banned.
  - \* Bullets may not be used as currency.
  - \* Massachusetts liquor stores can only open on Sundays if they are in Berkshire, Essex, Franklin, Middlesex or Worcester counties and are within 10 miles of the Vermont or New Hampshire borders.
  - \* Alcoholic drink specials are illegal.

## **MICHIGAN**

- \* Michigan takes their rats seriously. You can collect a 10 cent bounty on every rat you bring into a town office.
- \* It is legal for a robber to file a law suit, if he or she is injured in your house.
- \* In Rochester, the law states that anyone bathing in public must have the bathing suit inspected by a police officer.
- \* Any person over the age of 12 may have a license for a handgun as long as he/she has not been convicted of a felony.
- \* It is against the law to serenade your girlfriend in Kalamazoo.
- \* In Pontiac, Michigan, it is illegal to drink soda in a bag of any kind.
- \* Michigan law prohibits chaining an alligator to a fire hydrant.
- \* Couples are banned from making love in an automobile unless the act takes place while the vehicle is parked on the couple's own property.



- \* It is illegal to paint sparrows to sell them as parakeets.
- \* A woman's hair was property of her husband.
- \* It is illegal to curse in front of woman and children.
- \* Persons may not be drunk on trains.
- \* It is illegal to kill a dog using a decompression chamber.
- \* Adultery is illegal, but can only be punished upon a complaint by the affected husband or wife.
- \* No man may seduce and corrupt an unmarried girl, or else he risks five years in prison.
- \* Married couples must live together or be imprisoned.
- \* The last Sunday in June of every year was named ?log cabin day?.
- \* Cars may not be sold on Sunday.
- \* A woman isn't allowed to cut her own hair without her husband's permission.
- \* There is a 3 cent bounty for each starling and 10 cent bounty for each crow killed in any village, township, or city in the state.
- \* Any person over the age of 12 may have a license for a handgun as long as he/she has not been convicted of a felony.
- \* In Michigan, it is against the law for a lady to lift her skirt more than 6 inches while walking through a mud puddle.

## **MINNESOTA**

- \* Men's and woman's underwear could not be hung on the same clothesline at the same time.
- \* The land of 10,000 lakes declares mosquitoes a public nuisance.
- \* It is illegal to stand around any building without a good reason to be there.
- \* A person may not cross state lines with a duck atop his head.
- \* It is illegal to sleep naked.
- \* All men driving motorcycles must wear shirts.
- \* Citizens may not enter Wisconsin with a chicken on their head.
- \* Oral sex is prohibited.
- \* All bathtubs must have feet.

## **MISSISSIPPI**

- \* It was illegal to soap railroad tracks
- If one is a parent to two illegitimate children, that person will go to jail for at least one month.
- \* No one may bribe any athlete to "rig" a game, match, tournament, etc.
- \* It is illegal to teach others what polygamy is.
- \* A man may not seduce a woman by lying, and claiming he will marry her.
- \* One may be fined up to \$100 for using "profane language" in public places.
- \* Private citizens may personally arrest any person that disturbs a church service.
- \* Cattle rustling is punishable by hanging.
- \* Horses are not to be housed within 50 feet of any road.
- \* Adultery or Fornication (living together while not married or having sex with someone that is not your spouse) results in a fine of \$500 and/or 6

months in prison.

- \* Vagrancy is punishable by either 30 days in prison or a \$250 fine.
- \* Unnatural intercourse, if both parties voluntarily participate, results in a maximum sentence of 10 years and \$10,000.
- \* It is illegal for a male to be sexually aroused in public.

### **MISSOURI**

- \* It is illegal to have oral sex.
- \* Single men between the ages of twenty-one and fifty must pay an annual tax of one dollar (enacted 1820).
- \* It is not illegal to speed.
- \* In Missouri, a man must have a permit to shave.

### **MONTANA**

- \* A man and a woman cannot have sex in any position other than missionary style. (Repealed)
- \* Movies that depict acts of felonious crime cannot be shown.
- \* Sheep may not be in the cab of your truck without a chaperone.
- \* Balls may not be thrown within the city limits.
- \* Citizens are not allowed to draw funny faces on their window shades.
- \* Vehicles may not be operated with ice picks attached to the wheels.
- \* Unrestrained giggling while walking on city street is forbidden by law.
- \* In Montana, it is illegal for married women to go fishing alone on Sundays, and illegal for unmarried women to fish alone at all.
- \* Prostitution is considered a "crime against the family".
- \* One may not pretend to abuse an animal in the presence of a minor.
- \* It is a felony for a wife to open her husband's mail.
- \* It is a misdemeanor to show movies that depict acts of felonious crime.
- \* Seven or more Indians are considered a raiding or war party and it is legal to shoot them.

### **NEBRASKA**

- \* A person who sneezed in public could be fined.
- \* It is illegal for a bar owner to sell beer unless s/he is simultaneously brewing a kettle of soup.
- \* Persons with gonorrhoea may not marry.
- \* It is illegal to fly a plane while drunk.
- \* If a child burps during church, his parent may be arrested.
- \* It is illegal to go whale fishing.
- \* It is illegal for a mother to give her daughter a perm without a state license.

### **NEVADA**

- \* It was illegal to drive camels onto main highways.
- \* It's still "legal" to hang someone for shooting your dog on your property.
- \* In Nyala, a man is forbidden from buying drinks for more than three people other than himself at any one period during the day.
- \* In Eureka, men who wear mustaches are forbidden from kissing women.
- \* Everyone walking on the streets of Elko is required to wear a mask.

## ***NEW HAMPSHIRE***

- \* You may not tap your feet, nod your head, or in any way keep time to the music in a tavern, restaurant, or cafe.
- \* You cannot sell the clothes you are wearing to pay off a gambling debt.
- \* It is considered an offense to check into a hotel under an assumed name.
- \* It is illegal to pick seaweed up off of the beach.
  
- \* Any cattle that crosses state roads must be fitted with a device to gather its feces.
- \* You may not run machinery on Sundays.
- \* On Sundays citizens may not relieve themselves while looking up.
- \* In the White Mountain National Forest, if a person is caught raking the beaches, picking up litter, hauling away trash, building a bench for the park, or any similar activity without a permit, he/she may be fined \$150 for "maintaining the national forest without a permit".
- \* Things people can keep when filing for bankruptcy include one cook stove, one wood stove, one sewing machine, private militia uniforms and arms, Bibles, one hog and one pig, six sheep and the fleeces of the same, one cow, one yoke of oxen, and one church pew

## ***NEW JERSEY***

- \* No one was permitted to delay or detain a homing pigeon.
- \* Until the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, it was legal for the state to castrate epileptics.
- \* Drivers must warn those who they pass on highways before they do so.
- \* Spray paint may not be sold without a posted sign warning juveniles of the penalty for creating graffiti.
- \* Handcuffs may not be sold to minors.
- \* It is illegal to wear a bullet-proof vest while committing a murder.
- \* One must yield a phone line to a person if it is an emergency.
- \* All motorists must honk before passing another car, bicyclist, skater, and even a skateboarder.
- \* You cannot pump your own gas.
- \* It is against the law for a man to knit during the fishing season.
- \* It is against the law to "frown" at a police officer.
- \* In an attempt to "foster kindness" in the citizens of New Jersey, the month of May is designated "Kindness Awareness Month".
- \* If you have been convicted of driving while intoxicated, you may never again apply for personalized license plates.
- \* Cabbage may not be sold on Sunday.
- \* The third Thursday of October is designated as "New Jersey Credit Union Day" and citizens of the state should observe the day with "appropriate activities and programs".
- \* Car dealerships are forbidden from opening on Sunday.
- \* You may not slurp your soup.
- \* Automobiles are not to pass horse drawn carriages on the street.

- \* In Newark, it is illegal to sell ice cream after 6pm, unless the customer has a note from his doctor.
- \* In Wanassa a dog is considered to be breaking the law if it is heard "crying".
- \* In Trenton, it is illegal to throw a bad pickle in the street.

### ***NEW MEXICO***

- \* Bicycle horns had to have a harmonious sound
- \* Idiots may not vote.
- \* State officials ordered 400 words of "sexually explicit material" to be cut from Romeo and Juliet.

### ***NEW YORK***

- \* Card playing on a train was against the law
- \* It is illegal to give a drink of water to anyone unless you have a permit.
- \* A fine of \$25 can be levied for flirting. This old law specifically prohibits men from turning around on any city street and looking "at a woman in that way." A second conviction for a crime of this magnitude calls for the violating male to be forced to wear a "pair of horse-blinders" wherever and whenever he goes outside for a stroll.
- \* It is against the law to throw a ball at someone's head for fun.
- \* A license must be purchased before hanging clothes on a clothesline.
- \* The penalty for jumping off a building is death.
- \* Women may go topless in public, providing it is not being used as a business.
- \* You may not smoke within 100 feet of the entrance to a public building.
- \* It is illegal for a woman to be on the street wearing "body hugging clothing.
- \* Citizens may not greet each other by "putting one's thumb to the nose and wiggling the fingers".
- \* New Yorkers cannot dissolve a marriage for irreconcilable differences, unless they both agree to it.
- \* A person may not walk around on Sundays with an ice cream cone in his/her pocket.
- \* While riding in an elevator, one must talk to no one, and fold his hands while looking toward the door.
- \* Slippers are not to be worn after 10:00 P.
- \* The penalty for jumping off a building is death.
- \* It is against the law for a blind person to drive an automobile.
- \* It is against the law for children to pick up or collect cigarette ad cigar butts.

### ***NORTH CAROLINA***

- \* It was illegal to sing out of tune.
- \* It is illegal to plow a cotton field with an elephant.
- \* It was illegal to possess a lottery ticket and possession of one could result in a \$2,000 fine.
- \* It is illegal for dogs and cats to fight.
- \* No one may be a professional fortune-teller, and if one wishes to pursue the practice as an amateur, it must be practiced in a school or church.
- \* While having sex, you must stay in the missionary position and have the

shades pulled.

- \* If a man and a woman who aren't married go to a hotel/motel and register themselves as married then, according to state law, they are legally married.
- \* All couples staying overnight in a hotel must have a room with double beds that are at least two feet apart.
- \* It is illegal to have sex in a churchyard.
- \* Oral sex is considered a crime against nature.
- \* A marriage can be declared void if either of the two persons is physically impotent.
- \* Persons in possession of illegal substances must pay taxes on them.
- \* A three dollar tax must be paid on all white goods sold.
- \* Organizations may not hold their meetings while the members present are in costume.
- \* Bingo games may not last over 5 hours unless it is held at a fair.
- \* Serving alcohol at a bingo game is not allowed.
- \* In North Carolina, it is against the law for a rabbit to race down the street.

### ***NORTH DAKOTA***

- \* It was illegal to trap birds in a cemetery.
- \* Beer and pretzels may not be served at the same time in any restaurant or bar.
- \* It is illegal to lie down or fall asleep with your shoes on.
- \* It is illegal to kill an Indian on horseback unless you are in a covered wagon.

### ***OHIO***

- \* It is illegal to fish for whales on Sunday.
- \* It is illegal to get a fish drunk.
- \* If you ignore an orator on Decoration day to such an extent as to publicly play croquet or pitch horseshoes within one mile of the speaker's stand, you can be fined \$25.
- \* Women are prohibited from wearing patent leather shoes in public.
- \* The Ohio driver's education manual states that you must honk the horn whenever you pass another car.
- \* In Cleveland, it is illegal to leave chewing gum in public places.
- \* One must have a license to keep a bear.
- \* Participating or conducting a duel is prohibited.
- \* Breast feeding is not allowed in public.
- \* It is illegal for more than five women to live in a house.
- \* It is illegal to mistreat anything of great importance.
- \* No one may be arrested on Sunday or on the Fourth of July.

### ***OKLAHOMA***

- \* It was illegal to eavesdrop.
- \* One may not promote a "horse tripping event".
- \* No baseball team may hit a ball over the fence or out of the ballpark.
- \* It is illegal for the owner of a bar to allow anyone inside to pretend to have

sex with a buffalo.

- \* Females are forbidden from doing their own hair without being licensed by the state.
- \* Dogs must have a permit signed by the mayor in order to congregate in groups of three or more on private property.
- \* Oklahoma will not tolerate anyone taking a bite out of another's hamburger.
- \* It is against the law to read a comic book while operating a motor vehicle.
- \* Whaling is illegal.
- \* It is illegal to have the hind legs of farm animals in your boots.
- \* Residents are taxed for the furniture in their homes, and any other personal belongings.
- \* People who make "ugly faces" at dogs may be fined and/or jailed.
- \* Cars must be tethered outside of public buildings.
- \* Oral sex is a misdemeanor and is punishable by one year in jail and a \$2,500 fine.
- \* Anyone arrested for soliciting a hooker must have their name and picture shown on television.
- \* It's statutory rape for a man over 18 to have sex with a female under the age of 18, provided she's a virgin.
- \* Tattoos are banned.
- \* No one may spit on a sidewalk.
- \* It is illegal to wear your boots to bed.
- \* It is illegal to have sex before you are married.
- \* Fish may not be contained in fishbowls while on a public bus.
- \* Tissues are not to be found in the back of one's car.
- \* It is illegal to have any food and/or drink within the reach of the driver of a moving vehicle.

## **OREGON**

- \* Dishes must drip dry.
- \* The "Peer Review Statute" prohibits you from finding out details of any written or oral discussion about your medical treatment. Not even a court of law can. All you can see is what the doctor or nurse voluntarily records in your chart.
- \* It is illegal to whisper "dirty" things in your lover's ear during sex.
- \* Ice cream may not be eaten on Sundays.
- \* It is illegal to buy or sell marijuana, but it is legal to smoke it on your own property.
- \* In Burns horses are allowed in the town's taverns if an admission fee is paid before they enter.
- \* You may not pump your own gas in service stations.
- \* One may not bathe without wearing "suitable clothing," i.e., that which covers one's body from neck to knee.
- \* Canned corn is not to be used as bait for fishing.
- \* It is illegal to show movies or attend a car race on Sundays.

- \* It is legal to conduct a horse race or a symphony concert.
- \* It was illegal for a dead person to serve on a jury.
- \* Drivers must yield to pedestrians who are standing on the sidewalk.
- \* One may not test their physical endurance while driving a car on a highway.
- \* It is illegal to place a container filled with human fecal matter on the side of any highway.
- \* Babies may not be carried on the running boards of a car.
- \* A door on a car may not be left open longer than is necessary.
- \* An adult may not show a minor any piece of classical artwork which depicts sexual excitement.

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

- \* According to an Act of 1760, one cannot put pretzels in bags.
- \* It is illegal to have over 16 women live in a house together because that constitutes a brothel. However up to 120 men can live together, without breaking the law.
- \* Ministers are forbidden from performing marriages when either the bride or groom is drunk. [An all too frequent occurrence in PA, I'm sure.]
- \* It is contrary to Pennsylvania law to discharge a gun, cannon, revolver or other explosive weapon at a wedding. [PA seems to have a lot of issue with sperm and weddings.]
- \* A special cleaning ordinance bans housewives from hiding dirt and dust under a rug in a dwelling.
- \* You may not sing in the bathtub.
- \* A person is not eligible to become Governor if he/she has participated in a duel.
- \* Any motorist who sights a team of horses coming toward him must pull well off the road, cover his car with a blanket or canvas that blends with the countryside, and let the horses pass. If the horses appear skittish, the motorist must hide his car under the nearest bushes.
- \* You may not catch a fish with your hands.
- \* You may not catch a fish by any body part except the mouth.
- \* There was a 45 cent fine for cursing, but if the name of God were mentioned, the fine went up to 65 cents.
- \* It is illegal to sleep on top of a refrigerator outdoors.
- \* Any motorist driving along a country road at night must stop every mile and send up a rocket signal, wait 10 minutes for the road to be cleared of livestock, and continue.
- \* A special cleaning ordinance bans housewives from hiding dirt and dust under a rug in a dwelling.
- \* Fireworks stores may not sell fireworks to Pennsylvania residents.
- \* A person is not eligible to become Governor if he/she has participated in a duel.
- \* No more than two packages of beer at a time may be purchased, unless you are buying from an official "beer distributor".

- \* All liquor stores must be run by the state.
- \* Motorized vehicles are not to be sold on Sundays.
- \* Dynamite is not to be used to catch fish.
- \* Though you do not need a fishing license to fish on your own land, but a hunting license is required to hunt on your own land.

### ***RHODE ISLAND***

- \* It was proposed in the legislature in the 1970s that there be a \$2 tax on every act of sexual intercourse. Law did not pass.
- \* In Providence, it is against the law to jump off a bridge.
- \* Cap guns are illegal.
- \* Ropes may not be strung across a highway.
- \* No one may bite off another's leg.
- \* Rhode Island recently applied to the US Government to make all the coastal waters of Rhode Island a "No Discharge Zone".
- \* Impersonating a town sealer, auctioneer, corder of wood, or a fence-viewer is against the law.
- \* Riding a horse over any public highway for the purpose of racing, or testing the speed of the horse is illegal.
- \* Exercising any labor, business, or work, or using any game, sport, play, or recreation, or causing any of the above to be done to or by your children, servants, or apprentices on the first day of the week (Sunday) results in a penalty of \$5 for the first offense and \$10 for the second.
- \* Professional sports, except ice polo and hockey, must obtain a license to play games on Sunday.
- \* Any marriage where either of the parties is an idiot or lunatic is null and void.
- \* It is considered an offense to throw pickle juice on a trolley.
- \* One must make a loud noise before passing a car on the left.
- \* In Providence, it is illegal to sell toothpaste and a toothbrush to the same customer on a Sunday.
- \* In Newport, it is illegal to smoke a pipe after sunset.

### ***SOUTH CAROLINA***

- \* It is illegal to act in an obnoxious manner at a girls school.
- \* By law, if a man promises to marry an unmarried woman, the marriage must take place.
- \* Railroad companies may be held liable in some instances for scaring horses.
- \* A railroad may not remove itself from a town of more than five hundred people.
- \* Fortune tellers are required to obtain a special permit from the state.
- \* Dance halls may not operate on Sundays.
- \* An exception to the above law is that light bulbs may be sold.
- \* Musical instruments may not be sold on Sunday.
- \* Performing a U-turn within 1,000 feet of an intersection is illegal.
- \* Horses may not be kept in bathtubs.
- \* A permit must be obtained to fire a missile.
- \* It is illegal to give or receive oral sex in South Carolina.



- \* When approaching a four way or blind intersection in a non-horse driven vehicle you must stop 100 ft from the intersection and discharge a firearm into the air to warn horse traffic.
- \* Every adult male must bring a rifle to church on Sunday in order to ward off Indian attacks.
- \* It is a capital offense to inadvertently kill someone while attempting suicide.
- \* A person must be eighteen years old to play a pinball machine.
- \* Because of the "Blue Laws" it is legal to buy food on Sunday but you cannot buy the skillet or pot to cook the food.
- \* In the City of Beaufort it is illegal for an unescorted female to drive her carriage or horseless carriage on main street after dark.
- \* It is illegal to kiss in public, on a Sunday, before 1pm.
- \* It is illegal to wear clothing with a hidden pocket or to wear a jacket that covers the hip pockets on your trousers. [Enacted during prohibition to prevent the carrying of hip-flasks.]

### ***SOUTH DAKOTA***

- \* An 80 year old woman could not stop in the street to talk to a young married man.
- \* No horses are allowed into Fountain Inn unless they are wearing pants.
- \* It is illegal to lie down and fall asleep in a cheese factory.
- \* Movies that show police officers being struck, beaten, or treated in an offensive manner are forbidden.
- \* If there are more than 5 Native Americans on your property you may shoot them.

### ***TENNESSEE***

- \* It was illegal for a motorist to drive unless he had warned the public one week in advance by inserting a notice in the newspaper.
- \* It is illegal to lasso a fish.
- \* You can't shoot any game other than whales from a moving automobile.
- \* Hollow logs may not be sold.
- \* More than 8 women may not live in the same house because that would constitute a brothel.
- \* "Crimes against nature" are prohibited.
- \* Ministers are to be dedicated to God and therefore are not eligible to hold a seat in either House of the Legislature.
- \* Any person who participates in a duel may not hold any public office in the state.
- \* Giving and receiving oral sex is still prohibited by law.
- \* Stealing a horse is punishable by hanging.
- \* No Christian parent may require their children to pick up trash from the highway on Easter day.
- \* Driving is not to be done while asleep.
- \* It is legal to gather and consume road-kill.
- \* The definition of "dumb animal" includes every living creature.

- \* Interracial marriages are illegal.
- \* Tattooing a minor is a misdemeanor.
- \* It is illegal to dare a child to purchase a beer.
- \* It is illegal to place tacks on a highway.
- \* Skunks may not be carried into the state.
- \* It is against the law in Dyersburg for a woman to call a man for a date.
- \* It is illegal for frogs to croak after 11pm.
- \* It is illegal for a woman to drive by herself in Memphis. A man must walk or run in front of the vehicle, waving a red flag in order to warn approaching pedestrians and motorists.
- \* It is against the law to drive a car while sleeping.
- \* It is a violation of the law to sell bologna, or any sandwich meat, on Sundays.

## **TEXAS**

- \* A man carrying a pair of pliers could have been sent to prison.
- \* It is illegal to take more than three sips of a beer while standing.
- \* Dogcatchers are required to be psychoanalyzed by a psychiatrist to determine if they are qualified to chase stray mutts
- \* It is illegal to drive without windshield wipers. You don't need a windshield, but you must have the wipers.
- \* It is illegal for one to shoot a buffalo from the second story of a hotel.
- \* It is illegal to milk another person's cow.
- \* A recently passed anticrime law requires criminals to give their victims 24 hours notice, either orally or in writing, and to explain the nature of the crime to be committed.
- \* The entire Encyclopedia Britannica is banned in Texas because it contains a formula for making beer at home.
- \* In Galveston, it is illegal to have a camel run loose in the street.
- \* In Corpus Christi, it is illegal to raise alligators in your home.
- \* One must acknowledge a supreme being before being able to hold public office.
- \* It is illegal to sell one's eye.
- \* A program has been created in the state that attempts to control the weather.
- \* When two trains meet each other at a railroad crossing, each shall come to a full stop, and neither shall proceed until the other has gone.
- \* Up to a felony charge can be levied for promoting the use of, or owning more than six dildos.
- \* It is illegal to put graffiti on another person's cow.
- \* It is still a "hanging offense" to steal cattle.
- \* Homosexual behavior is a misdemeanor offense.

## **UTAH**

- \* It was illegal to wear shoes with heels higher than one and a one-half inches.
- \* It is against the law to fish from horseback.
- \* It is illegal *not* to drink milk.
- \* It is illegal to detonate any nuclear weapon.

- \* Birds have the right of way on all highways.
- \* A husband is responsible for every criminal act committed by his wife while she is in his presence.
- \* You're not allowed to sell beverages containing more than 3.
- \* It is a felony to persistently tread on the cracks between paving stones on the sidewalk of a state highway.
- \* It's legal for restaurants to serve wine with meals, but only if you ask for the wine list.
- \* It is considered an offense to hunt whales.
- \* No one may have sex in the back of an ambulance if it is responding to an emergency call.
- \* Alcohol may not be sold during an emergency.
- \* Individuals may not possess beer in containers larger than two liters unless they are a retailer.
- \* Boxing matches that allow biting are not allowed.
- \* In Utah, daylight must be visible between dancing couples.
- \* It is illegal to cause a catastrophe

### **VERMONT**

- \* It was illegal to paint a horse.
- \* Women must obtain written permission from their husbands to wear false teeth.
- \* At one time it was illegal to tie a giraffe to a telephone pole.
- \* It is illegal to deny the existence of God

### **VIRGINIA**

- \* It was illegal to have bathtub in the house.
- \* It is against the law to advertise on tombstones.
- \* Not only is it illegal to have sex with the lights on, one may not have sex in any position other than missionary.
- \* There is a state law prohibiting "corrupt practices of bribery by any person other than political candidates.
- \* You may not engage in business on Sundays, with the exception of almost every industry.
- \* If one is not married, it is illegal for him to have sexual relations.
- \* You may not have oral or anal sex.
- \* Driving while not wearing shoes is prohibited.
- \* Police radar detectors are illegal.
- \* Citizens must honk their horn while passing other cars.
- \* Children are not to go trick-or-treating on Halloween.
- \* It is illegal to tickle women.
- \* No animal may be hunted for on Sunday with the exception of raccoons, which may be hunted until 2:00 AM.
- \* Chickens cannot lay eggs before 8:00 am, and must be done before 4:00 pm.

### **WASHINGTON**

- \* It was illegal to hunt ducks from a rowboat unless one were upright and

visible from the waist up.

- \* It is illegal to attach a vending machine to a utility pole without prior consent from the utility company.
- \* No person may walk about in public if he or she has the common cold.
- \* Destroying a beer cask or bottle of another is illegal.
- \* It is illegal to entice girls away from the Maple Lane School for girls.
- \* X-rays may not be used to fit shoes.
- \* All lollipops are banned.
- \* A law to reduce crime states: "It is mandatory for a motorist with criminal intentions to stop at the city limits and telephone the chief of police as he is entering the town.
- \* It is illegal to paint polka dots on the American flag.
- \* People may not buy a mattress on Sunday.
- \* All motor vehicles must be preceded by a man carrying a red flag (daytime) or a red lantern (nighttime) fifty feet in front of said vehicle.
- \* It is illegal to pretend that one's parents are rich.
- \* You are not allowed to breastfeed in public.
- \* One may not spit on a bus.
- \* When two trains come to a crossing, neither shall go until the other has passed.
- \* In Leahy it is illegal to blow your nose in public places because it might scare a horse and cause it to panic.
- \* Every cow wandering the streets of Seattle must be wearing a cowbell.
- \* It is illegal to carry a concealed weapon that is over six feet in length.
- \* You cannot buy meat of any kind on Sunday.

## **WEST VIRGINIA**

- \* It was illegal to sneeze on a train.
- \* No clergyman shall tell a funny story from the pulpit.
- \* No children may attend school with their breath smelling of "wild onions.
- \* Unmarried couple who live together and "lewdly associate" with one another may face up to a year in prison.
- \* In West Virginia, one can't cook sauerkraut or cabbage due to the odors and the offense is subject to imprisonment.
- \* When a railroad passes within 1 mile of a community of 100 or more people in it, they must build a station and stop there regularly to pick up and drop off passengers.
- \* Any person who commits adultery shall be fined at least twenty dollars.
- \* It is legal for a male to have sex with an animal as long as it does not exceed 40 lbs.
- \* A tax of 1 cent is levied for every 16 and 9 ounces of coke sold in a store.
- \* A person may be placed in jail for up to six months for making fun of someone who does not accept a challenge.
- \* A person may not hold public office if he or she has ever participated in a duel.

- \* For each act of public swearing a person shall be fined one dollar.
- \* According to the state constitution, it is unlawful for anyone to own a red or a black flag.
- \* One cannot cook sauerkraut or cabbage due to the odors and the offence is subject to imprisonment.
- \* Only babies may ride in a baby carriage.
- \* If you wear a hat inside a theater, you may be fined.
- \* Road-kill may be taken home for supper.
- \* Whistling underwater is prohibited.

## ***WISCONSIN***

- \* For each meal sold costing 25 cents or more a small piece of cheese had to be served.
- \* Until the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, it was legal for the state to castrate epileptics.
- \* One must manually flush all urinals.
- \* Butter substitutes may not be served in any state prison.
- \* Whenever two trains meet at an intersection of said tracks, neither shall proceed until the other has.
- \* As people used to smuggle it in from Illinois, all yellow butter substitute is banned.
- \* Condoms were considered an obscene article and had to be hidden behind the pharmacist's counter.
- \* At one time, margarine was illegal.
- \* State Law made it illegal to serve apple pie in public restaurants without cheese.
- \* The state definition of rape stated that it was a man having sex with a woman he knows not to be his wife.
- \* While all cheese making requires a license, Limburger cheese making requires a master cheese maker's license.
- \* It is illegal to kiss on a train.
- \* It is illegal to cut a woman's hair.
- \* Margarine may not be substituted for butter in restaurants unless it is requested by the customer.
- \* The government may not prohibit manual flushed urinals.
- \* One may not camp in a wagon on any public highway or risk a fine of up to ten dollars.
- \* It is a class A misdemeanor to wave a burning torch around in the air.
- \* It is illegal to throw rocks at a railroad car.
- \* Livestock have the right-of-way on public roads.
- \* Dogs in Foxpoint may not bark profusely, snarl, or make any menacing gestures.
- \* Madison will not allow joint custody of a family pet when a couple divorces. The animal is legally awarded to whoever happens to have possession of it at the time of the initial separation.

## **WYOMING**

- \* A license was required to take a picture of a rabbit during January, February, March or April.
- \* In Newcastle, it is illegal to have sex in a butcher's freezer.
- \* All new buildings that cost over \$100,000 to build must have %1 of funds spent on art work for the building.
- \* If one is drunk in a mine, he or she could land in jail for up to a year.
- \* Junk dealers may not make any business transactions with drunk persons.
- \* It is illegal to wear a hat that obstructs people's view in a public theater or place of amusement.
- \* Using a firearm to fish is strictly forbidden.
- \* Any person who fails to close a fence is subject to a fine of up to seven hundred and fifty dollars.
- \* It is illegal for women to stand within five feet of a bar while drinking.
- \* Skiing under the influence of alcohol is prohibited.