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## VIOLENCE



Using violence to solve a problem may ethically be reprehensible, but this behaviour was laid into the cradle with us, notably with male babies - so it seems.

Depending on character, education and social compulsions we are going to be later on either more or less non-violent.

A small example to illustrate and to glorify violence.

I am in the railway station of a German city, and I want to take the train to a suburb. And I am going to get a ticket from the machine down in the underpass. - At that time this was a revolutionary innovation.

The trip was supposed to cost me € 8.30, 'no change given'.

I have change, and I insert coin after coin into the slit but the machine does not want to take the last 10 cent coin, even when I tried a different one. A lukewarm anger rises in me, and already my fist hits out at the stubborn machine.

Behind me an elderly lady comments: 'Typically man, always using violence.'

But then she is kind enough to explain to me that to cancel the action I just have to press that button, and then the money gets thrown out again at the bottom.

I pressed that button until my thumb started aching, the machine obviously was looking for personal injury compensation, the whole € 8.20.

Just before my fist got active again, the kind lady tried herself. To no avail.

Then she mumbles softly: 'Try, and just hit it.'

One single blow was sufficient, and it jingled like from a slot machine.