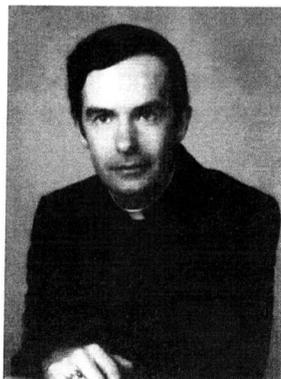


Chaplain's Corner, Hughes Camp Chaplain Richard W Rudd...



Last June, two news items showcased the hypocrisy of liberals. Stephanie Wilkinson, a NY transplant operating a restaurant in Virginia, refused service to Sarah Sanders, the President's press secretary. The café's staff, reportedly composed of several homosexuals, felt "a little concerned" and

encouraged Wilkinson's decision. Located in an area where many voters are conservative and fly Confederate flags, the claim was made that the café did not mix politics with business. Compare this claim with the owner's statements. She referred to the current administration as "inhumane and unethical" and refused service to Sanders for defending the administration's policies. She pontificated, "I explained that the restaurant has certain standards that I feel it has to uphold, such as honesty, and compassion, and cooperation." She concluded, "This feels like the moment in our democracy when people have to make uncomfortable actions and decisions to uphold their morals."

What moral standards would Wilkinson be upholding? If honesty, why does she open her café to the general public, then sporadically pick and choose customers? If compassion, why does she choose to insult customers who enter her café? If cooperation, why does she choose a course of action that displays intolerance and rejection? On what other criteria, unknown to potential patrons, might she decide to refuse service? No doubt, wearing Confederate emblems would surely be one. And, on a secondary point, Wilkinson needs to be informed that the US is a republic, not a democracy.

To be consistent, Wilkinson's right to refuse service should be defended as much as the right of Walmart and Atlas Flags owner Steve Cook to stop selling the Confederate Battle Flag and the baker in Colorado or florist in Oregon to refuse service to homosexual ceremonies. If one owns a private business paid for with private funds, the owner should have the right to advertise what clientele they wish to serve. If one owns private property paid for with private funds, the owner should retain

the right to sell or lease to whomever they wish. The fact that a business offers a service to the general public does not change the fact that it is still a privately owned business. With the so-called "civil rights" legislation of the 1960's, the historic distinction between public and private property and services has been confused. The right of ownership of private property, as traditionally understood prior to the 1960's, has been infringed upon by the government. What Wilkinson and those sympathetic to her should be condemned for is their personal reasons while denying other business owners the right to exercise the same discretion because they do not agree with their reasons for doing so. On a final note, why would one want to patronize a business owner who does not want their patronage?

The second event in the news involved the Association For Library Service To Children, a division of the American Library Association. To be politically correct, that body decided to rename the Laura I. Wilder Award, given to authors who make a significant contribution to children's literature, the Children's Literature Legacy Award. Mrs. Wilder, who died in Missouri in 1957 at the age of 90, was famous for writing *Little House On The Prairie*. The award has been given in her name since 1952. The reason given for stripping her name from the award was her depictions of American Indians and Negroes. She was deemed guilty of evoking white settlers' manifest-destiny beliefs. As statues and flags have been removed and names of roads, parks, and buildings have been changed, so literature, history, and the total landscape of America is being purged of what secular liberals perceive to be politically incorrect. If liberals were rational and consistent in their actions, they would also clamor for stripping Lincoln of the honors accorded to him. During a speech in 1858 at Charleston, Illinois, Lincoln said:

He (the Negro) is not my equal in many respects, certainly not in color - - perhaps not in intelligence and moral endowments...

A universal feeling, whether well or ill-founded, cannot be safely disregarded. We cannot, then, make them (Negroes) equals.

I will say then that I am not nor ever have been in favor of bringing about...the social and political equality of the white and black races- - that I am not nor ever have been in favor of making voters or jurors of Negroes, nor of qualifying them to hold office, nor to inter-marry with white people, and I will say in addition to this that there is a physical difference between the black and white races that I believe will forever forbid the two races living together on terms of social and political equality. And inasmuch as they cannot so live, while they do remain together there must be the position of superior and inferior, and I as much as other men am in favor of having the superior position assigned to the white race.

In 1862, Lincoln encouraged freed Negroes to set an example by leaving the US when he said, "You and we are of different races. We have between us a broader difference than exists between almost all other two races. This physical difference is a great disadvantage to us both and affords a reason at least why we should be separated. It is better for us both, therefore, to be separate."

Policemen and lawyers repeatedly ask suspects and witnesses the same questions, looking for inconsistencies in their statements. It is said that liars must have good memories to appear credible. The pagan Roman god Janus had two faces. Thus, to be Janus-faced is to be two-faced or deceitful. So it is with liberals. The definition of liberalism cannot be repeated enough: it is to be hypocritically inconsistent and consistently hypocritical. Liberalism is an irrational and demonically inspired psychosis. Christ personifies truth, for He declared, "I am the ...truth..." (Jn. 14:6) Truth does not change with the whims of the liberal politically correct. Truth is like Christ and "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings..." (Heb. 13:8)

Fr. Richard Rudd

Hughes Camp Chaplain