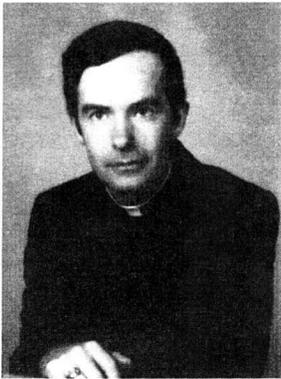


Chaplain's Corner, Hughes Camp Chaplain Richard W Rudd



Most TV networks and many newspapers have abdicated their mission and reason for being. Instead of reporting news-worthy events in a neutral and factual manner, they attempt to create, define, and interpret news. Reporting and commentary have been blended. Tawdry

sensationalizes and dramatizes events has replaced the higher standards of professional journalism. Numerous journalists worthy of the title have been fired for nonconformity. Commandeered as the broadcasting and publishing arm of the radical left, major media networks and publishers promote the left's agenda and indoctrinate the masses. Acquiescing to functioning as the tool of revolutionaries, unethical members of the media give them unwarranted attention that reinforces their juvenile tantrums, keep emotions inflamed to prevent national healing, and become complicit in their crimes. Like varmint that transmit disease, their disseminations infect a whole nation with what could be contained and dealt with in the local area of origin. They also provide cover for the left to covertly pursue their agenda by distracting public attention away from news-worthy events and concentrating on a single topic for an over-extended period of time. The rash of riots that has broken out across the face of America is the most recent example.

The numerous riots the nation has endured and the isolated incident that provided the spark igniting them are two different issues not as obvious and closely connected as superficial knowledge of them would suggest. The motivating factor behind the riots is a deep-seated and complicated malady that has nothing to do with race.

America is not currently dealing with a racial issue; that is a misdiagnosis of the problem. If those on the left want to engage in dialogue and deal with the subject of race, we can do so, but not within the context of these two particular and unrelated current events that have intoxicated the media. To solve a problem, one must begin by admitting they have a problem and diagnose it properly. Race is not what causes division of Negroes from Caucasians and Mongolians. If the solution were as

simple as integration, why have more white liberals not moved into urban black neighborhoods? There are many Negroes, Caucasians, and Mongolians who do live in harmony within municipalities. It is uncivil and anti-social behavior, disproportional criminal activity that exceeds their percentage of the population, cultural friction, and conflicting values that divide some Negroes, not only from Caucasians and Mongolians, but from each other. If race were the problem, there would be no solution because one cannot change their racial identity. However, attitudes, behavior, and personal character can be changed. To be accepted in society, one must make themselves acceptable. Caucasians cannot solve this problem for Negroes. A solution offered by Caucasians would be rejected as an imposition. Instead of wasting energy and resources on complaining, self-pity and victimization, and rioting, Negroes, especially urban Negroes, need to look among and within themselves to find real solutions to real problems. It was reported that the victim in the incident that ignited the recent riots died unnecessarily because he could not breathe. All rioting anarchists, regardless of their race, need to pause, take a deep breath, and consider that they are victimizing America and western civilization each time they use some incident as an excuse for looting, arson, assault, murder, and vandalism. The term "vandalism" originated with the hordes called Vandals who destroyed European civilization and, with other pagan uncivilized tribes, plunged the continent into the Dark Ages. Like the Taliban, they destroy monuments and much more in their jihads than they will ever construct. Unless we want the Dark Ages repeated in America, we must have the fortitude to do two things. First, social order must be restored. This can be done at once on a mass basis. It will be no more unpleasant and difficult than the anarchists make it, but the alternative will be much worse. Second, the psychological problems of the anarchists and certain members of law enforcement, government, and the media must be dealt with on an individual basis over a period of time.

All vocations have misfits among their ranks who do not fit into the role their vocation requires--police, educators, clergy, health care providers, perhaps even the boss where you work. When the screening process fails, there are mechanisms available such as grievance processes, appeals,

voting, and peaceful demonstrations to weed them out and, if necessary, prosecute them for criminal activity and dereliction of duty. Rioting is not necessary. On the other hand, anarchists are social misfits who do not fit into civil society. They take as their role models the very people they claim to demonstrate against and emulate their bad behavior. For example, Antifa claims to be against fascists, yet uses fascist tactics to promote the same socialist ideology.

Riots do serve a purpose, but not the one instigators expect. They expose and make visible the anarchists among us. Their actions are fueled by adrenaline highs from sadism, satisfaction from harming others, and masochism, satisfaction from doing harm to themselves because they lack self-respect and feel inferior. They do not like the image they see in the mirror and blame the mirror. They rely on the size of their movement, on force and terror rather than reason, facts, and truth, to vindicate their savage actions. Whether they act intentionally or as unconscious pawns, the sporadic volcanic eruptions of their otherwise latent anger are proof of their lack of respect for themselves and others and that they are irresponsible, psychopathic, impulsive and emotional, unstable, perverse and amoral, and irrational. To cite just one example to illustrate this, these anarchists randomly and indiscriminately attack innocent victims they do not even know who might even be their allies. They are cowards who hide behind masks and the anonymity they find within a mob. Slavery in the US ended 155 years ago. If they are really serious about slavery, I dare them to stop attacking the monuments of our defenseless Confederate dead and start attacking the shrines to Mohammed and Islam that practices slavery in the 21st century.

The problem confronting America is not political; it is spiritual. The ultimate target in the cross hairs is not racism, police brutality, or some other social grievance; it is Christian America, western civilization, and eventually the church. The source of the problem is not external; it is internal. "For out of the heart come evil thoughts..." (Matt. 15:19) It is the "...heart that devises wicked plans..." (Prov. 6:18) Anarchists and those who inspire them commit barbaric acts because within them "...their hearts devise violence..." (Prov. 24:2) The solution will not be found in the passing of more laws. "For the whole law is fulfilled in one word, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" (Gal. 5:14) For "...if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." (I Jn. 3:11) "Therefore, be imitators of God, ...as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us..." (Eph. 5:1)

Father Richard Rudd