

Yankee Steve's Column

for the week of July 9, 2009

Multiculturalism: America's Greatest Problem

Part One of Two

If those who are promoting extremist multiculturalism succeed, America will cease to exist. It will be no more than a memory. There will always be baseball and Mother's Day, and maybe even Fourth of July, but what makes America, America, will have vanished.

What is "multiculturalism?" Well, whatever it is; one thing is certain multiculturalism is not what most people think it is. Multiculturalism is the greatest challenge facing the American people at this time. On the surface it looks as if multiculturalism is a word that is used to describe the way Americans have been able to welcome people from every nation. That is not multiculturalism. Instead, multiculturalism is the desire of some to act as if every culture is on the same level with the American culture, so that if possible, émigrés would be allowed to live in our midst without needing to become Americans. Needless if this were to continue America would go up in smoke.

Nothing New

We know that nations both past and present have had to deal with the problem of holding on to their own peculiar culture. Anatolia had to face this problem when the Celts swept into Asia Minor. Their solution was to surrender a portion of what is now called Turkey which antiquarians call Galatia. Large numbers of Europeans fled to the coast of Africa after the Barbarians raided southern Europe [circa 410 A.D.]. These displaced Europeans brought their own culture with them. In some respects this aided in the spread of Christianity. Things have a way of reversing themselves. Now the culture of North Africa, the Islamic culture, is being transported to "Christian" Europe. Holland, which at one time became a haven for displaced Puritans, is now being invaded by the Muslims who for the most part refuse assimilation. Authorities in the Netherlands are in denial about this, but that is exactly what is happening, and it may happen all over Europe. Islam will conquer Europe without firing a shot.

Beginning about 1869 large numbers of immigrants, whose understanding of government and freedom had been tainted by feudalism, began to arrive on our shores. Immediately and thereafter, feudalism put federalism to the test. Years later this helps to explain why some states do not have "right to work" law and other states cannot effectively resist a government take-over. In 31 state constitutions there is no legal right to petition the government because of grievances. This move was toward a centralized government, like the ones found in Europe, and away from Americanism. Unlike the American the European has never really understood freedom. Even

today he looks toward the government in the same way that serfs used to look toward the Lord of the Manor.

What's in a Name?

Multiculturalism has another name, one that is commonly used by scholars such as the distinguished American writer and patriot Thomas Sorrell. He calls multiculturalism "Balkanization." You may recall that the Balkans at one time were under the rule of Marshal Josip Broz Tito [1882-1980]. On the surface it looked as if Marshal Tito ruled over one country, Yugoslavia. However when given the opportunity a nation that was inwardly divided along ethnic and religious lines became four nations. If Multiculturalists have their way the phrase *E Pluribus Unum*, from many are the one, will become obsolete and America will splinter and fragment just like Yugoslavia did. Do not think that this could not happen.

Multiculturalism makes the bold assertion that all cultures are of equal value. From every direction we are hearing that the Anglo-Saxon culture, our culture, with its strong emphasis on individuality and personal freedom, linked as it to the teachings of the Bible which underscore the dignity of man so that awarding our fellow man his rights accords with both revelation and reason, is no better than any other culture. Therefore if you were to assert that the American culture is innately superior, and if you were to demand that visitors to our country think as we do, then that would be an indication that you are a bigot or worse yet a xenophobe and nativist.

Multiculturalists are not worried about the preservation of the American culture because they think that America does not have a real culture, or one that it can call its own. Of course nothing could be further from the truth. As a matter of fact our culture is now being copied throughout the world, except where tyrants and oligarchs control the lives of people like ousted Marxist Manuel Zelaya of Honduras who recently wanted to be president for life.

The founders of America answered an old question put forward by the Greeks, "Why does a man exist?" to which they gave over one hundred separate answers. The founders had only one answer to that question which is to say they answered it from a political standpoint. The founders said that we exist in order to be free and that the Creator would have it no other way. Who were they to build a society that is not in keeping with the plan of God for the ages?

American Culture: What It Is and What It Does

Why did the people of the 13 colonies ruled over by the British parliament form a new nation? It all has to do with freedom and in particular the freedom to demand that the government keep its hands off our lives.

According to John Adams, the spirit of freedom which has been the one thing identified with the Yankee culture more than any other, came into its own during a certain time period in the year of our Lord 1761. That was the year in which James Otis, Jr., a 36 year old lawyer from Boston

stood before five scarlet robed men. Court was in session. On that memorable day Otis made it possible for Americans to someday look back with pride on the American Revolution knowing that it amounted to more than a squabble over taxation.

Otis defended the right that freedom-loving people will always seek to protect, the right to resist the arbitrary invasion of a man's home by the authorities. Otis said that free men are free both in their persons and in their homes. John Adams was there and from his vantage point felt that he could declare, "**Then and there the child independence was born.**" Americans have been taught from that day to this that they do not have to fear a knock on the door in the middle of the night. This is why there was such strong resistance to a national identification card which had been proposed by former President George W. Bush.

The Yankee has from the days of Otis onwards struggled to hold on to freedom. Not only that, the Yankee has gone so far as to defend freedom for those who will never live within the boundaries of America or abide by our Constitution. This has been a curious and a bloody undertaking. It helps to explain why the Americans have so many enemies and why they have so many friends. America has accepted the idea that **there is such a thing as evil** and that unless it is contained elsewhere in the world we may be forced to deal with it on our own turf. We know that evil does not stop at the border.

Of course we are not trying to say that we have always confronted evil in the right way, or that we could not have avoided conflict on some occasions, (for example the Iraq War) but it does mean that America is aware of the fact that inflammatory ideologies can leap from one nation to another, and that these ideologies very often have designs on the world. Sometimes they are determined to replace all existing forms of government with their own.

Heading the list of America's enemies at this time are the Taliban and Al-Qaeda which have joined forces. For the most part they can be found inside the borders of Pakistan and Afghanistan, and if these terrorists have their way these people, they will lose their most basic freedoms, which even those who do not favor democracy have granted to their subjects. Should we be worried about the Taliban or Al-Qaeda? Not unless we believe that Radical Islamic Fundamentalism can spread to other nations.

The Taliban and Al-Qaeda cannot mount an offensive that would ever threaten American freedom. Their combined Gross Domestic Product is not even equal to that of the South Bronx! If the government of Pakistan does not defeat the Taliban it will be due to the fact that it has been betrayed from within as when the army of Cuba betrayed General Fulgencio Batista [1901-73] replacing him with Fidel Castro [1926-]. If Judas had not visited Cuba, there never would have been a Fidel.

Instead of worrying about the Taliban which seems to be what President Barack Obama wants us to do, we should concentrate on the enemy that is within our own borders. The real enemy, the one to be watched, is not overseas. S/he lives down the street or right next door. It is the teacher, pastor, social worker, hairdresser, or truck driver who believes that Americans have to

celebrate diversity. And that our country should think of itself as nothing more than a conglomerate of sub-cultures much like Canada which in at least one province allows Muslims to practice Shari'a Law even though Shari'a is diametrically opposed to democracy and freedom.

Assimilation

A new entrant into America must ask himself, "Does America have a culture of its own, and if it does what will I have to do fit in and be an American?"

Assimilation was a problem for the Jews who lived in Soviet Russia. Lenin was by no means an anti-Semite, but the Jew who was willing to embrace Socialism knew that he was expected to leave behind his Jewish-ness. Assimilation into Socialism/Communism has always been all or nothing. America wants people to be assimilated, too, but no one has to un-become what they are because the American culture is all about freedom. If we expect that visitors to our country conform, it is that they should conform to the way we think about freedom. Having to un-become is unbecoming to an American. If the Amish want to remain at a distance they can do as they please. That is how much Americans value the idea of freedom. The Jehovah Witnesses does not have to salute the flag or recite the pledge of allegiance.

On the other hand, what has to happen to someone if he or she is going to be assimilated into our culture? He has to act like the Negro did when he was brought to America against his will. French historian Alexis de Tocqueville [1805-59] said that the African always wanted to be a part of our culture, and that he stood in contrast to the Native American who acted as if his culture based on hunting and living off the land was superior to our own.

We may list six qualifications for persons to do if they want to fit in to America.

First, a visitor to America will have to remember that language is a medium of culture in all nations. This is why the Moslems in 642 forced the Egyptians to learn and speak Arabic in place of their native Egyptian. And this is why the English in an attempt to displace the Celtic culture forbid the use of Gaelic. Language is to culture what a conduit is to electrical power.

Those who wish to be assimilated must learn the language of their new country which has to mean that those who reject English will never be properly integrated into America. We are not a bi-lingual people. Those who refuse to learn English will in time become a burden on our system and a source of irritant. Have you tried to read Shakespeare in Greek? It doesn't work. German philosopher Immanuel Kant [1724-1804] learned English just so that he could read the works of John Locke [1632-1704] in the original. That is how important language is! Some idioms cannot be translated properly.

Americans have always spoken English and for that reason it more than any other language has become the language of freedom, **the language of our culture, the culture of freedom.** What Greek is to science or Latin is to law, English is to political and economic freedom. The most

important documents ever written, which discuss the true nature of freedom and the rights of man, employ English. Anyone who refuses to learn English in America is unwilling to learn our culture of freedom.

I might add as well that English is the best of all languages because it has amalgamated words of those whose first language was not English, and because it has never discriminated against adding foreign words and expressions. **“We don't just borrow words; on occasion, English has pursued other languages down alleyways to beat them unconscious and rifle their pockets for new vocabulary.” [Booker T. Washington, 1856-1915]**

Second,

In America one has to accept the idea that the founders of America believed that the individual has rights and that governments that do not protect those rights can be changed as Lincoln said by ballots or if necessary by bullets.

Third,

In our culture, unlike the Socialist countries of Europe, the government is not allowed to interfere with or control the private sector which means that there can be no central committee that plans the economy. In America that would be unconstitutional. Therefore Obama has by all accounts has already violated the Constitution.

Fourth,

In America we believe that we are all endowed with reason. This means that we can rule ourselves. Our government is **of** the people, not a few people, or a few politicians, but all the people, because we all have reason. No nation is sovereign that cannot write its own laws. In America the people are sovereign and in consequence of this they are invited to participate in the law-making process by sending to Congress men and women who will write into law what meets with their approval. When politicians legislate in a way that is not pleasing to citizens in our country those same citizens are allowed to vote them out of office. That is to say, we may fire them and we can do this because they have acted unreasonably.

Note: Americans have the right to change the government, but the form of government we have always espoused. To attempt anything like that would be treasonous.

Fifth,

In order to be assimilated into America one must believe that the U.S. Constitution was not written for an amoral people. Therefore, when Progressives call for that time when we will have outgrow our need of religion, which promotes morality, they are by their actions helping to bring about the end of our constitutional form of government. Progressives are not just insidious; they are seditious. In order to be assimilated into the American culture it is best that one accept the fact that Americans have always believed that Christianity, and especially Protestantism, more than any other religion will always prove to be of assistance to those who desire to promote self-rule and freedom.

Sixth,

Freedom in America does not mean that we can do as we please, although some would like to interpret freedom as it were license. Liberty must not be confused with libertinism. Democracy carries with it a number of responsibilities.

“In Western civilizations - which used to be called Western Christian but now might better be called Western Pagan - along with the development of intellectual life and science, there has been a loss of the serious moral basis of society. During these 300 years of western civilization, there has been a sweeping away of duties and expansion of rights. But we have two lungs. You can’t breathe with just one lung and not the other. We must avail ourselves of rights and duties in equal measure . . . The only thing we have been developing is rights, rights, at the expense of duty.” [Alexander Solzhenitsyn, 1918-2008]

Ever yours,

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