



Cast Your Whole Vote !

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*I know this well, that if one thousand, if one hundred, if ten men whom I could name--if ten honest men only--ay, if **ONE HONEST MAN**, in this State of Massachusetts, ceasing to hold slaves, were actually to withdraw from this copartnership, and be locked up in the county jail therefor, it would be the abolition of slavery in America. For it matters not how small the beginning may seem to be: what is once well done is done forever. But we love better to talk about it; that we say is our mission.*

*---jailed abolitionist Henry David Thoreau
(from the essay on civil disobedience 1849)*

Thoreau rightly perceived that one man making a whole-hearted effort in the power of the Spirit will prevail, while a million men making a token gesture will fail.

Jesus Christ calls upon us to love God with our whole heart. Not to make pious gestures and then shrug it off: *I voted! What more can I do!?* When He gives us His Power to work with, He expects something more from us than token gestures!

The One-Fingered Effort

Voting is a one minute, one fingered, once-every-four-years token gesture behind an anonymous curtain whereby fake Christians perpetuate the self-delusion that they have done something to create a good society. The illusion that we have done something significant, when we have really done nothing, is the major reason that we continue to have a bad society.

What kind of a garden could you plant with a one time, once a year effort? A garden full of weeds. What would your house look like if you cleaned it once a year? How well are you supporting your family if you work one day a year to support them?

But people want to believe that you can create a moral social order without risk or effort through the magical efficacy of pushing a lever in an anonymous voting booth. Secret Christians bearing anonymous witness make courage unnecessary. You don't have to stand up for anything longer than it takes to pull a lever and duck out. It's the safe and easy road to a better society. No risk, no work, no struggle. Just a little one-fingered gesture by millions of little Christian folks--that's all it takes. But it is a lie. And now the lie has caught up with us!

The Lost Illusion

This election year, a lot of disillusioned people have belatedly come to recognize the basic fact that our major political parties are pragmatic alliances for the pursuit of power and money. That the moral ideals they piously invoke are cloaks for the love of money and the love of power, are camouflage which deceives those who wish to be deceived--all the worldly Christians.

The establishment pro life organizations and the professional Christians have to keep going along with these unprincipled politicians because their real # 1 priority is the same as it has always been: *stay close to power*. But the rest of the pro life movement has finally learned at least half a lesson: we are never going to get there through the Republican Party.

But they haven't learned the second half of the lesson: we are never going to get there through conventional politics and the power of the government. We can only get there through the unconventional politics of the Spirit and the **POWER** of the true church.

So having given up on the Republican Party, they have turned for salvation to some other party. Now our some day hope of salvation rests with a third party that will some day be the first party.

Third Parties Finish 3rd

There is a long history of third parties in the United States that can be summarized in one short sentence: *Third parties come in 3rd*. Coming in 3rd in a political contest is like playing out in the parking lot while the championship is being decided in the stadium. In politics, winning isn't everything--it is the only thing.

Historically, a minor party has sometimes replaced a collapsed major party. It learns to be the able servant of those who seek power, so it compromises inconvenient principles--like the major party it replaced.

Meanwhile, what sort of despairing morality is it that ties the fate of the unborn child to the fate of a marginal candidate? *Vote pro life / vote Schultz* means that a futile gesture is the best you can do on behalf of the unborn. Is it? Is that what you will tell the Judge on Judgement Day? : *the lesser evil, the token gesture, those were my only choices; what else did you expect from me?*

Let us abandon the futile gesture and instead seek out the fruitful work of building a Christian society, of establishing the Kingdom of God on its right foundation.

Building a Christian Society

We must build a Christian society independently of the government. We need the power of the Holy Spirit, not the power of the policeman and the bureaucrat. The childish dependency upon this giant machinery, which so fascinates all the worldly Christians, erodes the faith and trust in the church of Jesus Christ as the society we must believe in and belong to. Instead they join the American Cult. Their church is the *Righteous Republic*, the *nation*, the empire. Which means: they **WORSHIP THE BEAST**. They believe in his power.

Jefferson said: *THAT GOVERNMENT IS BEST WHICH GOVERNS LEAST*. But Jefferson's government naturally grew into a giant octopus--into a beast. It grew as the empire grew. We must turn from it to the real **LEAST GOVERNMENT**--the self-government of the true Christian church, of the Christian community which refuses to conform to the world, which does not worship the state.

Thoreau also said: *THE GOVERNMENT NEVER YET FURTHERED ANY ENTERPRISE EXCEPT BY THE ALACRITY WITH WHICH IT GOT OUT OF THE WAY.* If that is true of economic enterprises it is 10 times truer of the moral enterprises required for a moral society, such as schools. Government schools destroy the faith and morals of our children. It is folly to expect anything else. It is worse folly to expect the government to pay for Christian schools. What the government finances, it controls. What it controls it corrupts.

And what can prevent us from establishing home schools and church-based schools, independently of the government, even in defiance of the government if we have to? What prevents us now is the illusion that you can't do anything without the government, that government money is essential, that we have to stand in line with everyone else for a government hand out.

Stopping Abortion

Neither can popular government be the vehicle for the moral crusade to stop abortion. When has true morality ever enjoyed popularity? So how can it ever be re-established by popular vote? So we cannot stop the killing through voting. So, if we finally refuse to go along with them, even one step further, if we are serious about stopping abortion, we only have two real choices left: 1) war 2) war. The first choice is a civil war fought with carnal weapons. The possibility of it looms larger and larger because it is the only way that worldly Christians have of getting serious. The second choice is to renew the spiritual war that Jesus Christ showed us how to fight. It is a war that can be won by courageous personal *witness to the truth* about abortion. But it demands a Faith which the worldly church has lost.

We could have stopped abortion yesterday, we could stop it tomorrow, if those who pretend to be pro life would serve the cause of the unborn with half the enthusiasm they bring to the pursuit of worldly power; if they would wear an **ABORTION KILLS CHILDREN** badge and hand out pro life leaflets instead of tying the fate of the children to somebody's power trip.

Establishing The Kingdom

Did Jesus Christ seek a popular mandate from the citizens of Jerusalem? Did he work within the limits that the Jewish establishment imposed upon him? Did he seek a sanction from the Roman Senate? Did he seek the approval of the Emperor? Did he get himself invited to the governor's palace? (He did go there once, but it wasn't for dinner.) Did Jesus Christ work through the system? You know he didn't or you don't know Jesus Christ.

We who claim to be his followers must follow the way He showed us. If we have not taken the name in vain, if we have the Spirit of Jesus in us, what power do we need except the sword of truth that he gives us?

This year and every year vote for Jesus Christ and the unborn children who are otherwise doomed to die. Vote every week. Vote every day! Vote with both hands and both feet. Vote with your life for what you believe in. Vote for your own *election* by doing what Jesus told us to do.

Terry Sullivan

see: RENDER, NOT SURRENDER

Four Fallacies of Personhood

web site:

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