

Friday, November 18. 2011

HOLDING OURSELVES MORALLY ACCOUNTABLE

Biblical Christians are well aware that the Bible teaches the human heart is deceitful and the source of the evils we all are capable of. We humans are marvelously made in the image of God and capable therefore of doing marvelous things, but we have this dark side within. Our Society is loath to admit it. Even the most dastardly deeds are blamed on, well, anything else- usually external influences. Our "Progressive" education system for generations has been based on the idea that children are basically good and simply need education to shape and mold them for wholesome, productive lives. Our Puritan ancestors, knowing their Bibles, knew the truth about the sinful nature of human beings. The drafters of our Federal Constitution knew that truth as well. It is the reason they insisted on a limited Government with checks and balances. When I was a social worker many years ago, I sincerely but naively offered this doctrine as partial explanation for the antisocial behavior of a certain teenager at a Team meeting. I was roundly ridiculed and my suggestion rejected outright by the other members of the Team. This attitude has not changed over the years. So I was glad to read this column by a respected journalist who puts forth the doctrine and its corollary of personal responsibility for one's behavior. He writes in response to public reactions to the current scandal at Penn State.<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/11/15/opinion/brooks-lets-all-feel-superior.html?ref=davidbrooks>

Posted by Cal in Social Issues at 13:20