

Friday, July 29. 2016

WHO ARE THE EVANGELICALS FOR TRUMP?

"Much has changed since the 1700s, and the change seems to have accelerated since the 1980s. I would point to three key factors in the corruption of the term 'evangelical.'"

READ THE REST OF THIS INSIGHTFUL ARTICLE HERE-

<https://blogs.thegospelcoalition.org/evangelical-history/2016/07/15/how-politics-and-polls-killed-the-term-evangelical/>

Posted by Cal in Social Issues at 11:56

ASIAN IMMIGRANTS

Racial and ethnic minorities have a steep uphill battle in America —this the conclusion of many studies and polls. Well, most minorities. It appears that Asian Americans, both men and women, outpace all other ethnic and racial groups— including whites —in terms of income and education.

"A century ago, most Asian Americans were low-skilled, low-wage laborers crowded into ethnic enclaves and targets of official discrimination. Today, they are the highest-income, best-educated and fastest-growing racial group in the United States. And they are the most likely of any major racial or ethnic group in America to live in mixed neighborhoods and to marry across racial lines".

So says a Pew Research Center study from three years ago I just ran across. This despite vicious prejudice and laws against them (from the Chinese Exclusionary Act of 1875 to Japanese internment camps of the 1940s, among others). According to a previous Pew study, their success seems to have something to do with their emphasis on education, stable family life, and strong work ethic. [emphasis added]

Source: The Galli Report CT 7-29-16

Posted by Cal in Social Issues at 11:38

Wednesday, July 13, 2016

IMPORTANT BUT OVERLOOKED FACTORS IN THE "RACE DEBATE"

Much of the debate over "Racism in America" is influenced by two factors often overlooked or ignored:

1. The use of stories and personal or hearsay/third party experiences versus a data and factual evidentiary approach to an event or subject. For all the value in "having a conversation", people on each of these sides of the discussion talk pass each other.
2. In my opinion, "Race", ie- ethnicity or "color" is not the major root of the divide. The debate should really be about social and economic status and the reasons for that.
3. A third major factor is the changing demographics in this Country which are very well explained in this article- http://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2016/07/the-eclipse-of-white-christian-america/490724/?utm_source=nl-atlant ic-daily-071216

Posted by Cal in Social Issues at 14:22

Sunday, July 3, 2016

DEFINING DISCRIMINATION

In other posts tried to explain the sometimes necessity for "rational discrimination" based on behavior (empirical evidence) of the group in question. My concern here is the application of rational discrimination to area such employment or college admissions. When must people, any people, be treated as a group and when must they be treated as individuals?

As a general principle (James 3:9-10), Scripture teaches us to accept and respect and treat fairly each person as a person, when it is at all possible to do so. [There are times when transactions are impersonal or when crowds are involved.] Gender, age and "race" are included in who a person is. However, behavior of the group to which a person belongs is another matter. It is not essential to a being a person.

Discrimination, in the sense of rejecting or ostracizing any person solely on the basis of something essential to that person being a person, is unscriptural: to refuse to hire or promote someone because they are White males or Asian women is wrong.

Posted by Cal in Social Issues at 16:32

DISCRIMINATION

Discrimination based on Group Behavior is another matter. Many times we are treated according to how the group we are in is treated. If the group is known for making trouble and, therefore, are not welcome in a restaurant, we must distance ourselves from that group. If we do not, we will be discriminated against, not for who we are as a person, but because of the behavior of the group. If there is empirical evidence that White males, as a group, have been oppressive to women, it would be reasonable if a White male applicant for a job in a woman-led business with female employees were to be discriminated against and preference were given to others, because of his membership in a group. He obviously could feel that this was very unfair to him. He wants to be considered on his own merits alone. It would be absolutely wrong for the female management to reject him because of his gender and "race". Doubly wrong, if he personally was not guilty of oppressing women.

If a particular African-American were rejected for a mortgage because, statistically, African-Americans as a group or from a certain geographic area, over a period of time, had a record of defaulting on mortgage loans, that would be rational [not racial] discrimination- but nevertheless unfair. The applicant must be given a chance based on his own credit history alone.

This logic leads to the rejection of all types of discrimination based on "race", gender and age- including "affirmative action".

Posted by Cal in Social Issues at 15:56

THE MANY FACES OF ISLAM. NOT ALL MUSLIMS ARE THE SAME

In 2003, about 15% of the world's one billion Muslims were Shia and 85% were orthodox Sunni. There are other factions within Islam. Sufis are found today in Turkey and Syria. The conservative Wahhabis are found in Saudi Arabia and Qatar. Other sects or break-away groups include the Alawis found in Syria and Turkey, the Druze in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and Israel, the Ibadhis (Kharjites) in Oman and Africa, the Ahmadiya of Pakistan, and the Zaydis of Yemen.

All of these groups are Muslim. Thus it is very misleading to speak and act as though Islam is monolithic and it is very inaccurate and misleading to group them all together as one Body, even if Islam is one Religion. They all claim to be followers of Allah and Islam. When someone says that Islam is about Love and is non-violent, it is essential to ask: which kind of Muslim? When Christians become excited with reports of Muslim conversions to Christ, again we must ask which kind of Muslim?

<http://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RS21432.pdf>

For a very well researched and well-written extensive Essay explaining the History and agendas of various types of Muslims, this article is must reading if we are serious about the subject of Radical Islamism.

<https://www.themonthly.com.au/issue/2016/june/1464703200/robert-manne/mind-islamic-state>

Posted by Cal in Current Events at 14:58