



Straight Talk

by Muriel Sluyter

Rabbi Spero: ACLU vs Christmas

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Greetings, Gentle Reader,

Rabbi Aryeh Spero has written an article on the ACLU's fight against Christianity in general, and Christmas in particular, that should be on every bulletin board. It should be read aloud to every American who has any interest in keeping our country a bulwark against tyranny and a stronghold of liberty. Note that I have used the word liberty, against which the ACLU fights, rather than "license," which it seems to support.

He warns us of the inevitable consequences of abandoning our identity. He says, "America ... needs Christmas, not simply in the private domain but also as a public expression. Not only for its magic and delight, but moreover as a testament to the Judeo-Christian roots upon which this country was founded.

"Our historic way of thinking — the American ethos and its laws, its liberties — are not amorphous concomitants but direct outgrowths of the Founding Fathers' understanding of the Judeo-Christian ethic. As Christmas represents this, its linkage to American life is crucial ..."

He says, "Politics is influenced by culture, and all cultures derive from religion, even if time obscures the initial religious source and impetus." Then he says other societies may not have attained our level of success because they are products of religious beliefs less "conducive to productivity, fair play, inventiveness and individual liberty than the uniquely created Judeo-Christian outlook." He's right on the money there.

Such concepts don't set well with the America-hating crowd, but then, that group doesn't set well with loyal America-lovers, so I guess we're even.

He reminds us that the ACLU demands both public expression and acknowledgment of Islamic symbols and rituals, especially in schools. Judeo-Christian symbols are labeled "religious," while Islamic are called "cultural."

He notes that, in Covington, Ga., the ACLU has filed suit against a school district for identifying Dec. 25 as Christmas on its school calendar, because it "advances religion."

He says those who support things Islamic, while attacking things Christian, know that the "essence of America" depends on our linkage to the Judeo-Christian ethic, and their goal is to topple "traditional Americana." He describes their actions as "reverse fascism, a tyranny of the minority over the majority."

Now he gets to the scary part: "The more the ACLU strives to divest our society of that which is traditional and dear to it — be it Christmas, the Boy Scouts, the Ten Commandments, parental rights — the more it diminishes that which rouses people to sacrifice for it. ... Why sacrifice and risk all (including one's life) for an America that is no longer America, but Sweden? After all, the Swedes don't... (N)o one will go into harm's way simply to preserve our way of life to play basketball and watch MTV."

These people use our courts to attack our very culture. They could never get their agendas through any legislature, so they go to the courts, some of which are blatantly anti-traditional America.

The good rabbi uses the words "Judeo-Christian roots and ethics" repeatedly in defining America. Are these roots and ethics an intrinsic part of our identity? Do they make us what we are? Yes, and we abandon them at our peril.

We are perilously close to the day when those who hate everything America stands for will be so powerful we won't be able to combat them. We must start working with our legislators to pass laws that will rein in all who want to deprive us of our heritage, because as our heritage goes, so goes our country.