



Straight Talk

By Muriel Sluyter

The American Way

23 August, 2004

Greetings, Gentle Reader,

Anyplace, America, 1900: "Boys, hitch the wagon. Mr. Schmidt's had a heart attack. His cows need milked, his stock fed, and his corn harvested."

Anyplace, America, 2004: "Boys, load the Suburban with food and water. The people in Florida are in big trouble."

This is America at its finest.

The people in Florida are, indeed, in big trouble, and the good people of America are, indeed, loading the Suburban.

The Salvation Army is on the job, and Pat Robertson's Operation Blessing is funneling massive volumes of food and necessities of life through them. Our church, and others, have sent workers, money, shipping containers and trucks of sanitary supplies, food, bedding and other necessities. How many trucks and shipping containers? How many dollars? How many able-bodied, hard-working men? We can't count that high.

This is the American way. There are helpers from practically every Christian group in the country doing anything and everything they can to help. Christians have that in common.

It is true there are human predators and price gougers as well, but they are outnumbered a thousand times over by real Americans, who willingly put their lives on hold to serve those in desperate need.

Curiously, I have seen no sign of the People For The American Way, nor the American Civil Liberties Union, nor Barry Lynn and his Americans United For Separation Of Church And State. Michael Newdow of Pledge of Allegiance notoriety seems also to be absent.

These people, too, have one thing in common: They work extremely hard to attack other Americans, especially Christians, Christian symbols and Christian expression. They spare no expense, no effort, in their drive to deprive common, everyday Americans of their right of religious expression, their right to worship unmolested. That is their

life's work, their reason for living.

As these groups aggressively pursue their goals, their Christian targets work to help rather than harm, to support rather than abuse, to comfort rather than afflict. They do it without fanfare. They sound no trumpets to call attention to their labors and sacrifices. They simply dig in to move mountains of pain and suffering anytime, anyplace, and for whomever they can.

Can it be these attacking groups are unaware of the pain of their hurting fellow Americans, or is it simply not their problem? Are they so politically driven nothing else matters except their cause? Is their drive to deprive so overpowering it blinds them to the evil they do? Probably.

If they succeed in forcibly changing America and Americans, making us like them, as is their goal, who will help victims of Florida's hurricanes? Who will help victims in the often tornado-ravaged Midwest? Who will help people whose homes go up in flames? Who will help Northeastern victims of snow storms and floods?

Will it be the ACLU? People For The American Way? Barry Lynn and his separators? Maybe Michael Newdow? Probably not.

If these predators succeed in getting Americans to think as they do, we will be like Europeans, Asians, and Africans, who mostly dislike everyone not of their particular nationality, ethnic group, or religion. We will be like the hilarious sixties song that itemized individual world nationalities and the people each particular nationality hated. The last line went like this, "and the Dutch don't like anybody very much." My husband says that is absolute reality, European style.

If these organizations succeed, we will cease to be Americans. We will not help our own, as they do not help. We will strive to deprive others of their Constitutional rights, as they strive.

"Anyplace, America," will become "I-don't-like-you-or-your-kind, America."

May we never let it happen.

[Home](#) • [Current Column](#) • [Archives](#) • [Quote](#) • [Bonus](#) • [Contact Us](#)