

THOSE “Vs” ARE POWERFUL – AND FUN!

Stephen L. Bakke – January 28, 2010

“There are more instances of the abridgment of the freedom of the people by gradual and silent encroachments of those in power than by violent and sudden usurpations.” – James Madison, speech to the Virginia Ratifying Convention – 1788.

“It will be of little avail to the people that the laws are made by men of their own choice, if the laws be so voluminous that they cannot be read, or so incoherent that they cannot be understood; if they be repealed or revised before they are promulgated, or undergo such incessant changes that no man who knows what the law is today can guess what it will be tomorrow.” – Federalist No. 62

And from “The Patriot Post”:



VENOM (ill will), **VITRIOL** (bitterness of feeling) and **VEXATION** (troubling irritation) – there’s a lot of that floating around Democrat circles in recent days. Look in the dictionary and you will find a lot of powerful feelings and concepts under the “Vs”. Let’s examine some reactions and explanations following the stunning Republican performance in Massachusetts – clearly a “referendum” on Obamacare. I call that the “MASS-acre in MASS.

One might say that many liberals and democrats have become boldly **VITUPERATIVE** (given to censure or verbal abuse) and even emotionally **VIOLENT** (given to uncontrolled forcefulness) and **VICIOUS** (dangerously aggressive, malicious, spiteful) in their constant **VILIFICATION** (making abusive statements) of their opposition. For example:

- “[It would be] a tragedy of Greek proportions if Ted Kennedy’s successor ... is the one who was responsible for the death of health care.” – Judy Woodruff of PBS.
- “It’s that rare election where voters know exactly what they’re voting on. If they’re with Democrat Martha Coakley they get health care reform. If they go for

Republican Scott Brown it's deliberative, premeditated murder for health care!" – Chris Mathews of MSNBC.

- "I wanted to apologize for calling Senator-elect Scott Brown an 'irresponsible, homophobic, racist, reactionary, ex-nude model, tea bagging, supporter of violence against women and against politicians with whom he disagrees.' I'm sorry, I left out the word 'sexist.'" – The ever-objective Keith Olbermann of MSNBC.
- "I tell you what, if I lived in Massachusetts, I'd try to vote 10 times. I don't know if they'd let me or not, but I'd try to. Yeah, that's right, I'd cheat to keep those bastards out. I would. 'Cause that's exactly what they are." – The oh-so-gentle Ed Schultz of MSNBC.
- "... This is yet further evidence that Americans are flagrantly ill-informed ... - Joe Klein of Time magazine.
- "... and Mr. Obama didn't do what Ronald Reagan, who also faced a poor economy early in his administration, did – namely, shelter himself from criticism with a narrative that placed the blame on previous administrations." – Paul Krugman of the New York Times telling the President to blame Bush more.
- "Democrats would not be playing the blame game with one another for the loss or for the health care debacle if they had only pointed fingers at those (or in this case, the one) who put Americans (and most of the world) in the predicament we're in: George W. Bush." – James Carville.

And in some corners they aren't showing much **VISION** (discernment or foresight), are they? One could even say they are **VIRULENT** (on a destructive course). For example:

- "That I do think is a mistake of mine. I think the assumption was if I just focus on policy, if I just focus on this provision or that law or if we're making a good rational decision here, then people will get it ... I take my share of the blame for not explaining it more clearly to the American people." – President Barack Obama commenting on the naïve, uninformed and non-discerning American voters – we are all just stupid 'schmucks.' He doesn't get it!
- "The Democrats' best hope of saving their skin this November is to swing for the fences with serious health care reform. They can pass a clean bill without having to sell their souls to a handful of senatorial shakedown artists" – Froma Harrop of The Providence Journal – they're "hell bent for leather."
- "The same thing that swept Scott Brown into office swept me into office. People are angry and they're frustrated, not just because of what's happened in the last year or two years but what's happened over the last eight years." – President Barack Obama – I'm dizzy from spinning – it's just all George's fault and they're voting for Republicans because they hate "W." In Massachusetts? Yea, right!
- "But I want you to understand, this is not about me. This is about you." – President Barack Obama declaring his position above the fray. It is indeed all about "him and his."
- "I ... know what happens once we get [health care reform] done. The American people will suddenly learn that this bill does things they like." President Barack Obama – there's no doubt he thinks he's smarter than the average American, by several orders of magnitude!

- “I don’t believe the president thinks that we should stop fighting for what’s important to the middle class, that we should stop fighting for an economic recovery, that we should stop fighting ...” – Press Secretary Robert Gibbs – they’re going to keep doing what they’re doing, only harder! Total denial!
- The Scott Brown success merely emphasizes the fact that the citizens of Massachusetts (and by extension, all of America) reject any health care reform that doesn’t contain a public option. – Paraphrased from Howard Dean’s comments on “Hardball” with Chris Matthews – they really think voters are like gullible sheep!
- [He] urged dispirited Democrats to not abandon the transformation of America’s health care system. – From many news reports referring to President Barack “**H.**” Obama’s comments in his State of the Union address – he just doesn’t learn – “H” is for HUBRIS (exaggerated pride or self confidence).

The insightful columnist Charles Krauthammer always puts things so well: “Democrats must so rationalize, otherwise they must take democracy seriously, and ask themselves: **If the people really don’t want it, could they possibly have a point?** ‘If you lose Massachusetts and that’s not a wake-up call,’ said moderate – and sentient – Democratic Sen. Evan Bayh of Indiana, ‘there’s no hope of waking up.’ I say: Let them sleep.”

There’s another “V” that the Democrats didn’t experience – this one reserved for the Republicans – **VICTORY** (achievement and success).

Aren’t V’s neat? And they’re fun too!