

Patio Chat # 2Words

(Speaker 1)

Welcome to our second Real-World Talk and Family Learning patio chat.

(Speaker 2)

Your host today is Jeffrey Kuhlman and I am your hostess, Glenna Kuhlman.

Jeff writes and teaches curriculum for Nova Southeastern University's Masters Degree in Disaster and Emergency Management. Jeff is a retired Merchant Marine Capt. having worked 3 years in India, 3 years in Africa, 2 years in Asia and nearly a year in the Middle East. He has extensive military and training experience. His 17 years in technical employment includes subcontracting on DOD, DOE, and NRC in project marketing and management.

(Speaker 1)

Glenna is a presidential award-winning educator in elementary mathematics. She was a contributor to the New Jersey mathematics standards. Glenna was listed in the Who's Who of American Teachers in 1994. She was a private pilot and test piloted the Paraplane. After retirement, following 37 years in classroom teaching and education leadership, she became a merchant mariner and an instructor in maritime security and defense.

Real-World Talk and Family Learning is a membership website at www.rwt2015.com. Our website is intended to provide information to our members without spin, with few agendas, and with little "political correctness".

Recognizing that typical institutional resources often provide intentionally or unintentionally incomplete and inaccurate information, Real-World Talk and Family Learning attempts to fill these blanks and will provide options for other incomplete and inaccurate information.

(Speaker 2)

In today's patio chat we will talk about some words that have special meaning during this political season. These words include: communism, socialism,

progressivism, democratic socialism, diversity, and capitalism. These words have been used often and through discussion I find that most people do not in fact understand what these words imply. Many people believe that they understand them until they consider their actual meanings. This is akin to not knowing what you don't know. When you don't know what you don't know you don't know what to seek answers for.

(Speaker 1)

Communism

We have heard communism used many times during this election season especially relating to Bernie Sanders. Communism is both a political and economic construct in which all goods and products are combined into one whole and dispersed evenly and equally amongst all of the participants. I know of no successful communistic society save one agricultural organization established in the Midwest during the Great Depression.

Communism sounds almost Utopian; however, a group of people are virtually never equal partners. There is always one who becomes a leader by request of the other partners or by coercion. There will be others who will contribute less and there will be major contributors who will believe they deserve more. This is a human condition; it is consistent; and it will force the collapse of the communist organization.

(Speaker 2)

Since Bernie Sanders preached fairness rather than equal shares, I believe that he does not meet the requisite qualifiers as a communist. Instead, he claimed to be a Democratic Socialist.

Socialism

Our discussion of communism leads us into defining socialism. Socialism sounds like a very nice word; humans are social animals, we socialize with each other, we have Sunday ice cream socials, this sounds like a kum-ba-ya moment. However, this is not what it seems. Instead, socialism is a political construct in which the value of the individual is totally subject to the needs of the society as a whole as defined by a chosen political elite. This is evidenced by the rise and fall of the Soviet Union or the United Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR).

(Speaker 1)

I recently talked to a young woman graduating from medical school about the upcoming elections. She said that socialism sounded like a good thing but she did not know much about it. In response I asked her what she intended from her graduation and she responded that she would become a physician. I said, "No, you will become a plumber because under a socialist government the needs of that government come before the needs of the individual and that government at the time doesn't need doctors they need plumbers." I asked her if she was going to have children she responded probably two. I responded, "No, the state will only authorize one child." Again, I asked her what she thought her husband would do. And again, she said that she expected that he would also be a physician. And again in response I said, "No. In lieu of the fact that the state needed skilled personnel rather than doctors they would approve any tradesmen as a spouse."

She said that socialism did not seem to be a good thing to her after all.

Progressive

Over and over we have heard those on the political left describe themselves as being progressive. Progressive seems to derive itself from the term progress with an understanding that that term indicates a positive advancement of society. In reality this is not the case. Modern progressivism was championed by President Woodrow Wilson and has grown since then. Rather than being a force for positive societal growth with the center as being the individual citizen, it has been a force for societal growth with its center in the government and under a political elite. Progressivism is neither politically right or politically left. Progressivism entails the establishment of a political elite from any political party which seeks the growth of government over the advancement of its citizenry. You will see the results of such political activities by looking at individual life under the USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics).

(Speaker 2)

Progressive advancement has often used Saul Alinsky's book, *Rules for Radicals*, as its guide. Saul Alinsky subscribed to changing the United States of America to a socialist society through the destruction of the middle class. In his view if the

middle class of the United States was marginalized it would lose its self-value and America's economy and political structure would collapse enabling a socialist society to take its place. A quick review of Saul Alinsky's background and the backgrounds of those seen as today's politically elite will provide names and histories to the interested reader.

Instead of advancement of America's citizens, progressivism promotes the marginalization of American citizenry for the advancement of a large and extreme government.

(Speaker 1)

Capitalism

Capitalism is often considered by those on the political left as being "unfair". Which is the more unfair - a government which marginalizes its people or a system, political and economic, that offers the opportunity for great advancement based upon an individual's capabilities and determination? It is true that some will fail just it is true that some will succeed. But whether fail or succeed the opportunity is central to the overall advancement of the society and its people.

Democratic Socialism

The campaign of Bernie Sanders labelled him as a Democratic Socialist. Since the root word "democracy" relates to the power of the individual in the determination of the future of the group by vote or by process, and "socialism" relates to the power of the state over the needs of the individual. The words make no sense when being used together due to their contradiction! Therefore, the label "Democratic Socialist" is an impossible construct used only to elicit an emotional response from people that are uninformed and do NOT understand the liberal political process. Although we are making no judgements here about the benefits of either conservatism or liberalism (we do not subscribe to progressivism), we do not support the use of misguided language as "democratic socialist" and other such constructs. His words and ideas label Bernie Sanders as a socialist.

Diversity

Today we often hear the word diverse in relation to groups with multiple ethnicities, races, or religions. There is an attempt by those using this word to

insinuate a cohesiveness amongst members of those groups. However, if we look at the term diverse, derived from divide, diverse cannot mean a cohesiveness with but distinct separations of the members of that group on racial, ethnic, or religious lines.

(Speaker 2)

Some believe that “diversity” is a positive concept as it is inclusive of numbers of people from multiple backgrounds in the same group. The problem with this is the observers must first note the differences in the group’s members before they recognize those traits that are common and will bring them together.

(Speaker 1)

Most men I know notice color after politeness, education, cleanliness, and consideration. Color trails far behind. I know that some of every color are predisposed toward making color the essential divisive factor in a group, but that is not, and should not be, the case. My comments are not intended to minimize the history of slavery or the separations of Jim Crow. What I am saying is that I do not believe that my fellow citizens would be as intolerant as the media would imply, or race-baiting group’s attempts at rabble rousing, or the rabble that does rouse and kill, loot, and destroy. Dr. Martin Luther King proved that there was a powerful and accepted way to peacefully get grievances resolved that is acceptable by us all.

(Speaker 2)

Thank you for your attention and your interest. We will soon have additional patio chats that will be available on our Gold Members’ pages of our website. Becoming a member with all its benefits is easy. Merely join us at www.rwt2015.com. Enjoy the many articles, interviews, and papers you will find there including a complementary book and an additional complementary pamphlet of notes that accompany our course, **Fun and Easy American History**.