

 **TODAY'S "SHORT TOPIC"**
**IT DEPENDS ON
WHOSE "LEGEND"
IS BEING "GORED"!**



By Stephen L. Bakke  August 21, 2015

Here's what provoked me:

I started to think about the similarities between the request to remove General Robert E. Lee's statues and portraits from public places, and the request by black pastors to remove the statue of Margaret Sanger from the Smithsonian's "Struggle for Justice" exhibit. Hmmm! Says I.

Here's my response:

It Depends on Whose "Legend" Is Being "Gored"!

We hear calls to remove all Confederate battle flags from public places; and to remove statues and portraits of the Confederate General Robert E. Lee. And if history books show or mention those, and similar, representations, it should only serve to emphasize the worst of our country's history. Cities, counties, and school boards react and put into motion the process of disinfecting history.

Then we hear a group of black pastors from nine states requesting removal of the Margaret Sanger statue from the Smithsonian Institution's Portrait Gallery "Struggle for Justice" exhibit. They respectfully requested removal stating: "Sanger may have been a lot of things, but a 'champion of justice' she definitely was not. Perhaps the Gallery is unaware that Ms. Sanger supported black eugenics, a racist attitude toward black and other minority babies; an elitist attitude toward those she regarded as 'the feeble minded' ... The obvious incongruity is staggering!..."

Taking no action, the Smithsonian believes the bust is important in order to "see the past clearly and objectively...". While they acknowledge the controversy surrounding Sanger, they believe this serves to represent the "full spectrum of the American experience."

I guess it makes a difference whose "legend" is being "gored."

