

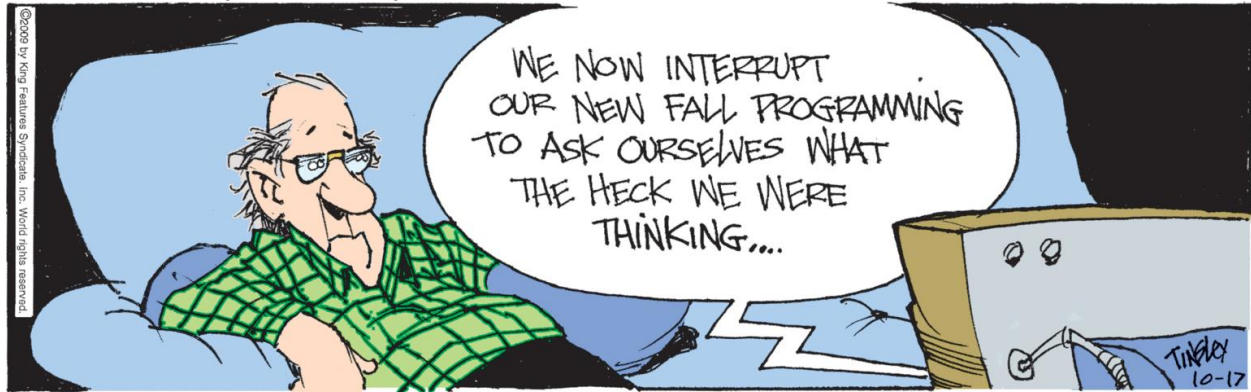
If you don't regularly receive my reports, request a free subscription at steve_bakke@comcast.net !
Follow me on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/BakkeSteve> and receive links to my posts and more!
Visit my website at <http://www.myslantonthings.com> !

WHAT WERE THEY THINKING?

By Steve Bakke  December 5, 2019



Mallard Fillmore by Bruce Tinsley



While reviewing my “absurdity file” recently, it occurred to me that most people probably haven’t noticed how much opinions and behavior have changed over the last decade. Many things unspoken a few years ago are now described as desirable or preferred by the political left. Compare some of these comments and concepts with those that were generally accepted as recently as when Senator Obama was running for President. Some consider these changes serious, or frightening, while others may just laugh at the absurdity. What’s your reaction?

- “I am open to suspending deportations,” proclaimed Elizabeth Warren recently. Her policy goals are, for me, consistently counter-intuitive. No one else even comes close to challenging her in that competition.
- At the Palatine Illinois High School, by action of its school board, students shall have “access to restrooms and locker rooms that correspond to their gender identity.” Why are institutions making permanent policy decisions, and even considering legislation, before medical experts even understand what “modern gender theory” is all about?
- The Washington Post published an article titled, “President Pelosi? It could happen.” It reminded readers this was a realistic outcome if the President and Vice-President resigned, “embroiled in scandal.”
- Student government leaders at the University of Oklahoma have passed a resolution removing the Pledge of Allegiance from their meeting agendas. They were particularly concerned that the pledge was not inclusive and conflicted with the first Amendment. I guess it’s the “God” reference in the pledge that puts them off.

- Democrats show complete disdain for the Electoral College, yet they think the use of “Super Delegates” is just fine when selecting their presidential candidate. I wonder if that contradiction even occurs to them.
- Hillary Clinton claimed that obscure presidential candidate, Tulsi Gabbard, is a Russian “asset.” Clinton said Russia is “grooming” Gabbard as a “third-party” candidate.
- California Democrat governor Gavin Newsom led a movement and ultimately signed legislation requiring public colleges and universities to provide abortion pills to students at campus health centers – at no cost to students. California is the first.
- “[Republicans] want to return this country to the white Christian country that they believe it should be again.” – former news anchor Sam Donaldson.
- “If we win in 2020, [Republicans are] done forever. But it’s scary for us, too, because if they win, literally it could be the end of the world.” – obscure Democrat presidential candidate, Tom Steyer.
- Air Canada has decided to no longer permit their employees to greet passengers by referring to them as “ladies and gentlemen” or “mesdames et messieurs.” They want to recognize the non-binary gender fluidity which is changing all the rules it seems. I guess their neutral collective terms will simply be “all,” or “everybody,” or “tout le monde.”
- Expressing her passionate support for a quick impeachment and removal from office of Donald Trump, (now former) Democrat candidate Kamala Harris said “dude gotta’ go. Dude gotta go, he gotta go.” Who could imagine, a decade or two ago, the lack of decorum that dominates election campaigns? Obviously, Harris isn’t the only guilty party.
- A group of students at Williams College in Massachusetts managed to quash an enlightened movement by the administration to ensure free and fair speech on campus – similar to the excellent University of Chicago model. Their entire argument centered around the premise that “free speech harms,” and that faculty members were trying to get students “killed.”
- “Trump is as destructive a person in this century as Hitler, Stalin, and Mao were in the last century. He may be responsible for many more million deaths than they were.” – Psychiatrist Dr. Allen Frances on CNN’s Sunday “Reliable Sources” program. By the way, the total deaths attributed to those three is almost 100 million.
- “Belief in Genesis 1:27in our judgement [is] incompatible with human dignity.....” That is from a British court order finding regarding use of non-biological pronouns. The referenced Bible verse reads: “So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.”

Some of these comments or ideas would have been relegated to the checkout-counter tabloids a mere decade ago. I’m willing to venture that, for the most part, our society is much the poorer for these modern ways of evaluating, describing, and idealizing things. I think progressives are reaching for something they feel is missing. I doubt they’re finding it.