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WHAT WERE THEY THINKING? – Episode 2

By Steve Bakke  January 2, 2020



Happy New Year! This week I'm taking a break from studying the impeachment games. Once again, I'm digging into my "absurdity file" looking for anecdotal information that's unusual, foolish, or of course, absurd.

- "Listening to Mitch McConnell talk about the decline of bipartisanship is like listening to Jeffrey Dahmer complain about the decline of dinner party etiquette." That was disgraced former senator Al Franken comparing Mitch McConnell to rapist and serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer.
- An excellent example of contrived outrage, aka political correctness, surfaced a few days ago in what's become known as the "Peloton Scandal." The latest ad shows a husband gifting his already slim wife a Peloton stationary bike for Christmas. There was hysterical outrage claiming sexism and various other transgressions.
- When Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch said, "Merry Christmas" in a Fox News interview, there was leftist outrage complaining this was a "talking point for the GOP."
- Robert De Niro gets a little heated at times when he is caught thinking about his president, Donald Trump. "I'd like to see a bag of s**t right in [Trump's] face" he recent shouted publicly. Maybe he's rehearsing his comments while accepting his next Academy Award.
- Actress/comedian Whitney Cummings reported on the "Conan" TV talk show that she got in trouble when working on a TV show for saying "Merry Christmas." She says an intern turned her in to HR for this insensitive action.
- Author J.K. Rowling was viciously attacked by defending a researcher who claimed you can't change your biological gender. She acknowledged and encouraged their right to change personal references and appearance, but "sex is real."
- "The ultimate goal...is to defeat a president and a party that has...taken a sharp turn away from a lot of the core traditions and values and institutional commitments that built this country." That sounds like a "wanna' be" conservative politician. Actually, that's a quote from Barack Obama. This seems to contradict his goal to transform the U.S. I'm confused!
- Washington College in Maryland has decided to cancel the upcoming production of a play. It's an anti-racist, anti-KKK, and pro-immigrant stage production. They were worried it would upset people because of the racist characters. Some actors portraying racist characters were called racist for merely performing the KKK parts. I guess I'm not "woke."
- "My campaign is evolving the same way President Obama's did." That, from democrat presidential candidate Senator Cory Booker.

- Talk of impeaching Trump began in earnest before his inauguration and was “officially” announced by the New York Times on inauguration day. Does this mean it’s permissible to start impeachment proceedings presidents before they take office? This could get interesting!
- “A president can be impeached more than once.” Recognizing they might not get it done the first time this congressman later mused that “there may be possible opportunities to do other things at a later time.” So proclaimed democrat Representative Al Green. I guess that’s a perfect example of “sticktuitiveness.”
- “Social Security has nothing to do with the deficit” claimed Bernie Sanders. That would be closer to true if the “trust fund” was truly funded with assets other than U.S. government IOUs. As is, in order to make good on the IOUs as they are needed by our seniors’ benefits, the Feds need to issue debt, much of it to China.
- Wausau, Wisconsin has a law banning people from throwing snowballs on public property. It’s reported that the snowball is referred to as a “missile” in the text of the law.
- “I do believe.....that we have to deal with the original sin. We have to deal with slavery. Slavery was the thing that put all of what President Trump has done lately into motion.” That was another quote from the very quotable Representative Al Green.
- “New York City school administrators have been taught that pillars of Western Civilization such as objectivity, individualism and belief in the written word all are examples of white supremacy.” – George Mason University Professor Walter E. Williams.
- “Williams college students said free speech is a part of a right-wing agenda as ‘a cover for racism, xenophobia, sexism, anti-Semitism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism and classism.’” – Once again, that was George Mason University Professor Walter E. Williams.

I dare say that the new year of 2020 will be as rich with material for my “absurdity” recaps as was 2019.