

TODAY'S "SHORT TOPIC"

FERGUSON AND THE SENATE REPORT ON TORTURE: Some interesting comparisons!



By Stephen L. Bakke  December 11, 2014

Here's what provoked me:

Hey SB! The liberals are castigating the Ferguson Grand Jury because they decided there was no probable cause to bring charges. The Grand Jury settled on the physical and forensic evidence, and the eyewitness testimony that was corroborated by that evidence. The testimony that was set aside was that which was withdrawn by the witness, and that which was directly refuted by the evidence. Compare that to the same liberals' conduct in the Senate Torture Report. The Senate Democrats didn't even call witnesses who were most directly involved in the alleged illegal activities. Can you make something of that? – Stefano Bachovich – obscure curmudgeon and wise political pundit – a prolific purveyor of opinions on just about everything – SB's primary "go to guy."

Here's my response:

Ferguson and the Senate Report on Torture: Some interesting comparisons!

Much will yet develop in the "torture report" controversy. For now let's contemplate these facts!

The most vocal protest regarding the "Ferguson Grand Jury" process was that stories from witnesses that were contrary to the final conclusion of the group were disregarded. Numerous vocal objectors were democrats in the U.S. House and Senate. **Never mind** that the Grand Jury did hear and read those conflicting stories and that they were refuted by the other evidence. And **never mind** the fact that many of those conflicting stories were later withdrawn by the witnesses.

Now consider what happened in reaction to the Senate Minority (Democrat) Report on Torture (re: the CIA's conduct, mainly at GITMO). A major republican objection is that **not one CIA representative was interviewed** who was involved at any level – i.e. those that were either involved with, or who approved, the enhanced interrogation techniques (e.g. water-boarding). Yet they reached a conclusion as to the extent and effectiveness of the techniques.

In the Ferguson case, there appears to be at least some consideration of all the witness testimony and it was disregarded only when either withdrawn by the witness, or when

refuted by physical or forensic evidence. Not so with the Senate democrats.



Quite a contrast! Wherein resides the hypocrisy?