

 **TODAY'S "SHORT TOPIC"**
MR. PITTS:
YOUR "KNIFE OF JUSTICE"
CUTS BOTH WAYS!



By Stephen L. Bakke  January 9, 2015

Here's what provoked me:

Unfortunately, one of my favorite columnists once again got it wrong. You probably guessed right it's Leonard Pitts, Jr. He sometimes ends up with a bad conclusion because he misinterprets the thoughts and motivations of those he criticizes, while ignoring flaws in the thinking and strategy of those with whom he aligns himself and/or defends.

Here's my response:

Mr. Pitts: Your "knife of justice" cuts both ways!

Leonard Pitts, Jr. on 1-9 suggests that we "oppose bad police officers while backing the good ones."

His points:

- We shouldn't back police when they assault or kill some unarmed, unthreatening "somebody."
- Charges that Obama or de Blasio fueled the fire are empty.
- The police reactions to de Blasio are mere temper tantrums.
- Where bad cops cannot be questioned, good cops cannot be trusted – and all are undermined.

My points:

- Pitts and other sincere justice seekers shouldn't appear to defend thugs, when it's clear that's what they are – e.g. Ferguson.
- Charges that Al Sharpton fueled the fire are clearly NOT empty, while Obama and de Blasio showed poor leadership, at best.
- The reactions of many sincere justice seekers, in the face of clear opposing evidence, are mere temper tantrums.
- When "bad guys" cannot be singled out, stopped and questioned for cause, cops and "outsiders" begin to generalize that even the "good guys" are suspicious – and once again, ALL are undermined.

Mr. Pitts, your true brilliance and sincerity are being overwhelmed by your persistent inability to understand the thoughts and motivations of those you oppose and criticize. And sometimes you get it wrong!

When the political left wants to help the black community, they usually want to help the worst elements in that community – thugs they portray as martyrs, for example – without the slightest regard for the negative effect this can have on the lives of the majority of decent black people. – Thomas Sowell, Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University – a famous economist, social theorist, and a black man who grew up in Harlem, New York.