

 **TODAY'S "SHORT TOPIC"**  
**WILL THE REAL  
LEONARD PITTS  
PLEASE STAND UP!**

By Stephen L. Bakke  April 17, 2015



*Here's what provoked me:*

*One of my favorites, Leonard Pitts, keeps exciting me with his wisdom, and then disappointing me with his foolish forays into vitriolic comments and race-baiting. He is soooooo!! good at what he does! I wish he wouldn't squander it on occasional foolish, unproductive, and vindictive commentary. Leonard, please be a force for good, not bitterness. You've still got it in 'ya, I know!*

*Here's my response:*

**Will the Real Leonard Pitts Please Stand Up!**

Leonard Pitts is reasonable and thoughtful in: "*Before 'conversation on race' we need education*" (4-1-15) and "*After 150 years, Dixie is still a place apart*" (4-8-15). He fell back into his race-baiting alter ego with "*Walter Scott, just an isolated incident?*" (4-15-15).

I appreciated the always ornery Pitts when he encouraged education about how race has formed our country: "We will not be a well nation or a whole one until we cease to fear and begin to understand this force that has made us who and what we are."

He became a wise philosopher by lamenting the country's "apartness": "(After) Lincoln forced the bloody pieces back together.....It never did knit itself back together in the way he had hoped.....the seams of repair still show.....can you make a country out of that? So far, so good."

Him I like!

On 4-15 he lost me! While angrily describing conservatives, he asks (condensed): Where is their conscience, intellectual integrity, moral courage, and human decency?

This harkens back to his 1-28-15 discussion of detractors: lies, fakes, gonad-grabbing swagger, racist, sexist, homophobic, Islamophobic, paranoid, aberrant, claptrap and "a sewer for stinking."

Having something for everyone must bring success.

But I think it's a waste!