



## **STUDENT STORM TROOPERS:**

**“..... how radical, weird and out of touch college campuses have become!”** – John Hawkins, November 2015

*It's all about safe spaces, micro-aggressions, trigger warnings, preferred gender references, student discomfort, professors indoctrinating students, free college, college president resignations, and other puzzling ..... uh ..... “stuff.”*

# **PART 1**

## ***Framing the Issue is Important!***

By Stephen L. Bakke  September 20, 2016

For almost a year I've been creating/accumulating a file with no real designation other than “stuff about colleges.” It's gotten rather thick as I've been adding reports, articles, and other information about just that – “stuff going on at U.S. colleges.” The oldest item in that file is an article by political columnist John Hawkins which gave a list of 15 items ***“that show how radical, weird and out of touch college campuses have become.”*** I chose that quote as an ideal subtitle to this report.

### ***Is This a New Concern?***

With the help of George Will, and then while “poking around,” I came across mention of the American Association of University Professors which issued a warning in its 1915 “Declaration of Principles.” I quote from that report:

***The teacher ought also to be especially on his guard against taking unfair advantage of the student's immaturity by indoctrinating him with the teacher's own opinions .....***

Moving ahead in time, and skipping a whole bunch of important developments, let's go right to 1997 when the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) adopted (according to George Will) a ***“surreptitious political agenda in the form of a new code of ethics, enjoining social workers to advocate for social justice ..... [to combat] ‘the conservative trends of the past three decades’ ..... Clearly ..... they are the opposite of conservatism.”***

The Council on Social Work Education, the national accreditor of social work education programs, encourages (according to Mr. Will) the “ideological permeation of the curricula .....” Keeping this in mind, note that George Will reported this information several years ago:

- Social work students at Arizona State University must “demonstrate compliance with the NASW Code of Ethics.”
- Berkeley considers compliance with NASW as proof of “suitability for the profession.”
- At the University of Central Florida, students “must comply” with the NASW “Code.”
- The University of Houston requires that students sign a pledge of adherence to the NASW “Code.”
- “Academic misconduct” might be the charge at the University of Michigan for failure to comply with the “Code.”

To conclude this section here are some more of Will’s retelling of unbelievable college foolishness:

- In 2005 at Missouri State University, a social-work student who objected to a mandatory assignment to advocate for homosexual foster homes and adoption – it was required that all students sign a letter, on university stationery, to that effect. She objected on religious grounds and was charged with a Level 3 (most serious) violation of professional standards. She had a hearing and was required to write a paper about how she could “lessen the gap” between her ethics and those of the social-work profession. She sued and the university dropped its charges.
- A study by the conservative “watchdog” National Association of Scholars (NAS) found that at Rhode Island College’s School of Social Work, a conservative student received a failing grade for not participating in a course requirement that students lobby the state legislature for a cause mandated by the department.
- In the same NAS study, a conservative student abandoned pursuit of a social work degree at the University of Illinois at Springfield. Why? Because she wouldn’t lobby the legislature on behalf of positions prescribed by the professor. Her explanation is that she was told, or it was insinuated to her, that it is impossible to be both a social worker and an opponent of abortion.

### ***About this Report***

With that context in mind, I’m embarking on this **4-PART** report which is really just a big list of anecdotes and incidents I’ve picked up on over the past year. Taken separately these items are just curiosities. Taken as a whole, this becomes very worrisome for any objective observer – especially when you consider I made no concerted effort to create this list. I just kept setting aside things that crossed my desk or my computer screen.

In the **4<sup>th</sup>** and final instalment you will find a “whole bunch” of Bruce Tinsley’s hilarious and insightful Mallard Fillmore political cartoons.

### ***A Couple of Definitions***

*Trigger Warning* – A statement at the start of a piece of writing, video, etc. alerting the reader or viewer to the fact that it contains potentially distressing material.

*Microaggression* – A statement, action, or incident regarded as an indirect, subtle, or unintentional discrimination against members of a marginalized group such as a racial or ethnic minority.