

Managing Liberal avoidance

Well, there goes another state I'll be avoiding. Years ago I vowed never to set foot in California and so far I've honored my own promise. The same is true of many other 'Blue' states. Unfortunately, as of a few minutes ago, I've had to add another state to my reverse 'bucket list' - the once proud and very conservative state of Georgia.

The reason? In their infinite wisdom, the residents of Georgia elected two new Democrat Senators: Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossoff. One is a radical preacher in the mold of Jeremiah Wright of *GD America* fame and the other is a slick, new-age 33 year-old documentary filmmaker. Now I don't begrudge any state or any state's electorate the right to choose who represents them in Washington. That would be downright undemocratic and unfair of me, but don't expect me to spend one thin dime of my hard-earned money on traveling to that newly-Blue state, buying one more Georgia peach or listening to one more 'Georgia on my mind' by good old Ray Charles. It just aint gonna happen.

I've managed to live a pretty full life so far without guzzling any more California wine, sucking on Ghirardelli chocolate, cracking CA pistachios, downing numerous portions of Rice-a-Roni or even dozing off to the strains of Tony Bennett's 'I left my heart in San Francisco.' No sir. I've practiced what I've preached and I've spent my money very selectively with those companies that are conservative-leaning like Hobby Lobby, Home Depot and Chic-fil-A. In short, I'm careful about where I shop and where I travel. I believe that we Conservatives need to support those people that support American values and avoid those that don't. It's a simple premise and a simple promise we can keep if we try.

I'll admit that it is getting harder and harder to find those businesses that do espouse American values because many of them are shape-shifters that disguise their political loyalties. In that regard, I'm glad that some companies have the guts to declare themselves Liberals like Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream. Those jokers can keep their Cookie dough chunks Moo-phoria ice cream treats. I'll take good old Texas-made Blue Bell any day of the week.

The same is true for liberal musicians and actors. I haven't seen a film with Meryl Streep, Robert De Niro or Tom Hanks in eons after these folks forced their political views down my throat. The same is true of singers like those despicable broads, the Dixie Chicks, and many others too numerous to mention. And don't get me started on all the tech companies that have become willing paramours of the Left like Apple and Google and Facebook and Twitter. And then there are all the media companies like CNN, MSNBC, the New York Times, Washington Post and NPR. Add to that all those clever Left sympathizing companies that mask their true leanings like car maker Subaru that trades on the 'love' theme. Gimme a break. I watch their commercials. I know their demographic. It's those evil millennials with a five o'clock shadow and circus tattoos that live in places like Seattle, Portland and Santa Fe.

By now I'll bet you got my drift. It's time to take stock of where we, who love liberty and freedom of choice, decide to spend our money and on whom. We also need to protect the few remaining nice places to live in these here United States. We've already lost a passel of them to the 'intruders,' Georgia now being one of them, so it's high time we figured out how to stop the Liberal migration. Maybe, just maybe, we ought to sacrifice one state to the cause, buy it outright and offer a free plot of land to the Progressives in exchange for their promise to leave the rest of the U.S. alone.

I've been to a fair number of states and I'm willing to sacrifice New Jersey and throw in Joe B.'s home place - Delaware - to sweeten the deal. There is a precedent for all this, you know. It was the Oklahoma land rush of 1889. Back then, a near army of 50,000 hungry homesteader wannabes lined up and waited to race each other to stake out a new claim in the territory.

If the Liberals won't bite on the NJ and Delaware offer then I say give them Oregon and Washington state and California as well. They've already ruined those once-beautiful places anyway. Yes, given the political reality we're facing in two short weeks it's time to start thinking creatively. Otherwise I don't think I'll be able to face the prospect of four years with the Gaffemaster-in-chief and his trusty sidekick, Kami the chameleon.

Stephan Helgesen is a retired career U.S. diplomat who lived and worked in 30 countries for 25 years during the Reagan, G.H.W. Bush, Clinton, and G.W. Bush Administrations. He is the author of ten books, four of which are on American politics and has written over 1,000 articles on politics, economics and social trends. He can be reached at: stephan@stephanhelgesen.com