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I'VE BEEN PERSONALLY RIDICULED – AGAIN!



By Stephen L. Bakke  July 31, 2017

Here's what provoked me:

I submitted editorial letters which attempted to briefly analyze why Trump has many supporters in spite of his style and antics. Part of my goal was to see what response I might elicit from other writers. A few days ago, I posted my response to one of these letters – you may already have read it. I thought that would be the end of it. But I received a personal unsigned letter in the mail that I found very interesting – such mystery and intrigue. I am sending a copy of that letter, and the anonymous envelope, to the Minneapolis StarTribune, along with my letter below. I seriously doubt that the paper will want to carry this any further, but it's worth a try.

Here's my response:

I've Been Personally Ridiculed – Again!

My 7/21 letter attempted to briefly analyze those who support Trump, often myself included, in spite of his crude and course style, and lack of dignity. I mentioned the “Alinsky method” to demonstrate the democrats’ use of personalized ridicule to attack their opposition, and acknowledged that Trump appears to have borrowed that “playbook.”

Supporters are frustrated that using dignity, collegiality and propriety with Bush, McCain, and Romney, didn't stop the personal ridicule. I concluded that perhaps Trump has support from those who get subliminal satisfaction from someone finally “fighting back” against sometimes cruel opposition. I acknowledged Trump's questionable tactics.

While standing by my letter, I admit trying to elicit reaction from Trump's harsh critics. I wondered if I would be ridiculed, and if it would be “personal.” I received an unsigned letter in an anonymous envelope. It was sent to the wrong address, but somehow was redirected to me. The envelope's address was written either with an “opposite” hand, or by a child.

Following are some of the phrases used in reference to me (not Trump): “less than honest”; “moral bankruptcy”; “ignoring common decency as a cultural norm”; “forgoing ethics entirely”; “...old and set in your ways...no mentor, moral or spiritual advisor...should sit down with your pastor.....[to] discuss...if your attitude...coincides with a Christian philosophy...”

I've been personally ridiculed for merely trying to explain a confusing phenomenon in our country. I wonder if the cowardly writer consciously used the Alinsky method to attack me. In any case, my argument was strengthened.