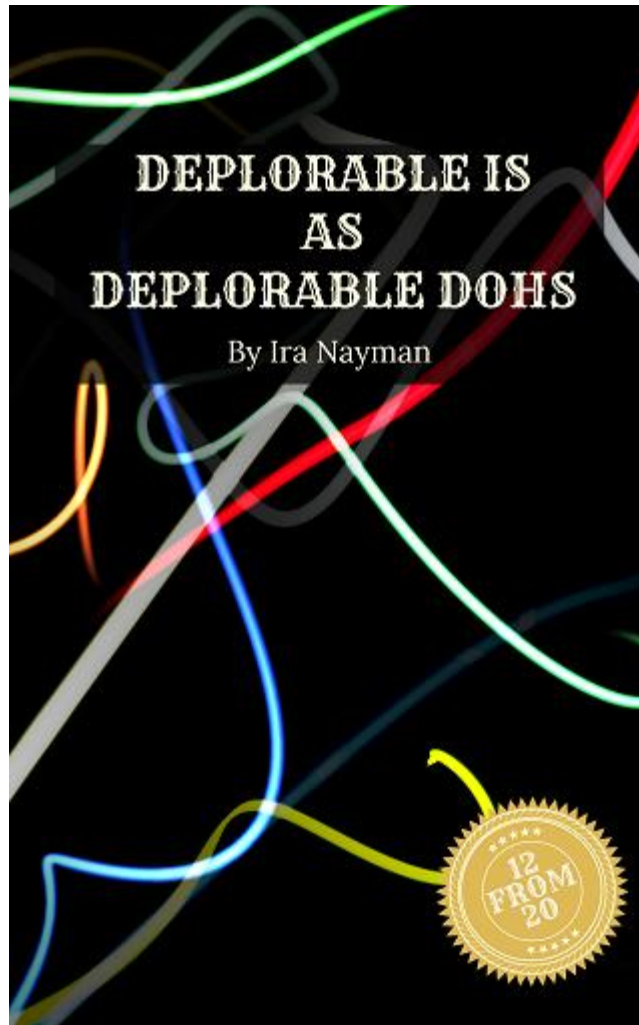




Deplorable Is As Deplorable Dohs!
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Introduction

In the first week of September 2022, Les Pages aux Folles will turn 20. To celebrate this achievement, I will be publishing 12 ebook collections of articles from the two decades of the web site over the course of the year; this project is known as “12 from 20.” (For a brief overview of Les Pages aux Folles, see “The Back Story” at the end of this volume.) Each book will focus on a different feature of the web site. This month: bags of crazy and baskets of deplorables, oh, my!

From almost the beginning, my Web Goddess (hi, Gisela!) pushed me to put more graphic content on *Les Pages aux Folles*, arguing, with some justification, that the web was a visual medium. So, I tried to work visuals into The Daily Me whenever I could. The Bag of Crazy (from the source: *Karl’s Big Red Web Page of Unreconstructed Marxism*) was one of my attempts to add some visual zing to the site.

It features the head of a prominent figure, usually a politician or somebody in the media, popping out of a sack labelled “Bag of Crazy.” Above their head is a quote from the person; it is usually something that goes beyond simple bad political discourse (which can be dealt with in the quotes feature of *Les Pages aux Folles*), settling into appalling, offensive, pushing the boundaries of treason or various combinations thereof. It is a testament to just how extreme politics has become in the last decade that the feature has graduated from The Daily Me into a regular feature of its own (made up of three or four bags/quotes per article). These images are accompanied by text which puts the quote into context while mocking it. A snarky headline (which, now that I write about it, seems to be something I do a lot) completes the feature.

This was initially inspired by the common put-down that some people were a big bag of crazy; it seemed like an apt metaphor for the extremism of the Republican Party. The concept served me well for a long time. However, the more I thought about it, the more I realized it might stigmatize people with mental health issues; as somebody in that category (I suspect I am on the Autism spectrum, although I have never been tested so I cannot say definitively), I felt increasingly uncomfortable with the feature as it had originally been conceived.

The solution came from Hillary Clinton, of all people. Her “basket of deplorables” comment was decried as bad politics by many commentators (of all political persuasions), but it gave me the inspiration to refocus the feature (basically, by swapping out “Bag of Crazy” for “Basket of Deplorables” in the image).

A lot of the new iterations of the feature talk about neighbourhoods in the basket of deplorables as though it was a real physical space, a helpful metaphor in grouping certain kinds of offensive speech together. It appears to be similar to the Doctor’s TARDIS or Snoopy’s doghouse: bigger on the inside than it looks from the outside. It has to be, considering how many people want to live there.

I’m always trying to mix up things with the basket of deplorables. For instance, when Mitch McConnell was named “Moscow Mitch” for his willingness to look the other way when former President Donald Trump openly courted Russian support, I added a red

hammer and sickle to the image of his basket. I occasionally do a mirror image of the head of a well known person to illustrate when they take opposite sides of a specific issue (which is sometimes referred to by laypeople as: “hypocrisy”). I have also found ways to connect baskets when different people say appalling things about the same subject.

I figure if I can keep the feature fresh for myself, I can keep it fresh for readers.

Enjoy.

Ira Nayman
Toronto
February 22, 2022

Articles

Little Red Riding Hood Never Had a Basket Like This!

Would A Nuclear Fallout Suit Protect Parishioners Against Toxic Ideology?
If There Is The Slightest Possibility, Try To Get A Government Grant!

I'll tell you what the world wants all the churches to do: they want us to shut down, go home, and let people get used to that just long enough until we can finally stop advancing the Gospel... I love liberty. And I want the people of God to enjoy liberty. If they want to wear a mask, wear a mask. If they want to wear a nuclear fallout suit, please wear it. We will laugh at you, but we will let you wear a nuclear fallout suit. If you want to have the liberty to have done your own research – that masks are kind of like trying to keep a mosquito out of a chain-link fence.



And the Lord created free will that his beloved people might choose between right and wrong. And, lo, the people chose to infect themselves and their loved ones with a deadly virus. And the Lord looked upon them and didst smite His forehead with the palm of His hand. Didst smite His forehead with the palm of His hand hard.

What the Lord, despite being omniscient, couldn't have anticipated was that the people would choose to give their free will over to religious leaders such as Pastor Todd Bell of the Calvary Baptist Church. Over 130 people were diagnosed with COVID-19 as a direct result of a wedding ceremony Pastor Bell conducted in Maine.

This is a strange interpretation of the biblical injunction to be fruitful and multiply – you wouldn't have thought it would have applied to deadly viri. On the other hand, sacrificing actual lives to get supreme court judges who will save the lives of theoretical children is worth it for many religious leaders.

In the basket of deplorables, this is what passes for compassion. Lord help us all.

What Have You Got Against Sweatpants? Is There Some Sort Of Law In The Basket Of Deplorables That People Have To Be Uncomfortable In Their Workplace?

And when Donald Trump refuses to stand down at the inauguration, the shooting will begin. The drills that you've seen are nothing. If you carry guns, buy ammunition, ladies and gentlemen, because it's going to be hard to get...I don't want to talk about death anymore. You're not waking up every morning and talking about dead Americans... [Scientists] deep in the bowels of the CDC have given up science and become political animals. [They] haven't gotten out of their sweatpants except for meetings at coffee shops [to plot] how they're going to attack Donald Trump next. There are scientists who work for this government who do not want America to get well, not until after Joe Biden is president... To allow people to die so that you can replace the president is a grievous venial sin, venial sin. And these people are going to hell.



So. Much. Deplorable! It burns! **It burns!**

Michael R. Caputo, assistant secretary of public affairs at the Department of Health and Human Services, must have stock in ammunition manufacturers, because he's done his part to stoke the flames of the coming civil war. And that was only the *forshpeis*!

In a ranty video, he also accused the CDC of politicizing the virus to make President Trump look bad. Because COVID-19 supports Democrats. And, here, I thought the virus was a major supporter of the Four Horsemen and a Mule Party.

By the way, there's no such thing as a grievous venial sin. Venial sins are relatively minor; Caputo was thinking of mortal sins. If he had been serious about invoking God's wrath, he probably should have consulted Pastor Bell first.

Meanwhile, the good Lord didst find Himself getting used to the headache caused by the smiting of His forehead with the palm of His hand. A couple Tylenol 3s didn't hurteth, either...

I Do Not Arresting People Before They Commit A Crime; I'm Just Saying That Philip K. Dick Was A Prophet!

[Nevada is] already flooded with illegals. The ballots in Nevada on election night should be seized by federal marshals and taken from the state. They are completely corrupted. No votes should be counted from the state of Nevada if that turns out to be the provable case. Send federal marshals to the Clark county board of elections, Mr President... I do not advocate preventive detention, but people who commit crimes and think they can continue to get away with it because we have two-tier justice are just wrong... If the *Daily Beast* is involved in provably seditious and illegal activities, their entire staff should be taken into custody and their office can be shut down. If we are in a real war, this is war.



In the real world, if you make an assertion about somebody, you generally need proof that it is true. If you accuse a co-worker of stealing your ham sandwich from the break room fridge, it helps to point to the mustard on his chin. If you claim that your partner is cheating on you, strange perfume on their clothes may help build the case, although photos of snogging in a seedy motel room are much better. Proof: without it, we're all living in a strange fantasy land between our ears.

Or, as we like to think of it, the Basket of Deplorables.

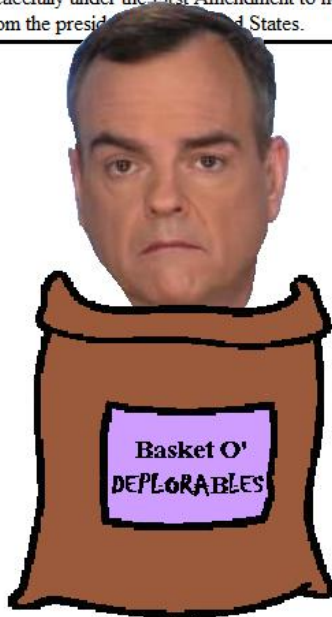
Roger "I'm the real ferking Roy Cohen, and don't you ferking forget it you ferking loser!" Stone has been blowing smoke for Donald Trump since he first tasted cigarettes, so this tirade should come as no surprise. Notice, he doesn't quite say that illegal aliens will vote en masse for Joe Biden; proof and all that. He merely implies it with extreme prejudice.

As for the *Daily Beast*: if President Trump had his way, talking about the size of his inauguration crowd or hands would be seditious. Undermining the separation of powers or citizens' belief in free and fair elections? Nothing treasonous about that...in the strange fantasy land between Stone's ears.

Meanwhile, the good Lord didst wonder if He wast creating a groove in His forehead by repeatedly smiting it with the palm of His hand.

The 2020 Coronapalooza Tour Has Many Fathers
The 2020 Coronapalooza Tour Victims Are Orphans

People are eager to see their president, and our first preference for venues are places like airplane hangars. But the fact remains that no one bats an eye at people gambling in casinos or tens of thousands of people protesting shoulder to shoulder. People should be able to gather peacefully under the First Amendment to hear from the president of the United States.



There's disingenuous, and then there's asshole. When people's lives are at stake, it isn't really all that fine a line.

Tim Murtaugh, a spokesman for the Trump campaign, had the unenviable task of defending the decision to carry on holding indoor rallies in the middle of a pandemic. Reference to open casinos (with no mention of the fact that they are mostly in states run by virus-friendly Republicans)? Check. Reference to protesters (with no mention of the fact that the vast majority of them wore masks – those attending anti-Trump protests, in any case)? Double check. If that's even a thing. And if it isn't, it should be. Elevating the right to assemble above your grandmother's right to live? Check...your morals at the door.

And the good Lord didst survey himself in the mirror and wondereth if the groove in His forehead that He hadst created by repeatedly smiting it with the palm of His hand was a look for him. And, He saw that it was good.

Gord Help the Deplorables

They say that Gord made human beings in his image. Gord help him if that's true.

We like to think that religious people are good people. We like to think that hard work is rewarded with success and the best before date is more of a suggestion than a hard and fast rule, too. Harsh? Okay, maybe. Most religious people **are** good people. But for those who are not, the road to the basket of deplorables is paved with megachurches.

Mean Wiles

God is an environmentalist. He takes this very seriously. He created this planet, he created the universe and he's watching these Luciferians destroy this planet, destroy the animal kingdom, destroy the plant kingdom, change human DNA. Why? They want to change human DNA so that you can't be born again. That's where they're going with this, to change the DNA of humans so it will be impossible for a human to be born again. They want to create a race of soulless creatures.



Deplorables are endlessly innovative. Who else would claim that vegetarian hamburgers are a plot by Satan to steal the souls of the righteous?

Rick Wiles, senior pastor at the Flowing Streams Church (would that be a Golden Flowing Stream? Perhaps he could get his good friend Donald Trump to advise his

parishioners on that subject) uses all the right scientific buzzwords to make the case. Environmentalist. DNA. Where. But then he has to go and spoil it with a conspiracy so farfetched, even Russian trolls respond to it with, “Oh, I’m not retweeting that – that’s just nuts!”

To be clear: there is no evidence to suggest that eating vegetarian hamburgers will make it impossible for somebody to be born again. There is some evidence to suggest that people on a strictly vegetarian diet don’t want to be born ever again, but that is a completely different issue.

Honestly, vegetables were created by Gord, too. Vegetables are part of the environment. Only three year-olds throwing temper tantrums because they don’t want to eat their vegetables deny that.

Draw your own conclusions.

Is That Religious Persecution In The Air? Look, A Lively!

This is going to be very controversial, but the women's right to vote - the 19th Amendment - was actually a product of the Soviet Bolshevik revolution that was transported here to the United States in the 1920s... I'm not talking about taking away women's right to vote. I'm just saying let me ask a question here: Would the voters of 1920 - of course, these were all men - and would the women who were urging their husbands to vote have voted for the 19th Amendment if they knew that the highest achievement of women's right to vote in the minds of women in 2020 would be the slaughtering of 200,000?



You know when somebody starts a comment with “This is going to be very controversial, but...” what they’re really saying is: “I’m about to poke somebody in the eye with a big, sharp stick. Don’t ask me to take responsibility for the blood on the carpet!”

Religion is just a matter of interpretation, really.

Conservative Christian activist Scott Lively is not talking about taking away women’s right to vote. He would just prefer it if they had never gotten it in the first place. And, that they not exercise it. If they are unreasonable about such matters, they would leave him no choice but to take away their right to vote. Reluctantly. And, he would feel bad about it, too. So, please, female three-quarter persons, don’t force his hand, because you would hate to see him get all mokey.

Does Lively bear false witness? Do false witnesses poop in the woods? Wyoming granted women the right to vote in 1869, almost 50 years before the “Soviet Bolshevik Revolution” that started in 1917. Unless the Bolshie bastards had a time machine, they couldn’t have been responsible for American women getting the vote. But if they did have a time machine, why wouldn’t they just go back and stop the American Revolution from happening?

They’re sneaky bastards, those Commies. Who can say why they do what they do? Other than an American Christian activist, I mean...

Passion City Church Over Reason

We understand the curse that was slavery, white people do, and we say, “That was bad.” But we miss the blessing of slavery, that it actually built up the framework for the world that white people live in and lived in. And so a lot of people call this “white privilege.” And when you say those two words, it just is like a fuse goes off for a lot of white people, because they don’t want somebody telling them to check their privilege. And so I know that you and I both have struggled in these days with, “Hey, if the phrase is the trip-up, let’s get over the phrase and let’s get down to the heart. Let’s get down to what, then, do you want to call it?” And I think, maybe, a great thing for me is to call it “white blessing,” that I’m looking at the blessing of the curse...



You know those things you’re not supposed to say in polite company? There is no polite company in the basket of deplorables, just varying degrees of awfulness, making it possible to say those things that really oughtn’t to be said.

Pretty much guaranteeing they will be said, really.

Like this quote from Louie Giglio, Pastor of the Passion City Megachurch. The funny (if we can use that term without choking) thing is that he and black activists probably agree on the idea that polite white American society was built on slavery. Where he sees this as a “blessing,” however, they would see it as an, “Oh my Gord! Oh, my Gord! Make it stop! Please, Gord, make it stop!”

This world that black people made possible, would it, by any chance, involve a golden calf?

Would Pastor Giglio make the same claim about the Holocaust? It was bad, but since it paved the way for post-WWII prosperity, it was a “white blessing.” Of course he wouldn’t. He would probably say, “Hey! Some of my best friends are Jewish.”

As if that ever made anything better!

Who Was That Unmasked Man?
Unfortunately, We All Know...

I said, “If you call me a liar one more time, I’m going to take these work boots and I’m going to kick your teeth down your throat.” Yes, I said it. And in the moment, I meant it. I said, “Sir, listen to me very closely, I will be back at 5 o’clock tonight to get my two medium coffees, seven creams, and five sugars and I will be back tonight and I will not be wearing a mask.” I’ll go to jail over this. It is the golden calf. I’m sick of Christians saying things like this: “Well, it’s just a mask.” You know what they used to say? “Oh, it’s just a baby, it’s just a zygote, it’s just a growth in the mother’s womb so let’s kill it.” No, it’s not just a mask, it’s a compliance device. This is not about safety, this is about surrendering of our rights. Can I remind you? This is still the United States of America. This is not communism. This is not China, this ain’t North Korea, I don’t live in Haiti. Trump 2020! I’m a pastor and I approve this message.



People in the basket of deplorables are just like you and me. They want to grab a coffee from the nearest Dunkin’ Donuts. They don’t want their honesty to be questioned. They believe wearing masks is not about stopping the spread of a deadly pandemic, but an attack on personal freedom.

Yep. Just ordinary folks, here.

Pastor Greg Locke of the Global Vision Bible Church had what you and I might call “an emotional meltdown,” but what people in the basket of deplorables call “Tuesday.” Why? Because he was asked to wear a mask at a Dunkin’ Donuts.

Hmm... Killing is off the table. But kicking teeth down throats? That is apparently an act of the righteous. Or, should I say, right-eous? Things get messy when you mix religion and politics.

I believe it was in Covidicus-19 1 that the good Gord said, “And woe betide the man, or woman, or mongoose, or ferret, or Dweezil Zappa that weareth cloth over nose and mouth, for such raiment offendeth Gord. Do not giveth up thy freedom so lightly, lest I smite ye with a great smiting of smitingness!”

I...may be misremembering that a bit, but you get the idea...

Deplorables Are as Deplorables Eww

When Administration Officials Start Dying Of COVID-19, Their Tombstones Should Read: “They Didn’t Let Science Get In The Way”

You know, the president has said unmistakably that he wants schools to open. And I was just in the Oval talking to him about that. And when he says open, he means open in full - kids being able to attend each and every day at their school. The science should not stand in the way of this.



White House press secretary ~~Sean Spicer~~ ~~Sarah Sanders~~ ~~Huckabee~~ Kayleigh McEnany...no strikethrough? Okay, then. White House press secretary Kayleigh McEnany learned very quickly that her job was not to supply reporters with facts. Facts are boring. Facts are confusing. Facts lead to theories, which, in extreme cases, could actually lead to a better understanding of the world **and we can't have that!**

Ahem.

So, she reads her opinions off a teleprompter that appears to be directly channelling President Trump's brain. He wants schools to open. Why? Who knows? Because he hates his children and wishes they would go back to school, but they're too old, so he projects his emotions onto every other parent in the country? Because people who are looking after children can't go to work, and those people are wrecking the economy **and that makes him look bad?** Because a silicon chip inside his head was switched to overload? You certainly won't find out from Kayleigh McEnany.

And, what about the consequences? Children don't die as often as adults, but the coronavirus does have physical effects that can cripple them for life. Perhaps President Trump is creating a new generation of voters for his 2036 re-election campaign? Naah. Two-dimensional tic tac toe doesn't have enough moves to project that far.

BEN Is Such A Rat!

These kids have got to get back to school. They're at the lowest risk possible. And if they do get COVID-19, which they will – and they will when they go to school – they're not going to the hospitals. They're not going to have to sit in doctor's offices. They're going to go home and they're going to get over it... We gotta move on. We can't just let this mess up our tracks.



One of the features (which bugs a lot of people) of the basket of deplorables is that it is big enough that if a bad idea is yelled sufficiently loud, it will echo throughout all of the residents' brains. Teeth-rattlingly echo. You don't need computer chips implanted in

people's brains to communicate bad, mad and dangerous to know ideas directly with large numbers of people; you just need to live in a basket lined with materials to keep sound from getting out and scaring the horses.

Missouri Governor Mike Parson is clearly listening carefully to the basket echo network (BEN). As Kayleigh McEnany learned the impossible way (ie: not yet), children won't "just get over it." They will get sick for a very long time, quite possibly life. "We gotta move on," like belief in racial difference and support for the Toronto Maple Leafs, is a wish, not a scientific fact.

It makes you wonder if having all those loud, obnoxious ideas bouncing around in one's head does some kind of damage to the rational parts of the brain. If I lived in the basket of deplorables, I would assert that as fact, safe in the knowledge that BEN would supply me with a dozen similar "facts" before you had a chance to raise an objection. Since I live in the real world, I'll wait to see if research confirms my suspicions.

Projection: Not Just For Movie Theatres Any More!

[The Democratic Party has] withdrawn and pulled away from the umbrella of classical liberal values that have undergirded our society since our founding. I think the left has essentially withdrawn from this model, and really represents a Rousseauian revolutionary party that believes in tearing down the system. They're interested in complete political victory, they're not interested in compromise, they're not interested in dialectic exchange of views. They're interested in total victory. It's a secular religion. It's a substitute for a religion. They view their political opponents as evil because we stand in the way of their "progressive" utopia they are trying to reach... That's what gives the intensity to the things that people feel today...everything is



Do deplorables know that they're deplorable? How would they? It must be really hard to hear what you are saying when you have the basket echo network constantly rattling around between your ears.

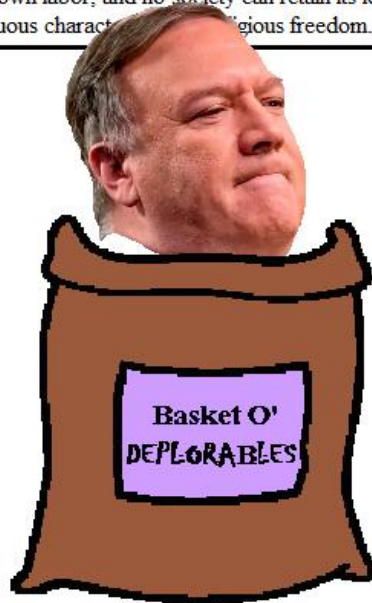
Take William Barr, the Trump Attorney General who has destroyed all of the norms of the Justice Department – he is accusing Democrats of wanting to tear the system down? Him? Bill Barr? The Trump Attorney General who has done you know what to ou know who? It's not just that he's living in a glass house, it's that BEN vibrates at a frequency that is just short of shattering the substance; you'd think one might be especially careful about throwing stones under those circumstances.

Victory is a secular religion to Democrats? Un hunh. Somebody who starts each public appearance with, "Our Donald who art in Oval, hallowed be thy message. Thy returns never come, thy bidding be done, in suburbs as it is in heaven!" (as Trump officials in the basket of deplorables tend to do) is lecturing others on secular religion with a straight-faced face?

God spare us!

I Don't Want To Be Part Of Your Revolution If That's The Only Tune I Can Dance To

Americans have not only unalienable rights, but also positive rights, rights granted by governments, courts, multilateral bodies. Many are worth defending in light of our founding; others aren't... Foremost among these rights are property rights and religious liberty. No one can enjoy the pursuit of happiness if you cannot own the fruits of your own labor, and no society can retain its legitimacy or a virtuous character without religious freedom.



Did you know that Benjamin Franklin was opposed to abortion and believed the world was only 7,000 years old? No? That's news to you? Well, it probably would have been news to him, too. He might, in fact, insist that anybody making that claim cease and deist.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo (who is no Benjamin Franklin, but who is these days?), speaking about a report by his Commission on Unalienable Rights, does an interesting rhetorical two-step, here:

1. Claim that there are rights beyond the ones listed in the Constitution, and;
2. Wave away the importance of the rights in the actual Constitution in favour of the ones you introduced in Step 1.

Thus, Pompeo dances away from the rights you believe are important and towards those he believes are important. A woman's right to choose what to do with her own body? That right is wrong. Don't want to be discriminated against for jobs or housing on the basis of race? You just can't seem to get anything right.

The Founding Fathers, seeing how much political power religions had in the Europe they were trying to define the United States against, refused to develop a state religion. Only in the basket of deplorables can you find people who revere the Constitution while completely rejecting the parts they don't like.

I wonder if the basket of deplorables network is drowned out by cognitive dissonance...

The Basket of Deplorables is an Equal Opportunity Offender

You may get the impression, from recent explorations therein, that the Basket of Deplorables is primarily populated by men. While it is true that men, being men, tend to hog all of the attention, that does not mean that women aren't amply represented in the Basket. They are. So, stow away those sexist thoughts (you dog!) and come explore the extent of female deplorableness with me...

Food For Thoughtlessness

We should look to the past. So, let's just take the free lunch program that we have in our schools. It started out being pushed by the unions and their friends for poor children. Well, 28 years ago, I had two students in my class on free lunch. Today almost every single child is on free breakfast and free lunch. So what the unions are trying to do, they're pushing something called community schools. And in these community schools, we're giving children free health care, we're giving them free food, free emotional support, and by the way free political indoctrination for their parents. And so, if these unions and their friends, their politicians, get their way, they would like our schools to be open 24/7. They want to replace the family and families raising their children with our own virtues, they want to replace that with the state. With union-controlled government-run schools. That's dangerous. That's communism when you think about it.



Not wanting children to starve at school is Communism. If we want to fight Communism, we must let children starve at school. It's called the circle of deplorableness, and it's not illustrated in any Disney film!

Zie sprechen Rebecca Friedrichs on Fox News, **the** one true source of disinformation in the Basket of Deplorables.

I can understand the right wing obsession with children being indoctrinated by the education system...barely...when I'm really hammered...and not entirely paying attention...but their parents? What are the schools going to do? Give parents detention and have them write, "From each according to his ability to each according to his need" on the blackboard 100 times? It doesn't seem as efficient a method of political indoctrination as watching Fox News...

Can you believe that Friedrichs used to be a teacher? I know, right? Not only that, but, get this: she is currently a Christian activist! Absolutely! Because, when Jesus said, "Suffer little children," he actually meant, "Suffer, little children."

In religion, as in life, punctuation is everything.

So, Just Like Brett Kavanaugh, Then

You've seen the long shortlist of Joe Biden's VP choices. They all happen to be female, he sounds like a co-ed at the end of a frat party: "I need a woman!"



You know all that talk about female solidarity, about women helping other women overcome the barriers to advancement that men put in their way? In the Basket of Deplorables, women step over the bodies of other women to get to the top by doing and saying things to please men.

It's like the 1950s with cellphones and endless debates about the quality of the last season of *Game of Thrones*. If how the era and the TV series intersect isn't the subject of a million graduate theses, it soon will be. It soon will be.

You may recognize Kellyanne Conway – she's a regular here. The man she is trying to please is not her husband George, it's the President of the Basket, Donald Trump. Do you think he's a little...put out by the fact that all of the women on Joe Biden's VP shortlist, including a couple of colour, have more political experience than he did when he was stolected?

We can't have the President feeling inferior to a bunch of...girls! Quick – send out the attack poodles! There are still people in the Basket who think they have any bite.

She Has A Moral Compass

It's Just That It Is Broken And Permanently Directs Her Towards "Evil"

Now is a great time to be building a pipeline because you can't have protests of more than 15 people. Let's get it built.



It takes a certain...dexterity of mind to use one crisis (public health) to advance the cause of another (the environment). And, no moral compass. It's exactly that combination that condo boards in the Basket of Deplorables find irresistible.

Fortunately (arguably), Alberta Energy Minister Sonya Savage has what it takes!

In the quote which got her special attention from the other residents of her building in the Basket of Deplorables, Savage was referring to the Trans Mountain Expansion project, which is under construction on its route between Edmonton and Vancouver. But, really, it could have been any pipeline anywhere. Through Parliament Hill. Beneath the ocean to Paris, then back again. Under your bedroom. Once the protests are out of the way, the earth's molten core's the limit!

She made this statement on a podcast hosted by the Canadian Association of Oilwell Drilling Contractors. It is an impartial source of information, to be sure, just like Coke is good for your stomach lining. If you don't have the flexibility of mind to appreciate this, the condo operators in the Basket are not above taking bribes...

So Much Like English
Yet So Much The Opposite Of Communication

What kind of soulless, pathetic person would take a job as a contact tracer and sell out their fellow Americans? Who would do that? But then I realized, well, Antifa has been out of work for a while and so has MS-13, so maybe someone like them. Apparently they get paid up to \$55,000 for a contact tracing job. Just look up contact tracing jobs - they're everywhere. And it makes you wonder: If they really just figured this out, you know, they're all figuring out this pandemic, how did it take them such a short amount of time to put together these contact tracing jobs and with all of these different companies? Things that make you go, "Hmmm." Was it a pandemic? Or was it a **plandemic**? What about if I take one of these jobs, and I infiltrate the contact tracing companies, and I go undercover. Then, I can actually do undercover investigative work and then report back to everybody after two weeks what it was like to be a contractor tracer. I'm thinking about this. This is a good idea. I think I like it.



Okay, I get that antifa members can be out to make a fast buck at the same time as they are working towards destroying the capitalist system in America. People are complicated, and can have conflicting motivations. But, promoting a pandemic in order to make \$55,000 a year? There must be easier ways to scam a lot more than that!

Like, being corporate CEOs?

All you need to know about DeAnna Lorraine is that she is a spokesmonster for Qanon, an organization which never met a conspiracy it didn't like. Don't believe it? Obviously, you're a part of it!

Lorraine's verbal diarrhea threatens credulity on so many levels it may as well be a multi-tiered marketing scheme, but the one that makes the least sense is her threat to go undercover to infiltrate contact tracing companies. That would be so much work! Much easier to disappear for a couple of weeks, then claim to have uncovered the conspiracy when you return and make up the details you know will most inflame the irrational passions of your audience.

It's not a bad plan. At least she'd be gone for a couple of weeks...

The Basket of Deplorables is Sure Its Cough is Nothing...

There's A Special Place In Hell For People Who Talk Cavalierly About Special Places In Hell For Other People

Well people in hell want ice water, too. I mean, everybody has an idea and a bill, usually to spend more money. It's like a Labour Day mattress sale around here.



Empathy is the ability to walk a kilometre in another person's mukluks, to intuitively feel what other people feel. The opposite of empathy is Republican.

Look it up in the dictionary. Go ahead. I'll wait.

Senator John – what? You looked it up in the dictionary, and the opposite of empathy is actually apathy? That...that's...resourceful of you. But did you look it up in a dictionary in the Basket of Deplorables?

I thought not.

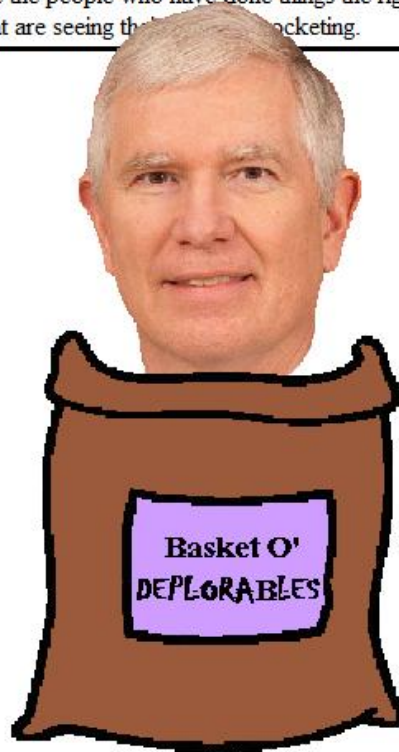
Ahem. As I was saying, Senator John Kennedy had a glorious opportunity to display his Republican when asked about future rounds of stimulus payments to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic. And, boy, did he put his mukluk in his mouth!

It would appear that he thinks poor people, who would benefit most from the next round of economic stimulus, are going to hell. Do you think he ever described the first couple of rounds of stimulus funding, which gave money to wealthy corporations that needed it the least, as: "It's like a \$5,000 a plate fundraiser around here?" Do you think he ever says, "Well, people in heaven want Grey Poupon, too?"

Have you ever met the Basket of Deplorables?

CA, ACA, DACA – For Republicans, It's All Caca

It will allow insurance companies to require people who have higher healthcare costs to contribute more to the insurance pool that helps offset all these costs, thereby reducing the cost to those people who lead good lives, they're healthy, they've done the things to keep their bodies healthy. And right now, those are the people who have done things the right way that are seeing their costs skyrocketing.



Did you know that having a health problem means you live badly? If you get hit by a car walking to your Pilates class, you've obviously not lived properly. If you have a gene that activates ALS, you clearly aren't taking responsibility for your health.

You may think that the whole point of a health insurance system was for the healthy to subsidize the sick, on the assumption that the healthy will one day be sick and need to draw from the system themselves. You may think that getting rid of the Affordable Care Act and making people pay for health care they cannot afford is not an act of "replacement" so much as "reversion to the former status quo." You may believe that health care should be a basic civil right.

Thank goodness we have Alabama Representative Mo Brooks to set you straight. He may not have worded it very diplomatically, but, considering where he resides, he was being a regular Norbert Schweitzer (Albert's younger, more self-centred brother)!

The Subject Who Is Truly Loyal To The Chief Magistrate Will Neither Advise Nor Submit To Arbery Measures

In the past, when there's been a black-white shooting, a lot of times things get – spiral out of control. What can you do to make sure justice is done and this doesn't end up in a racial situation?



It is well known that, for a woman to become a Fox News on-air personality, she has to have the appearance of somebody who has just come from a casting call for the lead for *Legally Blond*, and have legs that look like stilts when they are bared for the camera. Why would the standard for male Fox contributors be that they have to look like the creatures from *Attack on Titan* when they smile? So almost human. So very, very creepy.

Brian Kilmeade (aka: Exhibit A), a host on *Fox and Friends*, was talking to his only friend, well, the only one who matters to him, President Donald Trump, about the shooting of Ahmaud Arbery. Arbery was killed as he was “jogging while black.” (From the way the Fox host framed the murder, you can be forgiven for thinking the victim was white; Kilmeade can’t.)

A white former police officer and his son waited by their pickup truck for Arbery to jog by and shot him dead. They were immediately (defined as: months later) arrested by the officer’s former colleagues in the police department who were following the evidence (meaning: after a video of the killing surfaced that showed very clearly that it wasn’t self-defence).

In the Basket of Deplorables, this is not a racial situation until somebody starts complaining about the treatment of the white killers.

Mister Christie, You Make Good Kookies

Of course, everybody wants to save every life they can - but the question is, towards what end, ultimately? Are there ways that we can... thread the middle here to allow that there are going to be deaths, and there are going to be deaths no matter what? ...[W]e've got to let some of these folks get back to work, because if we don't, we're going to destroy the American way of life in these families - and it will be years and years before we can recover.



Have you ever noticed how quick some politicians are (we won't name their party affiliation, but it rhymes with dreckuglicon) to sacrifice other people's lives for something as abstract as the economy?

You and I may have thought that nothing would destroy a family faster than if its breadwinner died a painful, agonizing death. Fortunately, we have Chris Christie to show us the error of our ways, to show us that, in fact, nothing destroys a family faster than having the breadwinner stay at home.

We've all watched bad family sitcoms; we know how that works.

You can be forgiven if you think that Christie was being less than forthright in saying he wanted to save every life he could considering that in the very next breath he said, in essence, "Why bother?" But, what do I know? I don't have his experience threading the middle...

The Basket of Deplorables Gets Religion, But Does Religion Get the Basket of Deplorables?

With This Administration, Every Old Saying Is New Again



There's an old saying that I just made up: "When you talk out of both sides of your mouth, you need twice as much toothpaste." Hmm. Like all old sayings that I make up, it sounded a lot deeper in my head.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo wants to be a team player. So, when quarterback (and linebacker, and fullback, and halfback, and referee, and play by play announcer, and concession stand salesman and ticket taker) Donald Trump calls an audible on China, Pompeo rolls with the play. (Did I mention cheerleader? The President has surrounded himself with them, but that doesn't mean he can't don a sweater and skirt and spell out his own praises. With pompoms.)

There is, however, no evidence that COVID-19 was a deliberate attempt by China to create a bio-weapon to use against the United States. When challenged with the fact that the US intelligence community had issued a formal statement to this effect, Secretary Pompeo agreed with that contradictory idea. Literally five seconds later.

Cognitive dissonance? It happens to even the staunchest of the President's allies. If Secretary Pompeo had remembered the President's admonition that it was actually pronounced "cognitive dissidents," he would likely have been much more careful about avoiding it!

Smiting The Infidels, One Sneeze At A Time

This is not the entire world. This is the greatest nation on earth founded on Judeo-Christian Principles. One of those principles is that we are all created in the image and likeness of God. That image is seen the most by our face. I will not wear a mask.



The Crusaders raped and pillaged their way through the Middle East, but at least they were honest about what their goal was.

Ohio State Representative Nino “The Dino” Vitale has argued that it is his “inalienable right” to infect other people with a deadly virus. Not taking precautions, such as wearing a mask when in public, is his way of exercising his “freedom”...to infect other people with a deadly virus.

Hmm. If you’re seeing a pattern here, it’s only because you’re paying attention. (Okay, that last bit of those positions involved reading between the lines of Vitale’s public statements, but the print is big and the lines are really far apart.)

The Bible says that god created man in his image. The entire man, not just his face. How did Vitale decide the face was where god was most seen on the human body? Did he ask god what his favourite body part was? Did he throw darts at a Playgirl centrefold? Did he ask Siri? Isn’t god just as much in the palms of our hands or the cheeks of our buttocks as in our faces?

It would seem to me that the logical position to take from the Bible would be to support nudism. I would, therefore, expect Vitale to show up for sessions of the Ohio legislature wearing nothing but the smile on his face. It might be bearable in the summer; never having lived in the Buckeye State (they sure do sell their optic sensory apparatus cheap!), I wouldn’t know.

And how does god feel about all of this? “I sent my only son to deal with people like those who dwell in the Basket of Deplorables,” he told me over mojitos at Trader Abraham’s. “We all know how well **that** turned out. I am everywhere, of course, but I am in some places less than others, and, for the sake of my own sanity, I try to be in the Basket of Deplorables least of all!”

Yutz, Putz, Schmuck – Yiddish Is So Expressive!

The last administration left us nothing. We started off with bad, broken tests, and obsolete tests... We had broken tests. We had tests that were obsolete. We had tests that didn't take



In the Basket of Deplorables, a day without President Trump is like a day without darkness. He is all four granite heads on Mount Deplorablemore. Look up *chutzpah* in a Yiddish-English dictionary, and you'll see his picture next to the word, and the words above and below it, because he'll take credit for embodying them, too.

So, here he is, blaming the Obama administration for not leaving him with a test for COVID-19, **even though the virus hadn't existed before he took over office!** Because the big brains in the Obama administration should have seen it coming and done

something to protect the American people from it! Because what, me worry? Because it's the heat.

Does it make a lick of sense? Hmm. You can't catch the virus from licking sense, but the President is staying far away from sense as a precaution. Social distancing? He goes one better: semantic distancing!

As The Worm Turnages

The World has been introduced to a new phrase Herd Immunity which is a good one. In my opinion we need to adapt a Herd Mentality. A herd gathers it ranks, it allows the sick, the old, the injured to meet their natural course in nature.



The term “herd immunity” first gained prominence in the 1930s, but I guess modern medicine has come late to Antioch, California. It has certainly come as a surprise to Ken Turnage II, chairman of the city planning commission. Turnage advocates adopting a “herd mentality” (presumably a herd of freedom-loving individuals). Like sheep? Because, sure, sheep leave their sick, old and injured to die, but that's because they never invested in tests to see who got sick, or producing ventilators to keep their sick alive until they got better.

Oh, wait. Neither has the United States.

Hmm. At least the sheep had an excuse: they were sheep.

Turnage added that “homeless and other people who just defile themselves by either choice or mental issues” should also be allowed to die as this “would fix what is a significant burden on our Society and resources that can be used.” The social safety net is

obviously a Communist ploy to take away law-abiding citizens' guns. Get rid of it, and you would free up resources for much more important purposes. Like producing stars and stripes jackets.

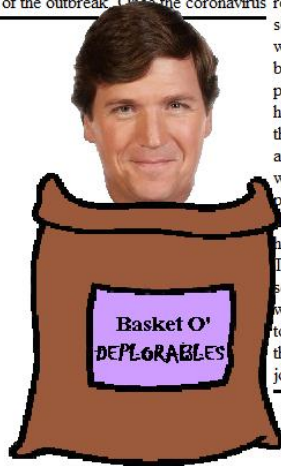
The Holy Hand Grenade of Antioch? More like the Unholy Loose Cannon of Antioch! I suspect that if Turnage and Nino "The Dino" Vitale talked, they would find they have a lot in common...

The Basket of Deplorables Contains a Tin Pandemic Alley

Dead Men Don't Tell Quarterly Reports

What if we asked the elderly and immunocompromised and anyone else facing statistically higher rates of risk to stay inside...and then at the same time allow the rest of the population to use informed common sense and continue to work? What if we had done that a month ago? Would the death rate today be much higher than it is now? Maybe, maybe not. We don't know. But it's clearly a conversation we should've had before we locked the entire country down and put 10 million people out of work. But we didn't have that conversation. Instead, we outsourced the decision to public health officials, and that is the strange irony of the moment we're living through. One of the main lessons of this crisis is at the public health establishment failed us badly. The World Health Organization colluded with the Chinese government to lie about critically relevant facts during the early days of the outbreak. Once the coronavirus

reached our shores, the CDC couldn't seem to produce working tests; those were disasters. Many people died because the people we trusted to protect our health didn't do it. They have been thoroughly discredited. At the same time, though, we are being asked to trust these same people without hesitation, and for the most part, we are doing that. In other words, the experts failed, yet the experts now have more power than ever before. Turning to experts in crisis makes sense, and we should. And hopefully, we always will. We can't allow experts to make the big decisions. That is not their job. This is a democracy. It is our job.



You know that pain you've been having in your stomach whenever you watch the news on television? You shouldn't be asking somebody from the deep dish state medical-industrial-futonic complex for help – they made a mistake diagnosing a hangnail 27 years ago! No, you should consult the auto mechanic down the street to diagnose your stomach cancer. He may not have any training, but he's never made a mistaken medical diagnosis in his life, so you know you can trust him!

And if you die a painful death, at least you will have the comfort of knowing that you maintained your belief in irresponsible freedom to the very end.

As hospitals in the Basket of Deplorables have to cope with more patients than they were designed to handle, Fox News Anchor Ghoul Tucker Carlson advocates a course of

action that will guarantee their complete collapse under the weight of a ballooning pandemic. Why? It's the economy, stupid!

Carlson would rather die than be unemployed. Which is to say, he would rather **you** die than him be unemployed, so he will say whatever he believes President Donald Eustace Trump wants to hear. In the Basket of Deplorables, this is what passes for compassionate conservatism.

It Takes A Village To Raise A Child...To The Highest Office In The Land



I always believed that politicians who killed their constituents wouldn't stay in office long. Donald Trump stated that he could shoot somebody on Fifth Avenue and not lose a single supporter. Wanna take a guess which one of us was right?

President Donald Franchot Trump claimed that social distancing and staying in place (in other words, measures to keep people alive) was not worth the widespread economic havoc that would ensue from the measures. Really? Let's run the numbers. Ten million people unemployed versus two million dead? Obviously, the unemployment is the more serious problem – it's just math!

Would this calculation have anything to do with the fact that President Trump has based his reelection strategy on his handling of the economy? And, that when people can't spend money because they're not working, the economy can suffer serious from hardening of the multipliers? Hard to tell – mathematics in the Basket of Deplorables parted ways with Euclid long, long ago.

On his own, President Trump is bad enough; however, he has surrounded himself with legions of deplorables who reinforce and amplify his message. People like Tony Spell, Pastor of the Life Tabernacle Church, who could foresee (whether through Biblical interpretation or the advice of his accountant, who can say?) a huge drop in his earnings if people were not allowed to congregate in his place of worship.

Spell was counting on the continuing patronage of people like the woman who believed that she was protected from contracting the coronavirus because, “I am bathed in the blood of Christ.” If he holds services, Spell will be bathed in the blood of his parishioners, but since Christ doesn’t seem to be around, I guess he has to make due with whatever gore is at hand.

And, People like Fox News medical contributor Dr. Nicole Saphier. Honestly, your stomach cancer is going to kill you sooner or later, so why seek medical treatment? Worse: it’s medical malpractice to even try to treat your stomach cancer, knowing that it’s only a matter of time before it kills you. Doctors kill more people than they cure.

There is an almost Zen-like beauty to this concept. Unless you have stomach cancer...

You Can’t Eat Bullets

Well, Okay, Maybe You Can, But They Aren’t Very Nourishing

People want to exercise their god-given
right to bear arms and protect their families.



It takes *cojones* to use one public health emergency to justify contributing to another public health emergency. But you don’t become an advocate for the US National Shooting Sports Foundation if you’re a wallflower.

Mark Oliva has never wanted for company in the pickup joints in the Basket of Deplorables. His standard opening line is: “Hey, baby. Wanna hear about why gun and ammo stores should be declared an essential service during a government-mandated economic shutdown?” And, the ladies swoon.

Consider this: in March, 2020, there were no school shootings in the United States. Oliva will undoubtedly take credit for the fact, noting that he was partly responsible for the new normal that every class taught in American high schools is now partly a gun safety class. The fact that no classes were held in most states as a result of a COVID-19 lockdown may have been a major factor in the cessation of violence, but it’s relegated to a mere footnote in Oliva’s account.

Basket of Deplorables priorities and all that.

You would be forgiven for asking exactly whom Oliva thinks people using their god-given right to bear arms are protecting themselves from. Infected neighbours who have an unfortunate tendency to spit when they talk? Crazy toilet paper hoarders? Huggers? All of the above? More likely none of the above.

After all, in the Basket of Deplorables, exploiting a national health crisis to forward a pro-gun agenda needs no reason.

The Land Rush in the Basket of Deplorables is On!

He May Not Swear That Often, But He Sure Knows How To Leviticus

to our nation. We don't want that. We want the blessing of
God, not the curse of

A meme featuring the head of an elderly man with a shocked expression, wearing a brown sack labeled "Basket O' DEPLORABLES". The man's hands are raised in a gesture of surprise or alarm. The sack is brown with a black outline and a purple rectangular label with the text "Basket O' DEPLORABLES" in black, bold, sans-serif font. The background is white.

Why are evangelists so against gay rights? (They're secretly gay.) Like Pat Robertson, they often use apocalyptic rhetoric when discussing gay rights. (No, really, it's simple: they're gay and in the closet.) You would have thought that New Testament admonitions about loving the Other would have made them advocate for gay rights. (Gay! Gay! Gay! Gay! Gay! Gay! Gay! Gay! Gay! Gay! Are you getting it yet?)

The Basket of Deplorables doesn't always give up its secrets easily. (Aaaaaaaaargh!)

If It Was Good Enough For The Twelfth Century...

What if we went back through all the family trees and just pulled out anyone who was a product of rape or incest? Would there be any population of the world left if we did that? Considering all the wars and all the rapes and pillages that happened throughout all these different nations, I know that I can't say that I was not a part of a product of the



Some people are born reprehensible. Some people make themselves reprehensible. Some people have reprehensibility thrust upon them. Republican Representative Steve King has the dubious distinction of having achieved all three.

Most people consider rape and incest to be, you know, kind of bad. People who have been raped rarely compare it favourably to a weekend at a Bahamas resort, and with good reason: they are often traumatized for life. Short of being permanently paralyzed by the sting of a manta ray, that never happens at resorts.

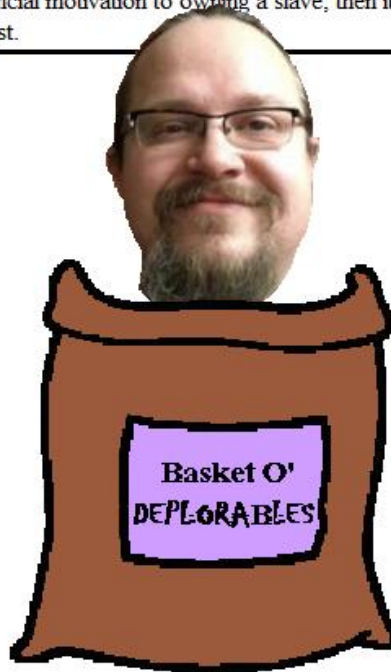
This poses a problem for most people who oppose abortion: how to justify forcing women who have been raped to carry their rapist's child to term. Fortunately for them, Representative King stuck his head out of the Basket of Deplorables long enough to

shrug and say, “Hey. Rape and incest made the world what it is today. It’s historical, really. You want to argue with history?”

Judging by the state of the world today, I would say that a different approach is long overdue.

When It Comes To Racism, One State Representative Is Happy To Toot His Own Horn

You have to ask and then answer the question: "Why is that person owning another person?" That's how you figure out if something is racist, sexist, homophobic. You have to figure out what's the motivation behind the action. If there was a purely financial motivation to owning a slave, then it is not racist.



And then there’s New Hampshire state legislator Werner Horn. I would say that he is in a class by himself, but at Deplorables University, Remedial Racism 101 takes up the biggest lecture hall...and has to be divided into three sections at that!

By Horn’s logic, pimps are not misogynistic as long as they are only selling women’s bodies for the money. And, if we’re being totally consistent, assassins aren’t psychopaths as long as they’re murdering people they have no personal connection to for the money. And politicians who pick and choose which parts of the Constitution to follow aren’t really traitors to the United States as long as...you get the idea.

This belief stems from a fundamental misunderstanding of human nature: that people cannot have more than one motivation for an action. So, when you go to a party to spite the parent who forbade you from leaving the house, you can’t also want to get drunk with

your friends and trash one of their houses (in short: have fun). The person who is making a fortune polluting a river can't also just hate water (it has no smell...it has no taste...**what exactly the hell is water hiding?**).

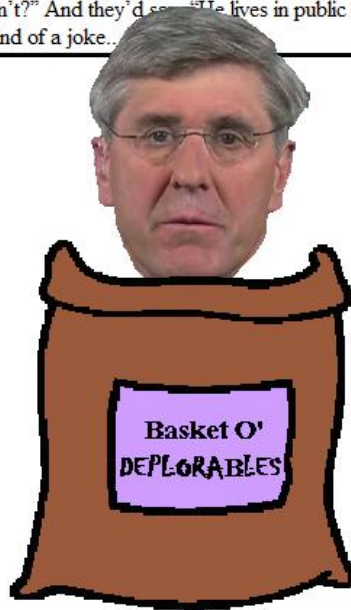
If American slavery wasn't racist, it's a hell of a coincidence that all of the slave owners were white and all of the slaves were black. Unless...unless blacks were simply more valuable than whites. Yes. Of course. Whites were not traded as slaves because they just weren't valuable enough, certainly not as valuable as blacks.

I've only just had the thought, but I can already hear the anguished **"NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!"** coming from a lonely corner of the Basket of Deplorables. The acoustics in there are incredible!

Life is Like a Box of Deplorables: You Know EXACTLY What You're Going To Find

**Of Course, There's A Covenant On His Land In The Basket,
But That's Okay Because He Got THAT Idea From Women Involved In The
Education Voucher Programme, Too**

So, you know, that, that is a joke that I always made about, you know, Obama lives in, you know, the president lives in public housing. But I didn't mean it like a black person did. I just meant that, you know, you know, being in the White House, you know, for example. When I was working with a lot of women in families who were involved in the education voucher program, you know, here in DC, and people would say, well, you know, and these were, these were blacks who would say, you know, "Why does Barack Obama get to send his kids to any school that he wants to and we can't?" And they'd say, "He lives in public housing," and it was just kind of a joke..



Life is so unfair.

You want to make a joke about a black President being kicked out of public housing when his term expires. It's a good joke. It's funny. You're sure that people will laugh their heads or asses (admittedly, there is not much difference between the two for your intended audience) off at the joke. Don't ask why a politician would want followers who had no heads or asses; we live in strange times.

Imagine your surprise when people are offended. They call the joke "insensitive" and "racist." Under these circumstances, what is a poor comedian to do?

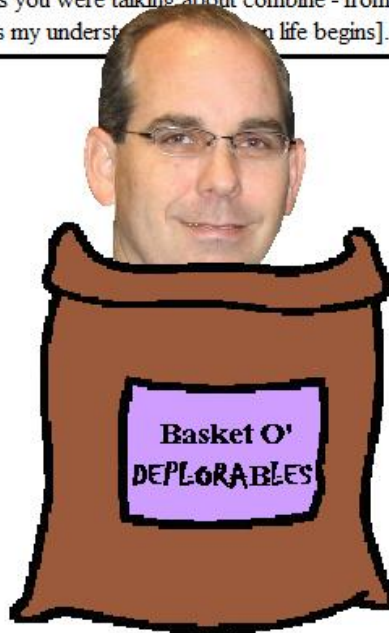
If he lives in the Basket of Deplorables and he happens to be Stephen Moore, Donald Trump's pick to serve on the Federal Reserve Board, he reaches after the second most used excuse in the racist's lexicon (after: "Some of my best friends are..."): "How come they can say that but I can't?"

Why couldn't he just apologize for making an insensitive joke? Because it probably would have come out, "I just wanted to a – wanted to a – a – ap – aaaaaaargh!" As former Homeland Security Secretary Barbie truly said, "Apologies are hard!"

Besides, the kind of person who would put a downpayment on land in the basket of deplorables generally hates to walk away from his investment.

The Frontiers Of Medical Knowledge? More Like The Backwoods...

Yes, until she knows she's pregnant... There's a window of time when a woman knows she's pregnant that every option that's on the table now is available. She has to do something to know whether she's pregnant or not. It takes time for all the chromosomes to come together... I'm at the limits of my medical knowledge, but until those chromosomes you were talking about combine - from male and female - that's my understanding [when life begins].



When Republican Alabama Senator Clyde Chambliss refers to the limits of his medical knowledge, he is being too modest. He clearly knows that leeches are the best cure for heart disease and, when in doubt, a good bloodletting will release the bad humours in a cancer patient's body.

And, we let men like this determine what a woman can do with her body?

If I understand Senator Chambliss' diagnosis, there must be at least...a dozen chromosomes in the human body. Maybe as many as 15. After the...you know, the icky stuff that results in conception happens, it takes time for them to come together to form little fingers and toes. At which point, the chromosomes...send a woman a singing telegramme to let her know she's pregnant?

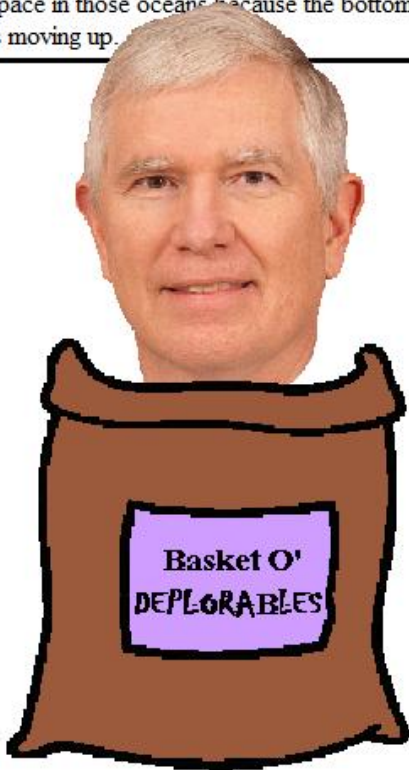
Sorry, I'm at the limits of my deplorable knowledge.

However this happens, it gives women a window of opportunity: they can get an abortion as long as they don't know they're pregnant. It's a pity Joseph Heller isn't still alive: the basket of deplorables would be an endless source of inspiration for him!

It could be worse, I suppose: Senator Chambliss could be teaching this nonsense to children. No, wait: that's what deplorable basket resident Betsy de Voss is for...

Po Mo, Mo Fo

Every single year that we're on Earth, you have huge tons of silt deposited by the Mississippi River, by the Amazon River, by the Nile, by every major river system - and for that matter, creek, all the way down to the smallest systems. And every time you have that soil or rock whatever it is that is deposited into the seas, that forces the sea levels to rise. Because now you've got less space in those oceans because the bottom is moving up.



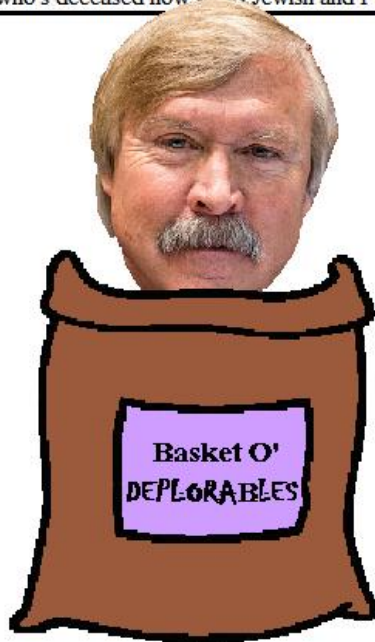
When he's not suggesting *Mein Kampf* to his local book club, Republican Representative Mo Brooks explains that rising sea levels are caused by rocks falling into major river systems.

Now, you may think that videos of ice breaking off the Arctic shelf and falling into the ocean show a better explanation for why ocean levels are rising. Fortunately, in the basket of deplorables they know better: those videos are actually played backwards by environmental extremists! That's right: watched the right way round, they depict water spontaneously freezing and jumping onto the Arctic shelf! You would never know this from the mainstream media, but the polar ice caps are actually thicker than they ever have been!

As often happens with denizens of the basket, you have to wonder if Representative Brooks believes the bullshit that comes out of his mouth, or if it is just something he says for political expediency. No doubt polar bears will be debating this distinction long after they go extinct.

*** These Words Have Never Been Known To Pass A Right-wing Politicians Lips, But They Are The Third Most Surprising Facial Feature, So Anything Is Possible**

I certainly don't agree with that, being a Holocaust denier. My best friend - who's deceased now - was Jewish and I wouldn't do that.



Oh, yeah. He went there.

Shelby County, Tennessee, Criminal Court judge Jim Lammey linked to racist and anti-Semitic articles on his Facebook page, including one saying that Jews should “get the fuck over the Holocaust.” When he received bad press for it, what was his defence?

He reached for the most used excuse in the racist’s lexicon (ahead, even, of “How come they can say that but I can’t?”): “Some of my best friends are...”

If he doesn’t agree with Holocaust deniers, why does Lammey link to articles on their web pages? A number of intriguing possibilities open up in front of us:

1) “I didn’t know that the pages contained Holocaust denial – I thought they contained recipes for blini.”

2) "I knew the pages contained Holocaust denial, but I thought the fact that they also contained blini recipes was more important."

3) "I am deplorable."*

Lammey assured everybody that his views would not affect his decisions on the bench. I have no doubt that Jews were comforted by this. As were east European chefs.

Membership in the Basket of Deplorables is Not a Slam Dunk

In the past, we have focused on the deplorables who suck all the oxygen out of the national stage. This is unfair to the millions of deplorables who work hard at the state and local level to spread their messages of hatred and despair to the deplorable masses. So, today, we're going to focus on the lesser known deplorables, the people who may not get international coverage for the horrible things they say and do, but who nonetheless live in the basket on the merits of their behaviour. The vile, vile merits of their behaviour.

Then, She Organized

That educational program (Black Girls Code) clearly discriminates against young men from ages 13 to 17, who because of their gender, are illegally excluded from participation in that annual program hosted by WSU. It's a prohibited form of gender discrimination that violates Title IX, WSU's commitment to follow Title IX and the Michigan Con



The basket of deplorables does not discriminate. Whether you're the poorest, least educated person in the country, or the wealthiest, whether the colour of your skin is white, black or orange, your qualification for entry is the degraded quality of your thought, your willingness to use words and/or actions to make the lives of other citizens more miserable.

Which, I suppose, is a form of discrimination against decent, compassionate people. If any of them complained about being discriminated against, I suppose I would have to set up some kind of affirmative action programme to ensure that they were properly represented in the basket.

Discrimination politics is hard. Just ask lawyer Barbie.

Apparently, though, it's easy for University of Michigan-Flint professor Mark Perry. White males are today's discriminatory targets of choice. White males do not make up a majority of corporate boards and positions of power...other than the fact that they do. And, they do not dominate politics and political discourse...even though they do. They certainly don't make substantially more than women for doing work of the same value. Except -

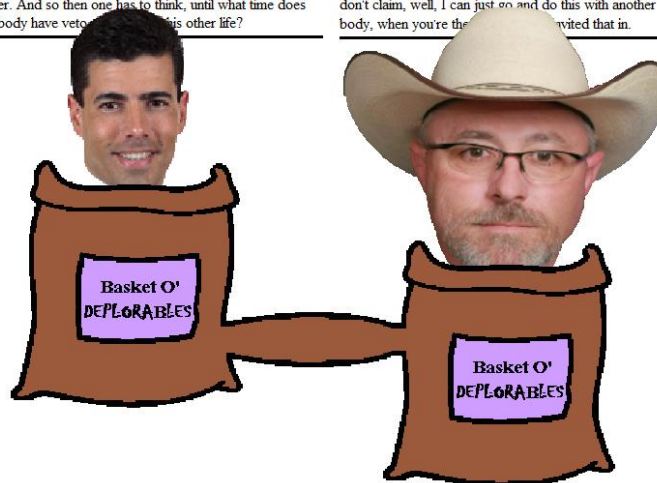
Okay, but white males aren't allowed to attend after-school programmes intended to help black girls, who are underrepresented in universities and colleges, get an education and contribute to society. So, young white males are the truly oppressed group, here!

Lawyer Barbie wept.

This Is Bad For A Whole Host Of Reasons

Well the challenge there is that there are two lives involved. So, where I believe that we should stay out of people's lives, I don't believe that people's lives should be taken. It's a complex issue because one has to think, well there's a host body and that host body has to have a certain amount of rights because at the end of the day it is that body that carries this entire other body to term. But there is an additional life there... As technology moves along, a human body can exist outside of its host body earlier and earlier. And so then one has to think, until what time does the host body have veto over this other life?

I understand that they feel like that is their body. I feel like it is a separate - what I call them is, is you're a "host." And you know when you enter into a relationship you're going to be that host and so, you know, if you pre-know that then take all precautions and don't get pregnant. So that's where I'm at. I'm like, hey, your body is your body and be responsible with it. But after you're irresponsible then don't claim, well, I can just go and do this with another body, when you're the one who invited that in.



Why am I stuck with the image of a womb offering people cheese and crackers and threatening to break out the Pictionary if people aren't having a good time?

According to Oklahoma state Representative Justin Humphrey and Florida House Speaker Jose Oliva – or is that Florida House Speaker Jose Oliva and Oklahoma state Representative Justin Humphrey? It can be hard to tell Republicans apart these days without a birth certificate – not that they would be willing to share theirs with the public – once they become pregnant, women stop being autonomous beings with a will and aspirations of their own. Instead, they become incubators with limbs and great smelling hair.

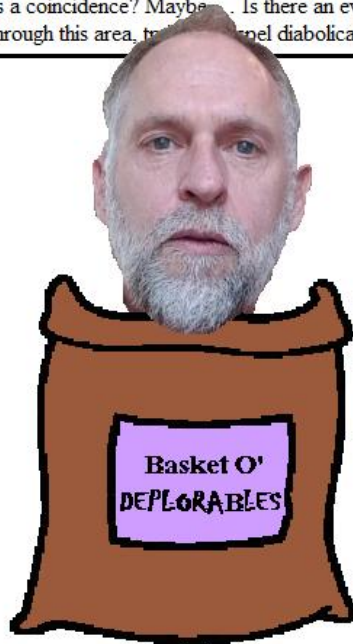
Trust the party of motherhood to turn pregnancy into a Cronenbergian horror show.

It's good of Humphrey and Oliva to let women choose not to have sex. Granted, this sounds exactly like the same idea of abstinence they've been preaching since...forever, really. Still. What about pregnancy due to rape? The choice they offer women seems to be: rape never happens, and if it does happen, it is always the woman's fault and...well, those are the only choices. Sorry about your luck, but the next nine months of your life belong to us.

It shouldn't come as a surprise that Humphrey and Oliva have come to the same conclusions in almost exactly the same way. The basket of deplorables has a state-of-the-art communications system, one you would be hard-pressed to differentiate from telepathy.

The Madness Of The Current Political Moment Is Kubal In Your Head

It's been widely publicized that there is a coven of witches that cast spells on President Trump 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This particular coven is found in the southern portion of New York City. So, right in the middle of all of this, the southern district, in the middle of where these witches are doing the 24/7 spell-casting, we find the territory of Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. Her district is in the center of all of this going on. Is this a coincidence? Maybe. Is there an evil thread running through this area, to channel diabolical power?



Thank you, Dave Kubal, president of the Religious Rights group Intercessors for America, for pointing out the greatest threat American democracy faces today. A resurgent nuclear Russia? Pfft! – we can handle that, no sweat! The slow dissolution of alliances such as NATO and the EU? Pshaw! – what have they ever done for us?

No. the main problem in America today is witches that are casting spells on President Trump intended to make his presidency fail.

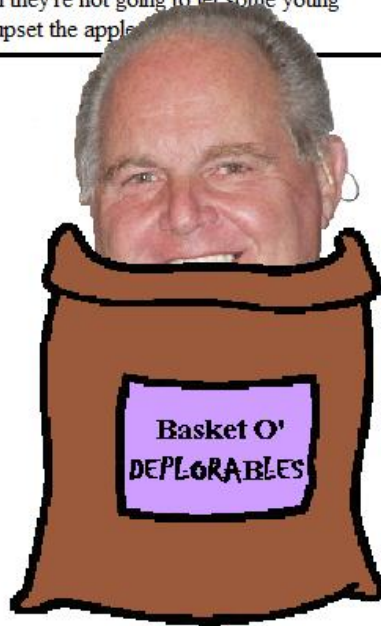
If they do exist, they can't be very good, given that Trump is still president. Could it be that there is a coven of warlocks at the Department of Homeland Security hard at work casting counter-spells? Why not? There could be nature spirits hard at work fighting global climate change. And, no justice system would be complete without a cadre of exorcists ready to drive evil spirits out of the guilty.

This explains a lot. Even if it isn't true.

We're So Far Beyond Little Red Riding Hood's Basket!

Uppity In Arms

It has become apparent to me that Pelosi and Schumer do not like Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. If you noticed, CNN, Chris Cillizza - our old buddy Chris, formerly at The Washington Post, now over at CNN - has just written a devastating piece about Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, saying she doesn't know what she's talking about, saying she's dead wrong about everything, she has no facts, she poses - there's no question that that piece is the product of Pelosi and Schumer working the media. Because I'm telling you, I predicted this, that the Democrat leadership is not hip to this young, bunch of millennials pouring in here and some of these other radicals. They're not hip to it, I mean they run that party and they run the American left, and they're not going to let some young uppity come in here and upset the apple



People often ask, “Will there be media in the basket of deplorables?” Well, okay, not that often, but more than rarely. And the – well, okay, maybe rarely, but more than once. So...twice. But, those two people ask the question forcefully, so it sometimes feels like there are three, even four of them.

In any case, the answer is, “Of course. media will play a prominent role in the basket of deplorables. How would its denizens know what to be outraged about every hour otherwise?”

It just makes sense really.

Rush Limbaugh was one of the first pundits to take up residence in the basket of deplorables, and he can always be counted upon to defend his turf against the Anne Wannabes and Tucker Come Latelays of the world. And, if it means nounizing a word that has traditionally been used as an adjective, well, Limbaugh has preached the gospel of purity about many things, but language has never been one of them!

His attempts at sowing divisions within the Democratic Party would be laughable, if they actually paid attention to anything he said. But, what makes this vintage (ie: turned to

vinegar) Limbaugh is the use of a racially loaded term to describe a woman of colour. Would it be wrong to make it a thing to call cranky old white men “downity?”

**MAWA (Make America White Again) – It Has A Ring To It
Just Like A Heavily Used Bathtub...**

White nationalists, white supremacists,
western civilization - how did that
language become offensive? Why did I
sit in classes teaching me about the merits
of our history and our civilization?



Here's another poser that I'm not even going to pretend a lot of people are asking (I'm asking it and that's what matters): if a prominent politician has been given a conspicuous position in the basket of deplorables owing to his public office, does he retain the position when he leaves the office?

Do bears shit Popes in the woods?

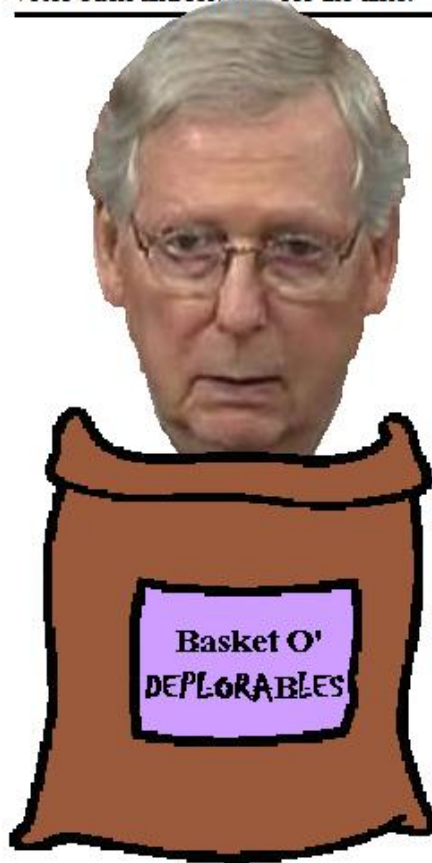
Yuck. Never mind. The answer is: yes. Once you're in the basket of deplorables, you're there for life. There was once a time when a politician could say something deplorable, it would make their local newspaper, and it would quickly be forgotten to history. You would think that soon to be former Congressman Steve King, a self-avowed avid history buff, would know that those days are long gone. Given the internet and 24 hour cable news networks, deplorable behaviour is forever.

For speaking untruth to the powerless, King was kicked out of the Republican caucus. As if he hadn't been saying such horrible things for years. It's interesting that 50 people should get the wax cleaned out of their ears at exactly the same time. Cynics might say the party's failing efforts to woo minority voters as its overwhelmingly downcity base dies off may have something to do with its actions against King.

We prefer the coincidental earwax cleaning explanation. One basket of deplorables may not be large enough to contain an entire political party!

The Turtle Sleeps Tonight

The last thing we need to do right now is
trade pointless - absolutely pointless - show
votes back and forth across the aisle.



Aww, Mitch. Don't ever change. The Basket of deplorables needs its comic relief.

Republican Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell spent a month denying widows and orphans their government checks rather than bringing a budget appropriations bill to the floor because he was afraid it wouldn't pass (or, perhaps, more afraid that it would and President Trump would veto it, or, worst of all, it would pass with a veto-proof

majority – turtles can be unreadable that way), and he didn't want to subject anybody to a pointless show vote.

That's just the kind of caring, sharing government leader he is.

So, why, after a month, did he allow the vote that he had said was pointless? You know, the one that didn't even pass, as he knew/suspected/dreaded it wouldn't? Could it have had something to do with the fact that a majority of Americans blamed Republicans for the shutdown that was costing so many of them so much, and they would remember this in 2020? Could it have been that McConnell was trying to save some seats, and maybe even the presidency?

Bears – Popes – excrement – woods – you know how it works.

Only The Little People Make Sacrifices

Listen, it's not fair to you and we all get that. But this is so much bigger than any one person. It is a little bit of pain but it's going to be for the future of our country. And their children and their grandchildren and generations after them will thank them for their sacrifice right now.



And, speaking of widows and orphans...

What sacrifice was Lara Trump, Eric Trump's wife, referring to? Military service? Leaving a lucrative job in the private sector to work in politics? Having to wait an extra six months for the final season of *Game of Thrones*?

No, she was talking about the privilege of being furloughed, or working without getting paid while the government was shut down. The pain you were feeling would result in a border wall that would keep people like you out of the United States of America. I'm not sure why the grandchildren and generations after them would thank these people for this sacrifice, but, then, I don't have a cushy job as a television producer or am the daughter-in-law of the President, so maybe my view of working class sacrifice is clouded by my privileged position.

Of course, we now know that the shutdown ended without the President getting funding for his border wall. So, what was all that sacrifice for? To feed Donald Trump's ego? To...to...umm...sorry, I don't see any other explanation.

It may well be that the children, grandchildren and generations after them of furloughed government workers will be talking about the shutdown. But, it's unlikely that it will be to share thanks for the sacrifices that were made during it.

**Clowns to the Left of Me, Deplorables to the Right,
Here I Am, Stuck in False Moral Equivalence with You**

Some Big Organizations Have More Muck To Muckity In Than Others

The radical feminism which has assaulted the Church and society since the 1960s has left men very marginalized. Apart from the priest, the sanctuary has become full of women. The activities in the parish and even the liturgy have been influenced by women and have become so feminine in many places that men do not want to get involved. The girls were also very good at altar service. So many boys drifted away over time. I want to emphasize that the practice of having exclusively boys as altar servers has nothing to do with inequality of women in the Church.



Okay. So, say you're a major muckity muck in a big organization. Like, international big, with over a billion followers. It happens. Now, further suppose that people in your organization have been doing naughty things to people in their care. You know, morally reprehensible...naughty things. If the well-being of the people who put their faith in you is as important as you claim in your sermons that it is, you will expel the wrong-doers from your organization, allowing them to be dealt with by the criminal justice system.

The Vatican went in a different direction.

According to Cardinal Raymond Burke, who was once under threat of imminent Popedom, Catholicism's problem with child sexual abuse has nothing to do with toxic masculinity or the sexual repression that it charmingly refers to as "celibacy." No, it's all the fault of those...girls who infiltrated the club house and completely changed how its members played with their toys. You can see his point: when a woman was chosen as Pope, the Church went completely to hell.

Decent people own up to their problems and commit themselves to being better in the future. Deplorables blame others for the forest of trees in their own eyes. And, why not? Senior members of the Catholic Church have been residents in the basket of deplorables

for decades, before there even was a basket of deplorables, really, and the institution has managed to carry on pretty well...

A Couple Of Minutes On Facebook Would Show Him Who The Real Adorables Are



Pity the President.

His winks and nods to anti-Semites resulted in a sharp spike in hate crimes against Jews. A lot of people, including people close to him, advised him to denounce those hate crimes; a lot of people can be insensitive to the needs of the highest office in the land that way. But, if he did that, the people he had been winking and nodding to would think that his flirting with them was insincere. Then, how would he get a date to the Hostility Hoedown when he needed it in 2020?

This is Donald Trump's compromise: he will say that attacks on Jews are "reprehensible," then suggest that some of them are being perpetrated by Jewish people themselves to make others look bad. (Since the only person Donald Trump cares about is Donald Trump, you can imagine how he defines "others" in this context.)

The belief that anti-Semitic attacks are "false flag operations" is supported by KKK leader David Duke; that should be enough to declare a deplorable level orange. Henh

henh – kind of appropriate, that. But, ahem, seriously. The Deplorable-in-Chief may enjoy his penthouse suite in the basket, but that's no reason for him to delude himself into believing that he's actually living in the basket of adorables.

Coulter, But No Wiser

Number one, you can't shoot Americans, you can shoot invaders. Number two, even if that were true, okay, go in one-yard into Mexico. What is happening on our border is certainly a bigger... We invaded - Reagan invaded Grenada and Grenada that was far less of a threat to Americans than what is happening on our border and I am saying, I don't think the posse comitatus act, I mean Nazis have been arrested by our troops, when they landed in the Hamptons no less, with guns. Our troops have guns. He is the Commander-in-Chief. This is what he should be doing...



Most people look at pictures of women and children running away from tear gas at the Mexican border with the United States with disgust. It takes a rare person to look at such images and think, Pussies. Let's see how they like it when we replace the teargas with bullets!

Anne Coulter is just that person.

It's hard to know what Coulter is really trying to say amidst this maelstrom of verbiage, but the gist seems to be: posse comitatus, schmosse schmomitatus, evil liberal bastards are tying the hands of our poor, hard-done by soldiers by not letting them gun down women and children. And, anyway, if immigrants don't respect our borders, why should

bullets? Shoot them! Shoot them now! Sovereignty, schmovereignty – haven't I already made clear my feelings about international law? Do I need to club a baby seal for you?

As long as the baby seal had its own club to defend itself...

Hmm...Women...Jews...Latin Americans...I Can't Help But Feel That We're Missing A Minority To Scapegoat, Here...

As far as homosexuality goes, I believe the Bible puts the death penalty on it. I believe it's disgusting. And incidentally, every scientific test has come back and said that homosexuals are 50 more times likely to get AIDS... we got this AIDS thing spreading... it's a fact that this is the case... I believe the Bible puts the death penalty on it. Obviously, not by me or anybody in a regular society, obviously. I believe it's the government's job to execute criminals. I believe that the Bible says clearly that homosexuality is a criminal crime. It's a crime. It's one of the worst crimes ever... And obviously, I believe in humane, you know, putting to death.



And, if you were expecting a younger generation of Christians to be more...undeplorable...

I suppose Matt Powell is a kinder, gentler homophobe. He wouldn't, for instance, put homosexuals to death himself – he has probably never picked up a stone in anger.

Powell has a somewhat...limited idea of what the government's job is. Executing criminals is certainly part of it. And, killing foreign weirdos in other parts of the world before they kill us. And, of course, supporting foreign dictators with weapons and other

treats if they are willing to pay us for them. ...And, there may be some other, less tangible good reasons for having governments, but I can't think of them at the ever...

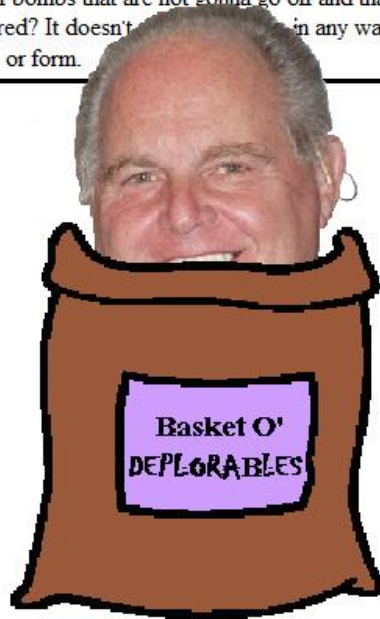
And, don't even get me started on the "humane, you know, putting to death." I imagine a scenario like: sitting in a hospital bed at the age of 87 surrounded by your children and grandchildren, watching videos of 80s-era disco hits and Barbara Streisand movies. I'm not gay, but I can imagine worse ways to go.

But, then again, I don't live in the basket of deplorables, I just write about those who do, so what do I know about humane, you know, putting to death...

Deplorable is As Deplorable Does (And Later Denies)

False Flag On The Play

It doesn't make any sense for a Republican or conservative to do this. If they really care about winning these elections, this makes no sense to do. This is gonna be instant fodder for the Democrats and the media to blame it on Trump and his supporters... It doesn't make any sense for...a Republican or conservative, to do this, if they care about the elections. None whatsoever... Would it make a lot of sense for a Democrat operative or Democrat-inculcated lunatic to do it? Because things are not working out the way they thought. Things that are supposed to cement it, like the Kavanaugh trick backfires, and these mobs are backfiring. They are not achieving their objectives... What sense does it make for a conservative Republican to gum up the works here by sending a bunch of bombs that are not gonna go off and that are gonna be discovered? It doesn't in any way, shape, manner, or form.



How is it that radio...cheese Rush Limbaugh doesn't get crushed under the weight of his own bullshit? Apparently, gravity works differently in the basket of deplorables than it does in the real world.

Limbaugh can spread conspiracy theories without a shred of evidence (or self-respect) all he wants, but outside of the basket things are pretty clear. The man who sent the bombs has been caught. He drove (and, it would appear, sometimes lived in) a van covered in pro-Trump messages, including the faces of prominent Democrats with targets on them (most of whom received their own little bundles of joy from him). He was not shy about going on social media and sharing his paranoid, racist worldview (social media is good for that). About the only way he could have made his position any clearer was to go on Limbaugh's show and perform a workshop on how to make pipe bombs!

On second thought, forget I said that. I really don't want to give Limbaugh any ideas.

When You Want Knee Jerk Racism, Louie Is Your Ghomert To Guy!

This has got to be so massive, I mean, you might have to declare martial law along the border. And the Democrats have been too stupid to realize that encouraging this caravan they may actually empower the president to do things they never wanted... You would probably need federal law enforcement to be there to arrest any Americans who might try to stop it. The military needs to have their weapons pointed towards Mexico and not toward the American people, but it may be that we have to have enough federal law enforcement, and maybe we have to have the National Guard if Jerry Brown is going to force the issue—but I hope and pray he won't be so stupid as to try to stop the US government from enforcing our border because then we're talking treasonous-type acts.



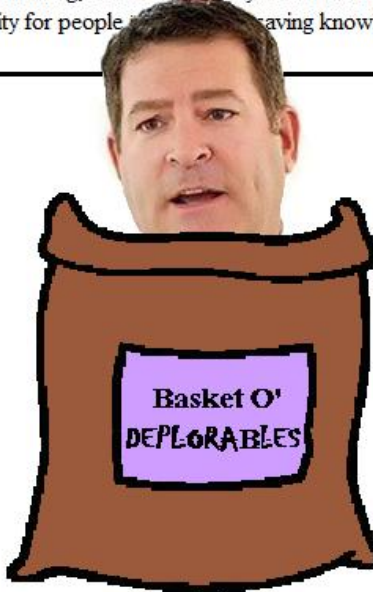
Have you ever had a word salad made up entirely of endives and bitter onions? Granted, that describes just about any speech by the President, but, apparently, that long, droning word train to nowhere has started to infect other members of his party.

Hmm...let's see what we've got. Blame Democrats for the actions of Republicans? Check. Insult their intelligence at the same time? Check. Threaten drastic action against desperate immigrants appearing at the southern border? Check. Accuse anybody who opposes your draconian political agenda of treason? Check. And, mate.

In less than two minutes, Texas Republican Representative Louie Gohmert has covered all the deplorable bases. Unfortunately, what in the basket of deplorables is a home run is, outside of it, a screaming line drive out.

Or, Be A Source Of Immense Pride
You Never Can Tell With Basket Dwellers

...every person who came to Christ came to Christ with a physical need... People go to God because of a physical need and they walk away with a spiritual need met. That's the story of the Gospels. And so government has stepped in, at least in this country, and done all the work for the church. And so the person who's in need – they look to the government for the answer. Not God. And I think, in that way, government has done an injustice that's even bigger than just the entitlement – creation of an entitlement welfare state. I think it's even bigger. And in this setting, I'll share the story... I think it interrupts the opportunity for people to have a saving knowledge of who God is.



Do you remember the passage in the New Testament where Jesus called upon lawmakers to close rural hospitals and allow 300,000 citizens, including 30,000 veterans, to live without health care? **I don't, either! Because it isn't there!**

Ahem. According to Tennessee Republican State Senator Mark Green, though, there is a new GOP gospel. It's exactly like the gospels of Jesus, but without the empathy, compassion, common sense and decency.

And, the weird thing is that Jesus, the person Green wants his constituents to come to, healed all of the sick who came before him, regardless of their ability to pay. He was the first believer in universal health care! He was the first provider of socialized medicine! Ordinarily, Republicans would crucify a person with those beliefs; unfortunately for them, somebody beat them to it.

How deplorable is Mark Green? His Christian extremism was so toxic that he was forced to withdraw his name from consideration after being nominated by President Trump to be Secretary of the Army. Let that sink in for a moment. He was too extreme to get a position in the Trump administration.

That's gotta hurt.

King Of Comedy

If we don't defend Western civilization, then we will become subjugated by the people who are the enemies of faith, the enemies of justice... The US subtracts from its population a million of our babies in the form of abortion. We add to our population approximately 1.8 million of 'somebody else's babies' who are raised in another culture before they get to us.



Iowa Republican Representative Steve King would like you to know that white Americans are fighting a losing battle. Only, he doesn't want **you**, specifically, to know exactly what he thinks, because you might be one of those bleeding heart liberals who would mistake his position for racism; so, instead of baring his curdled soul in an interview with an American publication, he opened up to an Austrian publication. He sure is a profile in cautious courage.

It makes you wonder which part of western civilization King is determined to save. Pluralism? Nope. Freedom of expression? Not if you disagree with him. The rule of law?

Only the laws he personally agrees with. The innate dignity of every human being?
Please! – he isn't even a good argument for his own innate dignity!

No, what King seems to value more than anything out of western civilization is Duck
Dynasty and monster trucks.

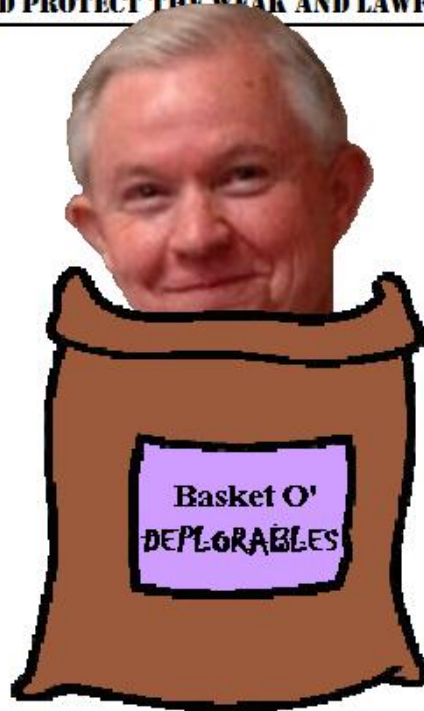
Are you sensing a theme in today's basket of deplorables? Fear of Democrats. Fear of
immigrants. Fear of health care (of all things!). Fear of the end of civilization as we know
it (a rather limited, blinkered vision of civilization, to be sure, but still). The American
right wing is peddling fear on as many fronts as it can find them because, obviously, it
does not have a positive message to give to the American people. As the fear is ratcheted
up to a fever pitch, there is only one conclusion a reasonable observer can come to.

It must be an election year.

**All Are Welcome in The Basket of Deplorables
It Is, After All, Dimensionally Transcendent**

Children Should Be Seen But Not Herded

**I WOULD CITE YOU TO THE APOSTLE PAUL
AND HIS CLEAR AND WISE COMMAND IN
ROMANS 13, TO OBEY THE LAWS OF THE
GOVERNMENT BECAUSE GOD HAS
ORDAINED THEM FOR THE PURPOSE OF
ORDER. ORDERLY AND LAWFUL
PROCESSES ARE GOOD IN THEMSELVES
AND PROTECT THE WEAK AND LAWFUL.**



There's a kind of sick fascination in the way that Attorney General Jeff Sessions manages to justify his government's inhumane policy of separating children from their parents at the border by misrepresenting both the law and the bible. If it seemed relevant, I'm sure he would misquote Dr. Seuss' *Horton Hears a Who*, too.

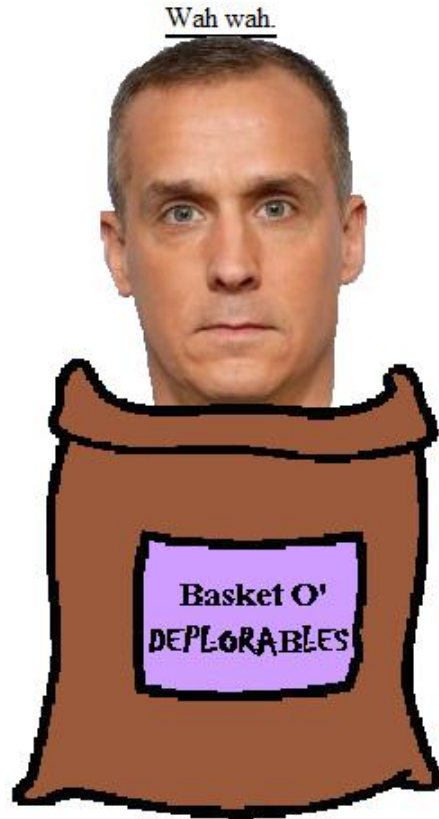
Hey, Mister Attorney General! What about the passage in Exodus that reads "You shall not wrong or oppress an immigrant?" You can almost hear Sessions responding, "Wuhl, nah, Ah hahdly think that is relevant ta thuh discussion."

Is it any less relevant than the passage in Leviticus that insists: "The immigrant who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you?" You can almost see Sessions get that squinty look he gets when he's not happy with a question. You know, the one where he tries to make death rays come out of his eyes, forgetting that he's not a cyborg? Yet...

How about the passage in Jeremiah that commands: "Do no wrong or violence to the immigrant?" You can almost hear Sessions giving a dainty little sigh before arguing, "Wuhl, nah, Ah do believe that you ah chereh-pickin' yo biblical quotes ta suppoht yo' political position!"

What can we say? We learned from the master.

Let's Get To The Corey Issue, Here



Former Trump adviser Corey Lewandowski said this in response to the story of a 10 year-old with Down Syndrome who had been separated from her mother as part of the Trump administration's zero tolerance border policy. To be generous, he could have been advising the child, who likely doesn't speak English, on how to ask for water in her cage at an undisclosed location.

Or, he could have been suggesting that she take up guitar while she was incarcerated, focusing on the pedal that distorts the instrument's sound in thrillingly creative ways.

Or, he could have been suggesting that she should expect to find herself in a small town in northern Ontario, so she should bundle up to keep warm.

Or, we could choose not to be generous and admit that he was viciously mocking a disabled child that had been forcibly taken away from her parents and found herself locked up in a country that was not her home. Because this is the very essence of being deplorable – so much so that you would expect Jean Paul Gaultier to distill it and sell it for \$110 a bottle!

And, The Fluid Is Toxic Sludge

It is his business. He should have the opportunity to run his business the way he wants. If he wants to turn away people of color, that's his choice.



Finally! Right wing racism that doesn't involve the border with Mexico!

South Dakota Republican Representative Michael Clark posted on Facebook that the Supreme Court ruling in favour of a Colorado baker who refused to make a wedding cake for same sex couples was a "win for freedom of speech and freedom of religion." Granted, having to refute the idea that "God hates faggots" again is tiresome, so points to Clark for originality for throwing race into the mix. Still, there seems to be even less religious justification for discrimination against black people, seeing as how the Middle East, where the bible is set, is pretty much full of them.

It's also hard to see how not baking a "Happy birthday, Laquisha" cake is a matter of freedom of speech.

Not surprisingly, Clark did not come to the defence of the owner of the Red Hen restaurant who politely asked White House spokestooze Sarah Huckabee Sanders to leave. Apparently, her right to speech and religion was not sacrosanct. That's the great thing about living in the basket of deplorables: principles are fluid.

Man Plans, God Cringes

As a mother, as a Catholic, as somebody who's got a conscience...I will tell you that nobody likes this policy.



Just when you thought you were out of the swamp at the border, they pull you back in!

White House Councillor Kellyanne Conway's motherhood didn't keep her from passing the buck on the issue of children being separated from their parents by following up this statement with: "Congress passed the law that it is a crime to enter this country illegally. So if they don't like that law, they should change it." The fact that the separation of children from their parents at the border stems from a decision that the President made in how to interpret the law, a decision he could reverse at any time, doesn't factor into her motherly concern for the youngsters.

Conway's Catholicism didn't keep her from misinterpreting the bible on the issue of immigrants. Perhaps she should consult with Attorney General Sessions...after he's calmed down, I mean.

Conway's conscience didn't force her to resign from the White House in protest of a policy that she considered immoral on maternal and religious grounds.

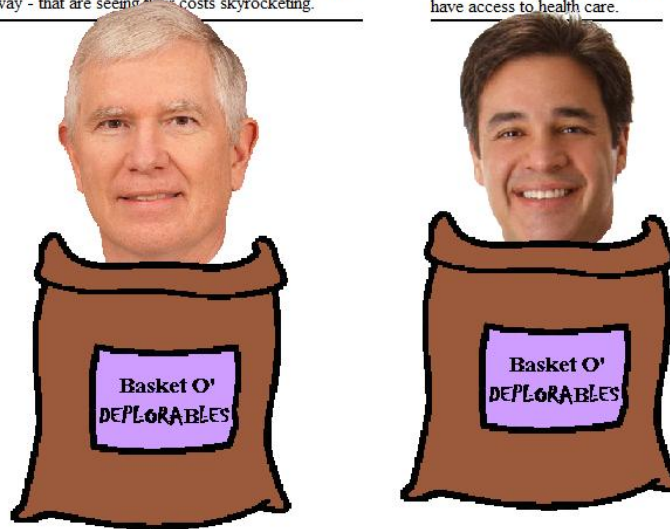
When assessing somebody's membership in the basket, best to look at what they do, not what they say. As Attorney General Sessions might put it (if he was more self-aware): "Deploable is as deploable does."

We Can Do Anything “Normal” People Can Do: Consider Us Deplor-Able!

The Freedom Caucus Fully Supports Your Freedom From Life

My understanding is that (the new proposal) will allow insurance companies to require people who have higher healthcare costs to contribute more to the insurance pool. That helps offset all these costs, thereby reducing the cost to those people who lead good lives, they're healthy, they've done the things to keep their bodies healthy. And right now, those are the people - who've done things the right way - that are seeing their costs skyrocketing.

Nobody dies because they don't have access to health care.



The stupid – it burns! **It burns!** Unfortunately, that is a pre-existing condition that is no longer covered by insurance in the basket of deplorables, where health care amounts to a bandage and an aspirin. You say a bear just tore apart your leg? Walk it off.

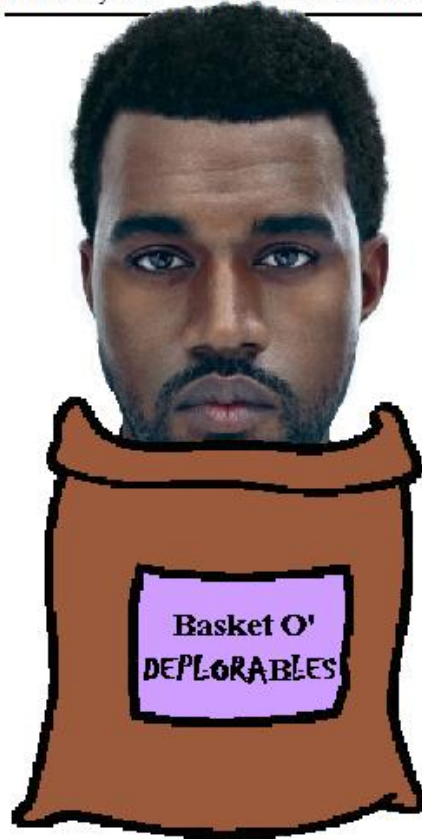
According to Republican Mo Brooks, good people never need to use health care. Because good people never get into car accidents. Good people never have genetic illnesses over which they have no control. Indeed, good people never grow old. The fact that nobody in the world would be good by Brooks' definition does not in any way alter his moralistic (but never moral) judgment of other people's health.

In ordinary countries (ie: just about all of the developed nations in the world other than the United States), the healthy subsidize the health care of the ill on the understanding that their health care will be subsidized when they need it. “Tyranny!” Members of the Freedom Caucus cry. “Moochers who can't afford to be healthy deserve to be sick!” For them, health is not a right (although burial is still a rite).

That's just fine according to Republican Raul Labrador. Nobody dies because they don't have health care: they die because they got sick. Not having health care may contribute to them dying **sooner**, but that's just a matter of temporal semantics, two words that most people who dwell in the basket are not familiar with.

When You Hear About Ignorance For 40 Years? I Think You Know What That Sounds Like...

When you hear about slavery for 400 years...
For 400 years? That sounds like a choice.



Kanye West has a new album coming out. Kanye West says something deplorable about his own people. The basket of deplorables has a choice between explaining all of the ways in which what West said are historically inaccurate and morally bankrupt, or using a belt sander on its tongue.

Mugugh blubbe gyah gyah gyah.

Sad, Sadler, Sadist

He's dying anyway.



Under ordinary circumstances, Republicans love them some war heroes. After all, war is a force that gives Republicans meaning. Under ordinary circumstances (are you getting the sense that you hear a lot of contrasts to ordinary circumstances in the basket of deplorables?), a Special Assistant to the President tries not to say or do anything controversial in order to not upstage her boss.

Then, there's Kelly Sadler, who once got drunk with ordinary circumstances in a bar on K Street in the basket of deplorables and decided to put the whole sad incident out of her memory, even if it meant living the rest of her life under extraordinary conditions.

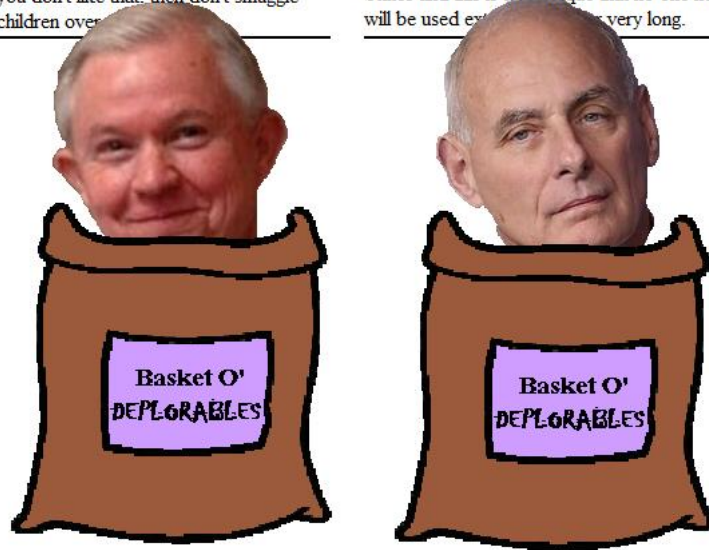
Sadler was referring to Senator John McCain, who refused to support the White House's nomination for CIA Director, Gina Haspel. McCain, who had been tortured as a prisoner of war in Vietnam, understandably objected to Haspel's part in America's torture programme. Or, at least, this would be understandable to somebody whose moral compass wasn't constantly swirling in the basket of deplorables (which, surprisingly enough, does not contain a true north – a true Oliver North doesn't count).

Rather than cutting Sadler loose, the White House defended Sadler, claiming that what she said had been a joke. Seven year-old bullies everywhere stopped shaking down classmates for their lunch money long enough to give Sadler an enthusiastic thumbs up. If this episode does nothing else, it reminds us that the fish deplorables from the head.

Life Begins At Conception and Ends At Birth

"If you are smuggling a child then we will prosecute you, and that child will be separated from you as required by law. If you don't like that, then don't smuggle children over

The children will be taken care of - put into foster care or whatever. But the big point is they elected to come illegally into the United States and this is a technique that no one hopes will be used extensively for very long.



We close today with the comedy stylings of Attorney General Jeff Sessions and Chief of Staff John Kelly. Be sure to tip your waitress – she’s probably concealing a handgun under her uniform. And, don’t try the veal – it undoubtedly has maggots.

Remember when the sanctity of the family was another one of those “Republican values?” It’s hard to talk about the sanctity of the family when a child is screaming, “Noooooooo! No! Don’t take me away from my mommy! Mommy! Mommy! I want my mommy!” in the background. Unless you’re a senior member of the White House, in which case you just step closer to the microphone to drown out the noise.

Funny thing about the White House policy to separate children of immigrants from the parents – while Sessions and Kelly have no qualms about saying that the government is doing it in order to deter immigrants from coming to the US in public, the government has been shy about saying this in the court where the ACLU is challenging the policy. Perhaps it has something to do with the fact that it goes against international treaties to which the US is a signatory. Who knew members of the Trump White House could be...discreet?

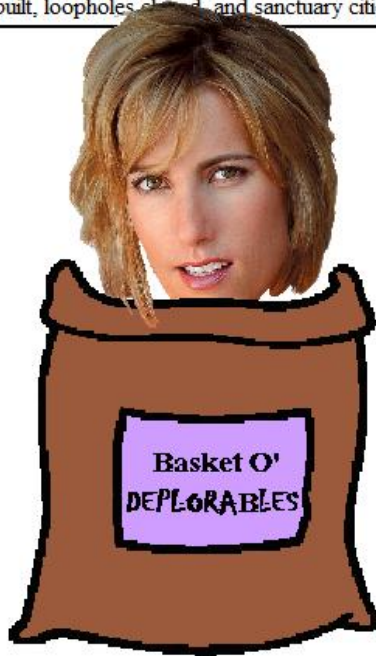
Kelly’s “Or whatever” has interesting implications at a time when the whereabouts of as many as 1,500 of the children who have been separated from their parents cannot be accounted for. Were they run off to join the circus? Perhaps they were sent to India to work in garment factories with their tiny little hands. Maybe Kelly keeps them in a closet, perpetually shining his medals.

In the basket of deplorables, rankness has its privileges.

The Douchenozzle Sprays From the Right

I'm Not Racist, I Just Say Things On Television That Racists Are Thinking

In some parts of the country it does seem like the America that we know and love doesn't exist anymore. Massive demographic changes have been foisted upon the American people. And they're changes that none of us ever voted for and most of us don't like. From Virginia to California, we see stark examples of how radically, in some ways, the country has changed. Now, much of this is related to both illegal and in some cases legal immigration that, of course, progressives love... Today we are reminded again of why our law has to be enforced, borders strengthened and the wall built, loopholes closed, and sanctuary cities ended...



As they say, not every douchenozzle lives in the basket of deplorables, but everybody who lives in the basket of deplorables appeals to douchenozzles.

With her recent rant, Fox News host (the deplorable is understood to come with the job title) Laura Ingraham hit a nerve with “some parts of the country.” You can imagine people in Harlem going, “Aww, hell, ya! Tell it like it is, Laury-Paury!” Or, people in San Francisco’s Chinatown nodding their heads in agreement and saying, “We believe Ms. Ingraham makes a valuable argument.” To which the average person in Billings, Montana would respond, “Wait, what? I thought Laura was talking to us!”

Yes, average person in Billings, Montana, race in America certainly is a complicated issue. Thank goodness we have brave commentators like Laura Ingraham to simplify it for us. Simplify it to the point of childish gibberish. Because childish gibberish is the lingua franca of the basket of deplorables.

And, Speaking Of Frank’s Language...

Maybe your audience doesn't trust you! This is no longer the CNN of breaking news! This is the CNN of anti-Trump stuff!



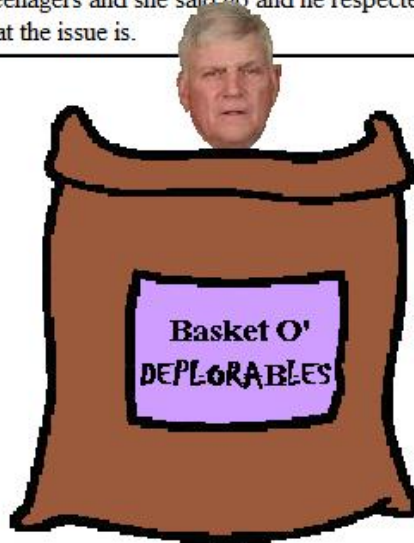
You can always tell when White House spokesdeplorable Kellyanne Conway is flustered: she drops the basilisk stare for an expression approaching human emotion. Then, she starts to talk and, nope, she's still completely weird.

This outburst came in response to CNN's Chris Cuomo's observation that "You should admit that he's lying, and you don't, and that's why people don't trust you." Now, Conway could have chosen from many potentially worthwhile responses. "Why, no, Chris, he never lies," she could have said. "Whenever he tries, his face turns green and he starts speaking in ancient Aramaic!" Or, she could have said: "My job is not admitting when he's lying. You got something against a girl should make a dishonest living, already? Shame on you! Shame, I say!" If she was really being feisty, she could have pointed over the press corps' heads and shouted, "Oh, look, a crystal chandelier!"

But, no, Conway reached for an attack on the press. Well, that part of the press that isn't engaged in a love affair with the President (so, basically, anything not owned by Rupert Murdoch or David Pecker). It's like everybody in the White House has a quota of attacks on the press; if they don't do it a certain number of times a week, they don't get a scratch behind the ears and a yummy treat. And, apparently, the space behind their ears is really itchy...

Joe Jackson Was Right – It Really Is Different For Girls

It's just a shame that a person like Judge Kavanaugh who has a stellar record - that somebody can bring something up that he did as a teenager close to 40 years ago. That's not relevant... Well, there wasn't a crime committed. These are two teenagers and it's obvious that she said no and he respected it and walked away... He just flat out says that's not true. Regardless if it was true, these are two teenagers and she said no and he respected that so I don't know what the issue is.



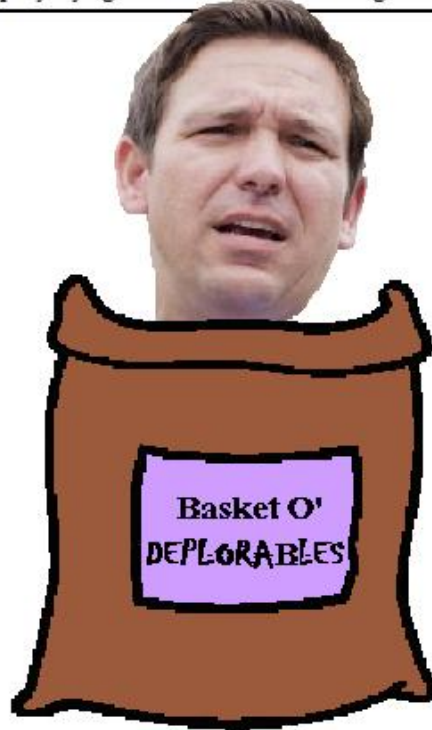
Sometimes, it seems like “The Douchenozzle Dog Whistle” is the theme song of the bag of deplora – oh, wait. Evangelical preacher Franklin Graham was not actually appealing to racists. He was appealing to misogynists. It’s a valuable reminder that there are many paths into the kingdom of deplorables.

If I were Christian, I know I would want to go to Graham for couples counselling. He clearly understands that attempting rape is a cri – well, no. He has no idea that attempted rape is a crime. Still, he obviously appreciates that consent must take place before any sexual acts are engaged i – umm, well, okay, no. He seems to think that if a man stops in the middle of the act because the woman has asked him to, how it began is of no consequence.

Let me rethink this: I know I would want to go to Graham for couples counselling...**if I was a man.** If I was a woman, I’d rather eat live chipmunks.

That Will Make Sense When Monkeys Fly Out Of My...Umm...You Know That’s NOT What I Meant!

Florida elections are always competitive, and this is a guy who, although he is much too liberal for Florida, I think he's got huge problems with how he's governed Tallahassee, he is an articulate spokesman for those far left views. The last thing we need to do is to monkey this up by trying to embrace a socialist agenda.



Did Florida Republican gubernatorial candidate Ron DeSantis mention that his opponent was black? Was it that hard to figure out?

It's easy to imagine little old ladies sitting in Bingo parlours across the state shouting, "He said vat? No, vait – don't distract mire! Vat vas da last number called?" And, if the stereotype of Floridians was true, DeSantis' dog whistling would be of little consequence. Unfortunately, he must feel he has a large enough douchenozzle constituency that the dogs will respond to the whistle.

Because some Democrats have described the Russian interference in the 2016 election as "monkey business," Republicans are claiming that everybody in America is equally racist, so can we please just get over it and move on? But there is no equivalence, here. When was the last time you heard a Democratic candidate for a high office talking about the importance of "keeping right wing crackers out of your diet?" Or about how "we shouldn't let right wing extremists soil our tidy whiteys?" Or, even something as simple as the campaign slogan, "If you support me, honkies your horn?" I'm sorry (in the way of people who are absolutely not sorry), but that just doesn't happen.

I'll bet Laura Ingraham is kicking herself that she wasn't the one who said this.

A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Deplorableness

Just Accept The Belief That Jesus Said Blessed Are The Gunmakers, And All Will Be Fiene

It may seem, on the surface, that God was refusing to give... protection to his Texan children. But we are also praying that God would deliver us from evil eternally. Through these same words, we are asking God to deliver us out of this evil world and into his heavenly glory, where no violence, persecution, cruelty, or hatred will ever afflict us again. So when a madman with a rifle sought to persecute the faithful at First Baptist Church on Sunday morning, he failed. Just like those who put Christ to death, and just like those who have brought violence to believers in every generation, they succeeded in being the means through which God delivered his children from this evil world into an eternal peace.



Remember when the prophet Isaiah admonished people to turn their ploughshares into assault rifles? Yeah, neither do I.

The Reverend Hans Fiene is a Lutheran pastor who was clearly reading from the Book of Smith. Or, was it the Book of Wesson? I must admit, I'm not as up on the Newest New Testament as I would need to be to be able to identify the chapter, verse and serial number of the weaponized Bible passage (assuming they hadn't been filed off to make the passage harder to trace).

I'm surprised Congressional Republicans haven't argued that passing stricter gun laws would interfere with god's plan for America. I will not be surprised when the National Rifle Association produces ads that argue that the Second Amendment is proof that America was founded as a Christian nation. I am never surprised by religious people who

justify the suffering of others as part of god's design, especially when they have no intention of sharing in that particular part of god's plan.

You may be surprised to learn that, as unsubtle as it is, deplorable comes in many nuanced shades.

He's The King Of...Well...The Shadows In His Own Mind, If Nothing Else...

They came here to live in the shadows, and we're not denying them that opportunity to live in the shadows



Every time Representative Steve King opens his mouth, he gives off a faint odour of shoe leather. You'd think somebody would advise him against reenacting scenes from The Gold Rush...or at least offer him a breath mint, but his fellow Republicans are a stingy bunch.

King was talking about Dreamers, people who were brought to the United States as young children and, whether their parents were there legally or not, have known no other home. They came to America to live in the shadows? Please! They came to America for a bubble to suck on and a warm blankie!

Sometimes I think that politicians like King should be dropped into Albania or North Korea – they were born into the shadows, so why shouldn't they be given the opportunity to be transported into them? Unfortunately, my dream quickly turns sour when the King cohort takes over the country and starts deporting citizens to America.

Deplorable is nothing if not adaptable.

**Maybe He Didn't Want To Cede The Low Ground To Texas Sheriff Joe Arpaio
Lawmakers Can Be Competitive That Way**

If you go to a shelter for Irma and
you have a warrant, we'll gladly
escort you to the safe and secure
shelter called the Polk County jail.



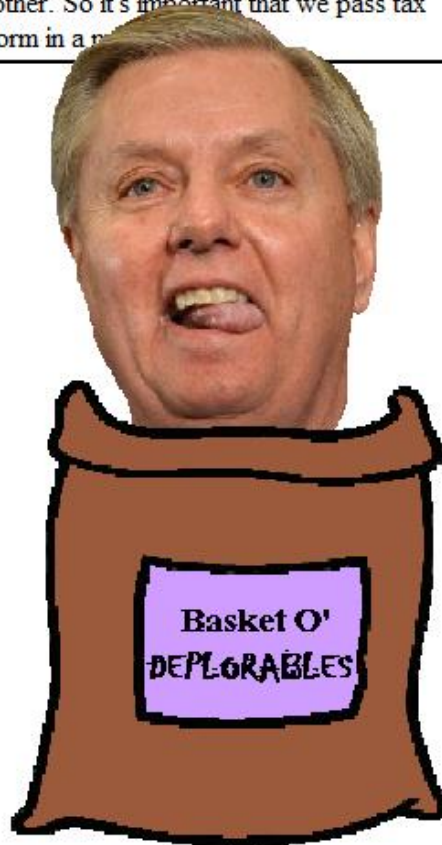
Life or liberty – according to Polk County, Florida Sheriff Grady Judd, you can't have both (not having the opportunity to pursue happiness is, under the circumstances, a given).

It's at times like these that I regret the fact that the basket o' deplorables is temperature controlled, always a balmy 1,027 degrees (does it matter on which scale?). Although the occasional blowhard can create a stiff breeze (especially when in the throes of hypocritical sexual self-righteousness), there is no mechanism by which a hurricane can occur. Was this quote a despicable example of misplaced priorities? Absolutely. Was it a teachable moment? For deplorables, not so much.

If he was still alive, we could get Peter Sellers to star as Sheriff Judd in the movie version of the government's response to the hurricane. Could be good for a laugh. Lord knows, the reality wasn't.

In The Basket Of Deplorables, Nobody Can Hear Your Mind Boggle

Well, I think all of us realize that if we fail on taxes, that's the end of the Republican Party's governing majority in 2018. We'll lose the House, probably lose ground in the Senate... I can't imagine how he could be successful with Nancy Pelosi running the House. They'd try to impeach [President Trump] pretty quick and it would be just one constant investigation after another. So it's important that we pass tax reform in a n



Remember when Senator Lindsey Graham was supposed to be one of the good guy Republicans? Okay, you had to cherry pick his quotes carefully to come to that conclusion, but at least he had some non-deplorable cherries in his history.

Part of being deplorable must certainly be a complete lack of an irony bone. How many investigations did House Republicans hold on Hillary Clinton? 127? 356? Seven? It sure felt like it. Graham should watch some of the video of those dark, dark times – playback's a bitch, isn't it?

The Republicans will lose if they don't pass a tax cut bill? Seriously? Not because of the investigation into the Trump campaign's collusion to steal the 2016 election? Not because of the investigation into obstructing the investigation into the Trump campaign's collusion to steal the 2016 election? Not because of the failure to reform health care (although the GOP made a valiant effort to make it harder for millions of working Americans to get affordable insurance)? Not because the President picks fights with members of his own party, allied nations, the NFL and god?

Of course, Graham has also said that if tax cuts are not passed, "the financial contributions [from major donors] will stop." Would the Republicans be able to win an election without the hundreds of millions of dollars they get from their millionaire and billionaire supporters?

Do deplorables shit in the wooded part of the basket?

Deplorable is as Deplorable – Eww!

When Deplorable Takes Flight, It Sure Is Something To Behold!

Did you think this was a personal trip?! Adorable!
Do you think the US govt paid for our honeymoon
or personal travel?! Lololol. Have you given more
to the economy than me and my husband? Either
as an individual earner in taxes OR in self sacrifice
to your country? I'm pretty sure we paid more
taxes toward our day 'trip' than you did. Pretty
sure the amount we sacrifice per year is a lot more
than you'd be willing to sacrifice if the choice was
yours.



Being deplorable is like farts – most people don't know how to define it, but they know it when they smell it. (Unless they were responsible, of course, because people in the basket rarely see anything wrong with self-dealing...in any form.)

Most people (not exactly the same most people as referred to in the previous paragraph, but with substantial overlap) would agree that being wealthy does not automatically make you deplorable; if only because most people (a third group – really, must I draw you a Venn diagram?) want to be wealthy, and you know they would neeeeever act deplorably. That having been said, wealth does allow for a better class of deplorable behaviour. Just start with a base of entitlement and sprinkle some condescending contempt for those who are below you, which, let's be honest, is pretty much everybody. Add a willingness to say what is on everybody's mind – well, everybody in your circle, in any case – in public rather than behind closed doors and your deplorableness is just adora – cute. Very cute.

I hope Louise Linton likes her accommodations in the basket. She should think of it as a reverse form of taxation – we're happy to sacrifice the space for her.

Funny How Mosques And Synagogues Didn't Need To Be Told To Shelter Hurricane Victims
But What Do Those Heathen Religions Know About Prosperity?

The city [Houston] runs the shelters.
They asked for a distribution centre.
We could've been a shelter from day
one if they needed that.



Deplorable often builds elaborate rationales to justify its behaviour. Sometimes, the rationales are whimsical. Sometimes the rationales are absurd. Either way, they always serve to protect the dignity of the deplorable (don't tell them they have none – why spoil their day...and everybody else's fun?).

Joel Osteen wants you to know that he did not turn people away from the Lakewood megachurch, where he is Chief Pastor, after Hurricane Harvey hit; he just didn't let them in. And, it wasn't his fault: the city didn't ask him to take them in. Because, of course, Jesus waited for the Roman government to ask him to feed the multitudes before he accomplished that miracle. And, healing the lepers? Jesus wouldn't dreeeeeeaaam of doing it if the Jewish elders hadn't asked.

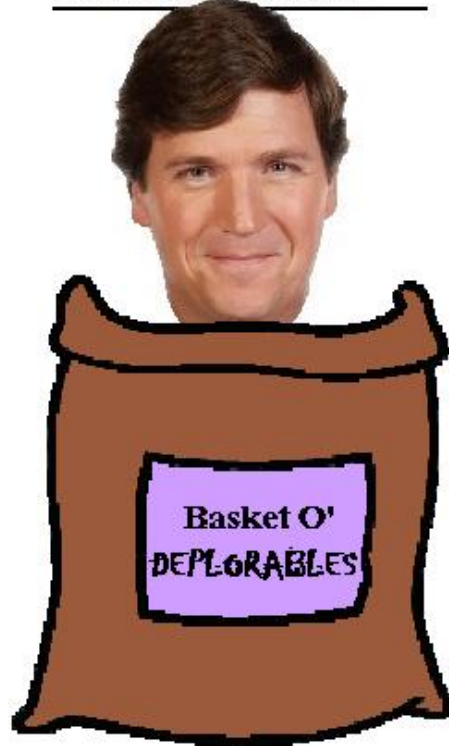
Or, it could be that the promoter of the Prosperity Gospel (basically Gordon Gecko with a bible in one hand and a halo that only he and his followers can see) has decided that people who could not afford to protect themselves from the hurricane had been forsaken

by God. And, hey, if God didn't want anything to do with those guys, who was a poor preacher to argue?

Sucks to be you. It's great to be Joel Osteen, though. Even if his beliefs require him to make occasional visits to the basket.

Next To President Trump's Resort, So He Can Bask In The Reflected Ignominy

Perhaps the most impressive thing
any president has ever done.



Sometimes, deplorable is just oblivious.

There is no question whom Tucker Carlson was talking about: President Trump. What did the President do that so impressed the Fox almost human host? Did he put programmes in place that protected ordinary people from economic depression? Did he challenge Germans to tear down the wall that divided them, ending the Cold War when they did? Was he the first visible minority to win the presidency?

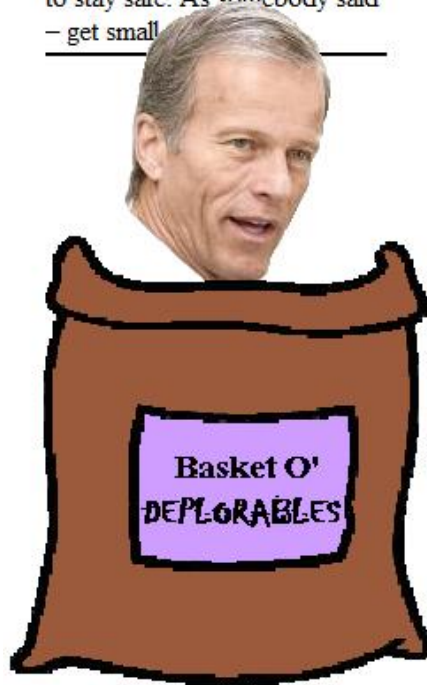
No, against the advice of almost all doctors in the world, President Trump looked directly at the eclipse.

The truly deplorable act is, of course, for a prominent national politician to work hard to blind the country's youth, but President Trump already has a resort in the basket of deplorables, complete with an 18 hole golf course, four star chefs and enough massage

therapists to soothe even the most inflated ego. Carlson is merely an enabler of deplorables; still, that deserves at least a small summer cottage in the basket.

It's All A Joke...Until 500 People End Up In Hospital

You know, it's an open society.
And, when somebody does
what he wants to do – it's going
to be hard to prevent anything.
But, I think people are going to
have to take steps in their own
lives to take precautions. To
protect themselves. And, in
situation like that, you know, try
to stay safe. As somebody said
– get small



Actually, the somebody who advised people to get small was comedian Steve Martin on the 1977 album *Let's Get Small*. Despite being a fan of Martin, I must say that his advice is not what I would have thought of as a solution to American gun violence. But, then, I'm not South Dakota Republican Senator John Thune.

Unlike that of Louise Linton, this statement is more than just *Lifestyles of the Rich and Deplorable*. The actions of denizens of the basket often have real world consequences that are – you know. Not admirable.

I have no doubt Thune would like to find a solution to gun violence – the fact that he voted against a bill to ban high capacity magazines over 10 bullets and for allowing firearms in checked baggage on Amtrak trains was a simple matter of...youthful exuberance? And, while residence in the basket of deplorables is often a matter of grubby

self-interest, I'm certain the fact that he received at least \$850,000 in campaign donation from the Nation Rifle Association in no way affected his decisi – hee hee – his deci – ha ha – de – HA HA HA HA HA!

The bag of deplorables – sometimes, you just gotta laugh.

If You Look Around the Basket and You Can't Identify the Deplorable, You're Probably Unclear on the Concept

Being deplorable is like modern art: we all know what it's like when we step in it, but we have a much harder time defining it. Deplorable acts offend common decency, and are undertaken by people with no moral compass or compassion. They're like modern art in that way, too.

Of course, everybody has the potential to be deplorable (what Freud would have called "everyday neurotic deplorableness" if he had had the misfortune of living at the beginning of the 21st century rather than the 20th). To qualify for membership in the basket of deplorables, you have to be a sufficiently public figure so that your deplorable behaviour will affect people beyond your circle of friends and family.

Fortunately (or, unfortunately, depending upon how you view deplorableness), people in the basket never have to deplorable alone.

That's what America is about. A land of dreams and opportunity. There were other immigrants who came here in the bottom of slave ships, worked even longer, even harder for less. But they too had a dream that one day their sons, daughters, grandsons, granddaughters, great-grandsons, great-granddaughters might pursue prosperity and happiness in this land.



For example, it must be comforting to denizens of the basket to know that there will always be a Ben Carson, who doesn't seem capable of opening his mouth without letting the deplorable out. Did slaves "immigrate" to the United States with dreams of their progeny having a better life? I suspect their dreams ran more to being freed from their chains and beating their white masters to death with their own whips, but I can be romantic that way.

Carson's deplorable delusions would have been okay if they had been confined to Internet chat rooms populated by the terminally bored and malcontent, but he has been chosen to head Donald Trump's Housing and Urban Development department. Expect him to comment about how poor people love the freedom to live in cardboard boxes on the streets any day now.



Pamela Geller is an American...I'm not sure what, so, for lack of a better term, let's call her a "pundit." (And, to be fair, let us stipulate that there are pundits who are not deplorable, however much overlap there may be between the two categories.) This statement is a variation on "Sharia aw is coming for your children!", a chant that can be heard in the basket of deplorables almost as frequently as a rooster's good morning call is heard on a farm.

For the uninitiated among you, Bill M-103 was a non-binding resolution in the Canadian Parliament that suggested that, golly gee whillikers (the best kind of whillikers), Muslims

might be human beings, too and, well, you know we hate to spoil anybody's fun, but maybe, just maybe, they should be treated with respect. Not, it pains us to say, hatred. The only connection between the bill and Islamic blasphemy laws lies in Geller's deplorable imagination.

Oh, and, Bill M-103 passed, and Geller is still allowed to be deplorable in public, sans burqa. I'm not sure who should be more disappointed...

I want to say to you that one of the things I believe that's going to bring a great harvest of Jews is the Christians becoming so profoundly wealthy...that it's going to make them jealous. The wealth and the riches that we're able to obtain is going to make them jealous. Do you think our poverty is going to make a Jew jealous? Come off it! No, we are meant to prosper. Why? Because they understand, in their culture, that obedience is a blessing.



What makes Cindy Jacobs, Christian...whatever she deludedly calls herself, so deplorable is not that she made an argument based on a stereotype – it's that she made an argument based **on the wrong stereotype**.

If she really wanted Jews to convert to Christianity, she could have argued that Christians love thy neighbour and do unto others and all that good, good Biblical stuff. Given examples of positive stereotypical Christian behaviour, Jews would be tempted to convert because of Christians' displayed moral righteousness.

Instead, Jacobs decided to support her greed and that of her followers by appealing to the blatantly stereotypical greed of Jews, couched in terms of convincing Jews to convert. This is the most – **wait a minute! Jews converting to Christianity? Why is she even talking about** – oh. Right. End Times prophecies.

Okay, the whole concept of "harvesting Jews" had unfortunate connotations, so it helped her earn her room in the basket, but, really, she was already going there on her own merit.

[There were] kindly and well-intentioned men and women and their descendeants – perhaps some of us here in this chamber – whose remarkable works, good deeds and historical tales in the residential schools go unacknowledged... Nobody meant to hurt anybody, the little smiles in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission are real, the clothes are clean and the meals are good. There were many people who come from residential schools with good training and good language skills, and, of course, there were the atrocities as well.



Just when you thought that the basket of deplorables was a specifically American phenomenon, along comes Canadian Senator Lynn Beyak to school you. Non-natively.

While residential schoolchildren may have occasionally enjoyed clean sheets and good meals, they also dealt with beatings, sexual abuse and other depredations, which led to a horrendously high suicide rate. Yes, certainly, some individuals running the residential school system may have been humane, but the intent of the system was to destroy native communities by depriving a generation of children of their culture.

To suggest otherwise is truly deplorable. It would be like focusing on the way American slave traders fed their slaves decent food and – oh, wait! Do you think Beyak and Carson ever get together and talk about how unfair history has been to oppressive white regimes?

If it saves us from having to listen, by all means let the basketeers be deplorable among themselves.

It Takes a Village to Populate a Bag of Crazy

Everybody is inducted into the Bag of Crazy on their individual merits. However, once inside, crazy interacts with crazy, causing whole new levels of organized insanity to emerge.

It starts with what chaos theorists call a “strange attractor.” No, that’s not the last person you dated (as apt as the description might seem in retrospect); it’s a point in a chaotic system around which order appears to crystallize. And, attractors don’t get any stranger than Donald Trump...

I'd like to hear his wife say something. If you look at his wife, she was standing there. She had nothing to say. She probably, maybe she wasn't allowed to have anything to say. You tell me

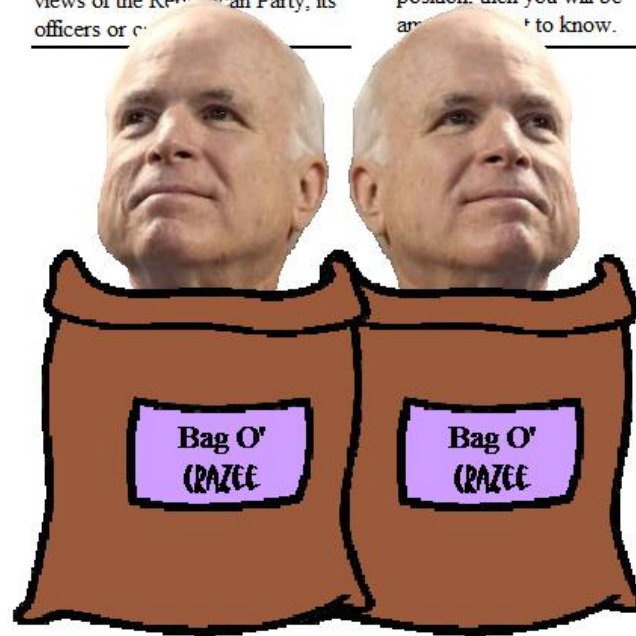


It takes a very special kind of self-absorbed lack of empathy to turn a grieving mother’s desire not to speak on national television into a veiled (get it? Veiled? I slay me!) attack on her religion. It also takes somebody with really (to the power of five) poor impulse control to attack the parents of an American soldier killed in combat, given that the right worships the military almost as much as they do Jesus, and often more vocally.

Living outside the Bag of Crazy, you might assume that the Republican establishment would repudiate this position. You would only be partially correct. Consider the response of Republican Senator John McCain, a war veteran himself:

In recent days, Donald Trump disparaged a fallen soldier's parents. He has suggested that the likes of their son should not be allowed in the United States, to say nothing of entering its service. I cannot emphasize enough how deeply I disagree with Mr. Trump's statement. I hope Americans understand that the remarks do not represent the views of the Republican Party, its officers or c

I have said that I will support the nominee of the party, and let me just say to you that is the last time. If I change my view or my position, then you will be am to know.



On the one hand, McCain wants to stand with a fallen soldier; on the other hand, he wants to stand with the Presidential nominee of his party. Difficult. Psychiatrists refer to this as “cognitive dissonance,” the act of believing contradictory positions to have equal validity. Literary theorists refer to this condition as “doublethink.”

Now, if you were a reasonable person who needed the Republican establishment's support to win the presidency, you might respectfully disagree with McCain while accepting his endorsement (however begrudging). If you were, on the other hand, a raging narcissist who cannot tolerate criticism or dissent, you would probably respond to his statements like this:

I've always felt that [John McCain] should have done a much better job for the vets.



Diplomacy is for losers. So, apparently, is tact.

Of course, since Trump won the nomination, the Republican Party could have been renamed the Cognitive Dissonance Party. Another example is Speaker of the House Paul Ryan, who is on record as having said:

I don't like doing this. I don't want to do this. But I will do this because I feel I have to in order to defend Republicans and our principles, so that people don't make the mistake of thinking we think like that.



POP QUIZ: was this Paul Ryan endorsing Donald Trump or disagreeing with Donald Trump? POP ANSWER: Both. The end result of cognitive dissonance is a kind of verbal mush where the actual information value of a speech act approaches zero (or, it can be argued, a negative value, inasmuch as the speech act can cause confusion where before there had been clarity).

Republican politicians are not the only ones to succumb to the cognitive dissonance. Consider this gem from billionaire investor Carl Icahn:

When experience collides with political expediency, the smart money's on cognitive dissonance.

It should be made clear that cognitive dissonance only affects those who still have a shred of a conscience. Those who support Trump wholeheartedly without feeling any sense of contradiction have much more secure positions in the Bag of Crazy. Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani is a case in point:

Under those eight years, before Obama came along, we didn't have any successful radical Islamic terrorist attack inside the United States



Really? Thiiiiiiiink, Rudy. Thiiiiiiiink. Cast your mind back to not that long ago. Didn't people used to describe everything you said as "A noun, a verb and [a date]?" Remember what the date was? It's not that hard – it was boiled down to two numbers involving three digits. Anything coming to you? Anything at all?

Here's a clue: 9/11.

The man who made his reputation on the biggest radical Islamic terrorist attack inside the United States, an attack which happened in the eight years before Obama came along, is now claiming that it didn't happen. Maybe Archie Bunker accidentally conked him on the head and gave him the worst case of amnesia since 1970s sitcoms. Or, he could just be delusional.

Folks, this is your brain on modern Republicanism.

The only positive thing to note about this phenomenon is that strange attractors are not permanent, although assumptions that this one will fade away on its best before date of November 8th may be premature. But, even in the unlikely event that it does, its effects will likely be felt in the Bag of Crazy for years to come.

At least it's happening in the right place...

Crazy is As Crazy Duhaflurgonblurgon-ha-ha!

When Is God Going To Act On My Prayer To Be Saved From The Political Consequences Of The Religious Beliefs Of Others?

Texas was in a long period
of drought until Governor
Perry signed the fetal pain
bill. It rained that night.
Now God has His hold on
California.



I must admit, I would never have thought of blaming California's drought on the Supreme Court decision legalizing gay marriage. But, then, I'm not California Assemblywoman Shannon Grove, a fact for which at least one of us is grateful, if not both.

Let me see if I can connect the dots: legalizing gay marriage will lead to an increase in well manicured lawns three states down in Pennsylvania. Prettier lawns will lead to higher property taxes. Higher property taxes will inevitably lead to a decrease in scientific studies of the correlation between the number of videos of men getting punched in the groin by children under the age of seven being viewed on Youtube and movement in the price of soybean futures. Obviously, a decrease in such studies would lead to drought in California...by some mechanism I'm still having trouble determining. I'm not California Assemblywoman Shannon Grove, etc. etc.

When informed of Grove's statement, god responded: "Oh, good Me! You throw a few frogs and locusts and boils at people, and suddenly everybody thinks they know Your mind! Tell you what: does anybody remember a little thing called Free Will? This drought was caused by global climate change, and that was caused by – are you ready for this? – **you!** That's right – you made this mess. So, you can fix it! Now, if you'll excuse

me, I have a ‘friend’ waiting in Aruba, and he’s getting really angry that I haven’t brought my Clash albums for him to listen to...”

Tricky Thing, That Risk Assessment – Best To Yank First And Calculate The Odds Later

What if, I mean, there are times, I’m sure, someone has, in the history of this land, used a cigarette against a police officer. Maybe chucked it at him – pushed it at him? ...If [Officer Encinia] indeed felt it could be a potential threat, was that the...to?



I knew smoking was bad for your health, but it took Elisabeth Hasselbeck, Fox News...blonde person to make it clear how. Especially if you’re black. And driving a car.

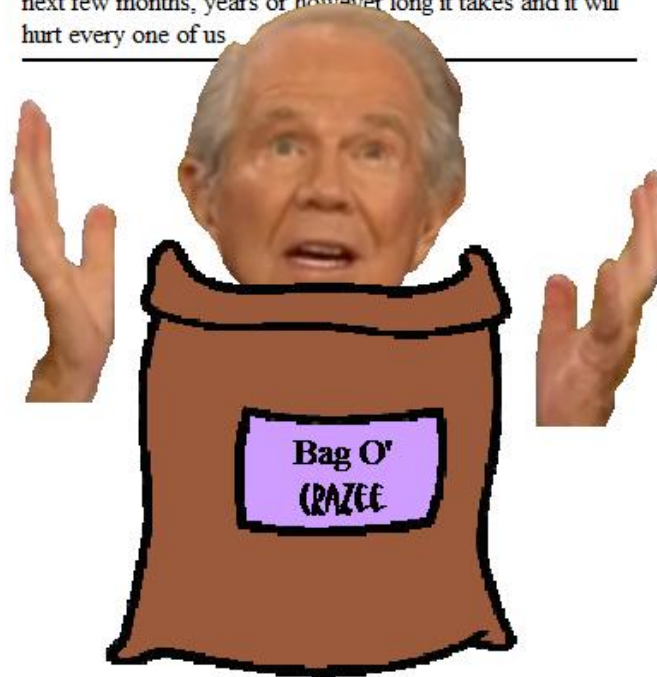
Okay, to be fair, police are trained at threat assessment: Officer Brian Encinia could have calculated that if motorist Sandra Bland had blown smoke in his face, forty years later he would have died in agony of lung cancer. Or, if she had burned him on the hand with her cigarette, in his rush to pull her out of her car and pin Bland to the street, Encinia might not have gotten the burn properly looked after, causing it to become infected and the policeman to lose...a couple of days of pay because he had to stay home while it healed.

I can’t help but wonder what Hasselback’s reaction would have been if she had been the one dragged out of her car by a cop for no reason. “I totally had it coming,” she might have said from her hospital bed. “I could have disarmed him with my smile and choked

him by throwing one of my earrings down his throat or...or...or strangled him with my flowing blond locks! I could have...I...I...I need help, don't I?"

Still Waiting For Some Sign That Other People's Religious Beliefs Won't Impinge On My Freedom's, God

We will pay dearly as a nation for this thing going on. And possibly if we were to stop all this slaughter the judgment of God might be lifted from us. But it's coming, ladies and gentlemen. We just had a little taste of it in terms of the financial system, but it's going to be shaken to its core in the next few months, years or however long it takes and it will hurt every one of us.



Pat Robertson has issues with the Obama administration's support for Planned Parenthood. But, he wants you to know that they're not just his issues, they're god's issues. And, Robertson should know: he was practically there at the birth of the universe, advising god, "Do you really need so many left-handed particles?" Yeah, yeah, he's heard all of the jokes about advanced age – he's been around long enough to. Still, regardless of their age, nobody ever retires from the Bag of Crazy. Nobody shy and retiring is accorded citizenship in it in the first place.

And, yes, I know, this isn't the craziest thing Robertson has ever said. Hell, it probably isn't the craziest thing he's said in the last 15 minutes! Consider this a lifetime achievement posting to the Bag of Crazy.

Meanwhile, god, lying on a towel on a beach in Aruba, didn't bother to take his sunglasses off when he said, "I'm sorry, you have clearly mistaken me for a deity that gives a shit. I swear, give an ape a little imagination, and what does he do with it? Blame you for all of the problems he has created for himself! Yo, Pablo! Have you run out of

coconut oil? You know my fair skin burns easily in this heat! And, while you're at it, who does a god have to make with child to get a refill on his mojito around here?"

Crazy? It's in the Bag!

Besides, Everybody Knows That If Men Could Marry Objects, They Would Choose Their Cars (And See Their Lawnmowers On The Side)

I had a strong, Christian lawyer
tell me yesterday that, under this
decision that he has read, what
it brings about is: It only requires
one human being in this
relationship – that you could
marry your lawnmower with this
decision. I think that's right.



Well, you know, if it's a caring, sharing lawnmower that is a good provider for the family, who are we to tell somebody that marrying it is wrong? I do wonder, though: if there is a divorce between a man and his lawnmower, who would get the lawn care products?

No, scratch that. What I really wonder is: what kind of demented imagination do you have to have to believe anybody would want to marry a lawnmower when weed whackers are so much sexier? Unlike my other question, this one has an answer: Republican Representative Steve King.

Okay, I get it. When you read the part in the New Testament where Jesus says, "Love thy neighbour," you see an asterisk that leads to a passage that reads: "* Except if he's queer, a woman or a liberal, in which case, hate away." Nobody else in the real world sees those

asterisks (it takes a lot to annotate all the times Jesus talked about love); fortunately, there's a whole suburb in the Bag of Crazy for people who do.

In jurisdictions where gay marriage has been legal for many years, there has never, to my knowledge, been a marriage between a man and a lawnmower, weed whacker or other lawn maintenance product; it is unlikely that the Supreme Court's ruling in *Obergefell v. Hodges* will lead to anything like it. I have no doubt, however, that King is already writing the asterisk for that troublesome fact.

It Makes A Welcome Change From The Christian Crazy

Killing Jews was legal in Nazi
Germany. It would have been insane
not to use their skin for lamps.



Such a nice Jewish boy, to say such a mean thing about such a nice Jewish girl – oy!

Sarah Silverman tweeted: “Abortion is still legal in the great U.S of A. It would be insane not to use fetal tissue 4 science & education in such cases.” Right wing...talking person Ben Shapiro responded with the above.

This altercation came because of right wing media releasing heavily edited video that made it look like members of Planned Parenthood were killing babies to sell their body parts. Ben, Ben, Ben, Ben, Ben – does that sound like anything to you? Think about it. Seriously, search your little *keppelach*. No? It doesn't sound, in tone and intent, like the Blood Libel that has caused Jews so much *tsuris* for centuries?

Oy, indeed! Why would it even enter your kop to say something like that?

Where is this coming from? Fetuses are not human beings – those nice goyim on the Supreme Court of the United States made that quite clear years ago. To take Shapiro's position, you have to believe that human life begins at conception, but that's not a Jewish idea, it's a Christian idea. A zealously Christian idea. The kind of Christian who, to put it kindly, does not have a favourable impression of Jews.

Is this really the type of person you want to ally yourself with, *boychick*?

Shapiro could just be demagoguing the whole issue, of course, but I suspect there is genuine *meshuggeh* in the lad.

Somewhere In All That Verbiage Is A Pot Calling A Kettle Crazy

As a nation, when these things happen, we never have the conversation about real evil. We also never have the conversation about mental health. Instead, we descend into partisan conversations where everything is political and neither side can concede or acknowledge the other's points. Everyone and everything gets blamed while ignoring the actual person who killed. I realize now why that is. I realize why we will never have the conversation we should have. A society that looks at a 65 year old male Olympian and, with a straight face, declares him a her and 'a new normal' cannot have a conversation about mental health or evil because that society no longer distinguishes normal from crazy and evil from good. Our American society has a mental illness – overwhelming narcissism and delusion – and cannot recognize what crazy or evil looks like.



One of America's greatest strengths is the way it embraces various points of view. For example, one person says, "In the aftermath of [INSERT NAME OF LATEST

LOCATION WHERE BLACKS WERE SLAUGHTERED BY A WHITE MAN WITH A POLITICAL AGENDA AND FIREARMS], it's time we had an adult conversation on racism in this country." Then, another person says, "Nah nah nah nah nah nah, I'm not gonna talk about it and you can't make me! Pfffft!" It's hard to see how a new Hegelian synthesis can be created out of these two positions, but nobody said democracy was easy.

Certainly not Fox News...whatever laughable euphemism they call their haters these days Erick Erickson. He knows who was responsible for the mass shooting at a black church in Charleston, North Carolina: Caitlyn Jenner. The transgender woman did not directly take part in the shooting, or indirectly take part in the shooting, or have any connection whatsoever to the shooting, but – **hey! Look! Over there! Something evil!**

Clearly, you're ready for an adult conversation about what really happened in Charleston.

Erick, Erick, Erick, Erick, Erick. Racism, Erick. It was racism. Raaaaaaaciiiiisssssmmmmm. Racism! Racism! Racism! R. A. C. I. S. M. Racism! Look it up in the dictionary! Do I need to spell it out for you? Again?

The denial is strong in this one...

If Crazy Was A Renewable Resource...

Numb Scalia

You know, it is curious. In the Gospels, the devil is doing all sorts of things. He's making pigs run off cliffs, he's possessing people and whatnot. And that doesn't happen very much anymore... It's because he's smart... You're looking at me as though I'm weird. My God! Are you so out of touch with most of America, most of which believes in the devil? I mean, Jesus Christ believed in the devil! It's in the Gospels! You travel in circles that are so, so removed from mainstream America that you are appalled that anybody would believe in the devil! Most of mankind has believed in the devil, for all of history. Many more intelligent people than you or me believe in the devil.



Buying a summer home in the Bag of Crazy – did the devil make Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia do it? (Did I really go there? Sure. What the hell...)

Scalia's attitude explains his position on *Bush v Gore*: the devil wanted a recount in Florida to ensure that the candidate that won the popular vote (and, arguably, the Electoral College) would actually become President. Does his evil know no limits? It also explains his contribution to the Citizens United decision: the devil wanted corporate money out of the political process because...umm, because...well, you don't actually have to understand all of the reasons the devil does what he does, you just have to know evil when you see it. Fortunately, at least one member of the Supreme Court does.

Still, philosophers of Crazy have to ask: can a judge of a court in a secular state set aside his personal religious convictions in order to render unbiased judgments on the cases that come before him? Sure, when pigs fly...off a cliff.

Every Day, She Runs A 100k Maranatha In Her Head

This happened and as of today the United States is willingly, knowingly, intentionally sending arms to terrorists. Now, what this says to me, I'm a believer in Jesus Christ, as I look at the End Times scripture, this says to me that the leaf is on the fig tree and we are to understand the signs of the times, which is your ministry, we are to understand where we are in God's end times history... Rather than seeing this as a negative, we need to rejoice, Maranatha Come Lord Jesus, His day is at hand. When we see up is down and right is called wrong, when this is happening, we were told this; these are the days as the days of Noah.



You may wonder why the vast majority of residents in the Bag of Crazy are white males. Could the institution be...sexist? I mean, aren't cat ladies crazy? Well, sure, they are. But cat ladies are crazy in a way that will only hurt them...and 97 felines. To be a proper member of the Bag of Crazy, your insane beliefs have to leave a much wider field of damage.

Thank you, Minnesota Congresswoman Michele Bachmann, for reminding us that truly destructive crazy is not the sole domain of men.

As it happens, the Obama administration is only giving non-lethal, defensive and protective aid to Syrian rebels who have been vetted as not being affiliated with terrorist organizations. But, pfft, pshaw and other quaint utterances of dismissal. Those are just facts, and the Bag of Crazy is made of purest denialonium, which makes it impervious to actual reality.

And, how, exactly, does misrepresenting a political policy signal the End of Days? Oh, wait, in the Bag of Crazy, **anything** can signal the End of Days. War in the Middle East. Your Aunt Bertha claiming that aliens talk to her through her 1972 Royal Visit commemorative cocaine spoon. Stubbing your toe. Fortunately for those of us who live outside the Bag of Crazy, the End of Days moves along an asymptotic curve: it's always getting closer, but it will never actually arrive.

And, If They Learn Your Bullying Tactics Really Well, They May Grow Up To Be Right Wing Radio Talk Show Hosts

Well, they're going to cry, I'll hurt their feelings. PUSH 'EM! Because if you don't do it now, it's going to be much worse when they're pushed and they're shoved and they're shot. Push them! Teach them! The need to know the truth and they need to be pushed up against the wall once in a while so they know they can defend themselves.



One of the basic properties of denialonium is that new atoms of information circling around it can be absorbed into its structure without threatening the stability of the whole. Or, in layperson's terms: one of the advantages of residency in the Bag of Crazy is that anything that challenges your belief system can be incorporated into that belief system.

This is Limbaugh's First law – it's scientific!

As an example, consider radio host Glenn “The Anti-Dr. Spock” Beck’s foray into parenting advice. When the authorities knock down your door with some bogus claim of “child abuse,” you can use it as a teachable moment on the need to be prepared to defend yourself. See how I did that? Of course, you should probably tone down the physical lessons when your children are visiting you in prison...

Just Because You’re Paranoid Doesn’t Mean Anyone’s Out To Get You

Nazi Germany is the true birthplace, and Hitler is the real father of universal health care. Like Lencare, Stalincare, Maocare, Castrocare and Obamacare, all universal health-care systems are derivative of Marxism, socialism, communism, progressivism, postmodernism and thus are antithetical to America’s founding constitutional principles of God, the Bible, natural law, equality, liberty and truth. Like Hitlercare, Obamacare will inevitably lead to health-care rationing, death panels, millions of uninsured and, eventually, the systematic genocide of the weak, minorities, enfeebled, the elderly and political enemies of the God-state. Obama is using his Gestapo and SS Stormtroopers or so-called “navigators” (e.g., the youth, the unions, Planned Parenthood, NAACP, ACORN, La Raza, etc.) to propagandize the poor, the miseducated and minorities who are being exploited to lead this final blitzkrieg toward forcing universal health care, but like in Hitler’s Germany once the reality of their treachery metastasizes, guess who will be the first ones forced to sacrifice their lives for the Fatherland in our march toward a “perfect” society without illness or suffering? History has repeatedly demonstrated that the weak and vulnerable have often been the first victims to be eliminated.



That’s it, WorldNetDaily correspondent Ellis Washington? That’s the best you got? Because, unless you’ve got a time machine, ACORN can’t hurt anybody – you and your friends killed it years ago. La Raza? Really? If Republicans want to capture some of the growing Latino vote instead of relying on the angry white guy vote, lumping them in with vast, incoherent, anti-American conspiracies seems a little...counter-productive, don’t you think? As for youth, well, your own experience should show that the cure for youth is time.

Meanwhile, you forgot to mention Masons, drug dealers, Scrooge, aliens, the Knights Templar, people with red hair, Shriners, Mrs. Ferguson up on the third floor, the Grinch, the Simons Templar and the abominable snowman. Come on, guy! If you’re gonna connect the dots, **really connect the dots!**

As it happens, I live in a country with fascist/socialist medicine, and I have felt the jackboots of unfreedom on my throat. Or, actually, my chest. When I was getting a triple coronary bypass. Evil fuckers! Prolonging my life and asking for nothing in return but my tax dollars!

Oh, and the whole God and the Bible being a major part of the constitution (your capitalization, not mine) thing? I was under the impression that Congress was forbidden from passing laws establishing a state religion. Could this be the “up is down and right is called wrong” that Michele Bachmann was talking about? Perhaps the two of you should duke it out some time.

Actually, I’d pay good money to see that...

Political Victory? It’s in the Bag (of Crazy)...

Vicki Has Clearly Lost Her...Too Easy?

When you look at life expectancy, there are problems in the black race: sickle-cell anemia is something that comes up, diabetes is something that’s prevalent in the genetic makeup and you just can’t help it... Although I’ve got to say, I’ve never had better barbecue and better chicken and ate better in my life than when you go down south and you — I mean love it and everybody loves it. The Mexican diet in Mexico with all of the fresh vegetables. And you go down there and they’re much thinner than when they come up here... they change their diet.



It looks like an attempt at communication. It contains words that are recognizably English in origin, gathered together in groups that approximate sentences. But, when you try to make sense of them, you quickly find that they make your brain hurt.

Welcome to the Bag of Crazy Colorado State Republican Senator Vicki Marble. What was Marble trying to say in her – speech is too dignified a description – word salad (with a tangy vinaigrette dressing)?

a) I have modeled my political career after that of Dan Quayle – what could possibly go wrong?

b) the Economic Opportunity Poverty Reduction Task Force is a joke and the only response it deserves is incoherent rambling

c) Colorado gets too much tourism, and I'd like to do my part to make the state a laughingstock in order to reduce it

While everybody was watching the national Crazy over the past few years, a lot of right wing extremists won seats in state legislatures, raising the local Crazy quotient to levels not seen since 1928. This trend bears watching (although you may want to take anti-nausea medication before you start...).

It Takes A Village To Make A Condo (In The Bag Of Crazy)

But can someone explain to me why it is that we tiptoe around a religion that promotes the most murderous mayhem on the planet in their so-called 'holiest days?' You know, if you've kept up with the Middle East, you know that the most likely time to have an uprising of rock throwing and rioting comes on the day of prayer on Friday. So the Muslims will go to the mosque, and they will have their day of prayer, and they come out of there like uncorked animals — throwing rocks and burning cars.



Membership in the Bag of Crazy is not just a matter of what you say; it's also a matter of who you are. If a homeless man talks about Islam inciting its followers to violence, it's a sad spectacle of human decline, and somebody should really do something about, you know, **them**, because this used to be such a nice city to live in, and I know that they don't know what they're saying and they really need help, but do I really have to be subjected to their sad spectacle when all I want to do is walk over to Holt Renfrew? If former Republican politician turned radio talk show pundass Mike Huckabee says what the crazy homeless man is thinking, well, you have an international headache.

You see, to get into the bag of crazy requires a team. For Huckabee the politician, it was made up of personal assistants, spin doctors and donors. For Huckabee the radio personality, it contained personal assistants, the PR department and sponsors. Not only that, but the crazy thrives on mass support. For Huckabee the politician, it was voters (until it wasn't). For Huckabee the radio personality, it's listeners (until it isn't...any time now...that's okay, I can wait...).

Only a select few get to move into the Bag of Crazy. But, they couldn't have done it without you.

He's Such A Card! Wait – What – He's Actually Serious?

Like Hitler and the Iranian dictators [Obama has announced his plan for a] powerful domestic army to terrify any opposition that might arise... Where will he get his "national police?" The NaPo will be recruited from "young out-of-work urban men" and it will be hailed as a cure for the economic malaise of the inner cities. Obama will put a thin veneer of training and military structure on urban gangs, and send them out to channel their violence against Obama's enemies. Instead of doing drive-by shootings in their own neighborhoods, these young thugs will do beatings and murders of people "trying to escape" - people who all seem to be leaders and m...ops that oppose Obama.



That's Orson Scott Card – you may know him best as an outspoken critic of gay marriage, but did you know that he is also a science fiction author? It's true! So true, in fact, that one of his novels is about to be released as a movie!

This could explain the insane conspiracy theory – no, really. Listen. When you spend so much time thinking about futuristic scenarios that are not going to happen, it must be easy to slip into current scenarios that are not going to happen. The mind is a strange place, the mind of a science fiction author 3.1415926535 times moreso.

Why aren't other science fiction authors taking up residence in the Bag of Crazy? Have a little faith in our hypothesis – after all, nobody knows what the future holds...

Blame The Violence On Salsa? I Blame It On Rio...

If you bring people from a violent civilization into a less-violent civilization, you're going to have more violence right? It's like pouring hot water into cold water, does it raise the temperature or not?



THESIS: as you travel south, countries in the Americas become more violent.
ANTITHESIS: crime statistics do not actually support this observation. SYNTHESIS:
CRAAAAAZY!

Republican Representative Steve King, a lifetime resident of the Bag of Crazy, is regurgitating the old idea that mixing the races results in the dilution of white supremacy. You know: if you let your son date a black woman, their children won't be able to dance. Or, play basketball. Or, hold down a job. In Spanish, this is known as la falacia logico; in English, it's the fine print on the deed to your home in the Bag of Crazy.

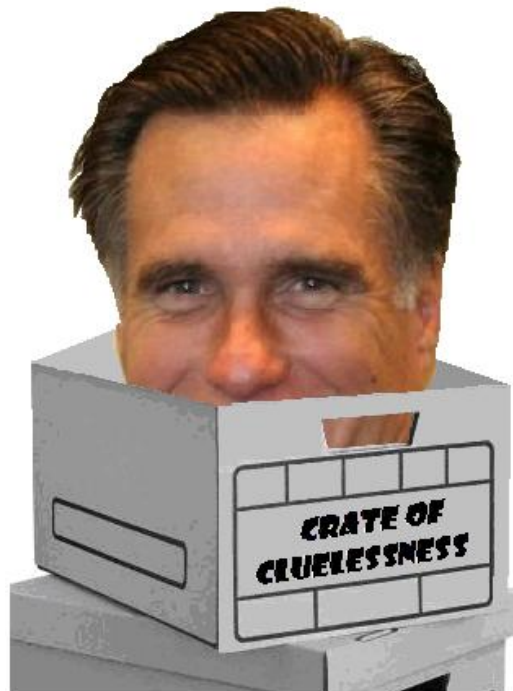
Now, remember: membership in the Bag of Crazy does not mean that I personally disagree with what you say. Membership in the Bag of Crazy means that reality disagrees with what you say. Arguing the point only makes it worse...

Lahf is Lahk a Bag o' Crazy...

This is what we know: American embassies in Libya and Egypt have been attacked, killing and injuring US civilians and soldiers. Initial reports suggested that the attacks in retaliation for the release of a 15 minute trailer for a feature film making fun of Islam and the Prophet Mohammed.

With America under siege abroad, one would expect the honourable leaders of the right to rally around the cause of the defence of the nation.

I'm outraged by the attacks on American diplomatic missions in Libya and Egypt and by the death of an American consulate worker in Benghazi. It's disgraceful that the Obama Administration's first response was not to condemn attacks on our diplomatic missions, but to sympathize with those who waged the attacks.

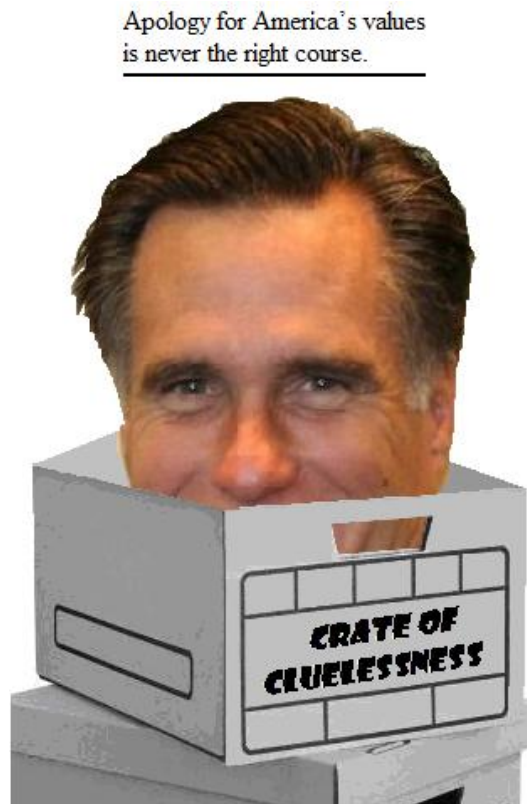


Oh. Was Republican Presidential candidate Mitt Romney talking about the government release that stated, in part, "Today, the 11th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States, Americans are honouring our patriots and those who serve our nation as the fitting response to the enemies of democracy. Respect for religious beliefs is a cornerstone of American democracy. We firmly reject the actions by those who abuse the universal right of free speech to hurt the religious beliefs of others."

Because, you know, the memo didn't come from the Obama Administration, it came from the American embassy in Cairo. And, technically, it wasn't a response to the embassy bombings, because **it was made public before they happened.**

Oh, and it turns out that the attack on Americans in Benghazi may have been a response to a killing of a top Al-Qaeda operative and had nothing to do with a video. (Perhaps tomorrow we'll discover that it was really a bunch of kids who got carried away playing *Call of Duty: Black Ops*. Rushing to judgment, though more fun than Pictionary on a cold summer's night, is not without repercussions.)

Romney, being an honourable man, took the first opportunity to correct his errors:



Or, actually, he did that. He DDed. In Washington, this is known as Doubling Down. In a psychiatrist's office, it's known as sinking into a Deeper Delusion.

Fortunately, other leaders of the right responded to the situation in a more measured way. Honourable leaders like Sarah Palin:

Apparently President Obama can't see Egypt and Libya from his house. On the anniversary of the worst terrorist attacks ever perpetrated on America, our embassy in Cairo and our consulate in Benghazi were attacked by violent Islamic mobs. In Cairo, they scaled the walls of our embassy, destroyed our flag, and replaced it with a black Islamic banner. In Benghazi, the armed gunmen set fire to our consulate and killed an American staff member. The Islamic radicals claim that these attacks are in protest to some film criticizing Islam. In response to this, the U.S. embassy in Cairo issued a statement that was so outrageous many of us thought it must be a satire. The embassy actually apologized to the violent mob attacking us, and it even went so far as to chastise those who use free speech to "hurt the religious feelings of Muslims." (Funny, the current administration has no problem hurting the "religious feelings" of Catholics.) But where is the president's statement about this? These countries represent his much touted "Arab Spring." How's that Arab Spring working out for us now? Have we received an apology yet from our "friends" in the Muslim Brotherhood for the assault on our embassy? It's about time our president stood up for America and condemned these Islamic extremists. I realize there must be a lot on his mind these days - what with our economy's abysmal jobless numbers and Moody's new warning about yet another downgrade to our nation's credit rating due to the current administration's failure to come up with a credible deficit reduction plan. And, of course, he has a busy schedule - with all those rounds of golf, softball interviews with the "Pimp with the Limp," and fundraising dinners with his corporate cronies. But our nation's security is of utmost importance to our Commander-in-chief. America can't afford any more "leading from behind" in such a dangerous world. President Obama likes to "speak softly" to our enemies. If he doesn't have a "big stick" to carry, maybe it's time for him to grow one.



Can anybody explain to me how Palin hasn't been buried alive by the weight of her own hateful rhetoric?

Oh, and in case you didn't notice (or, more likely, couldn't stomach reading it all the way through), Palin's rant ended with a euphemistic reference to President Obama's penis. I suppose, in suggesting that the President's manhood is not big enough for the job, Palin was being all mavericky and stuff; after all, remarks about the size of the penises of black men have historically run in the other direction.

Okay, that was kind of ugly. Still, Palin is only one person. Surely, there must be right wing leaders willing to counter the misinformation of other right wing leaders. You know, honourable people like former Speaker of the House and Republican Presidential hopeful New Gingrich:

Maybe it's because I'm a conservative.
Maybe it's because I come out of a
different background, but when the
American flag is torn down and
destroyed, when an American
ambassador and three other Americans
are killed, my reaction is not to find some
way to be pleasant and understanding
and caring about the people who are
killing Americans, tearing down our flag,
and assaulting our country...

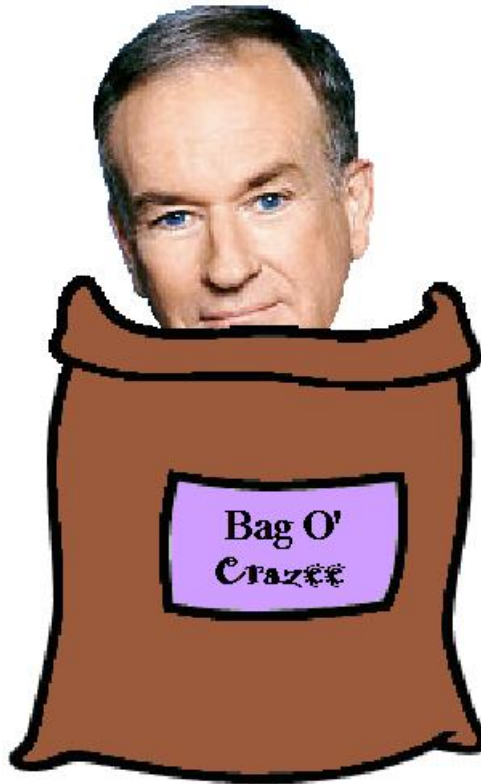


Do you mean the white, non-Kenyan, non-Muslim background, Newt? Or, do you mean the non-1960s flag burning, enemies-of-freedom, moral relativistic background? Because, frankly, there's enough dog whistles in that short statement to give poor Fido bleeding ears!

Okay, I'm beginning to get the idea that the right is united in condemning not only the attacks themselves, but their make-believe version of the Obama administration's response to the attacks. In Washington, this is known as the Echo Chamber. In a psychiatrist's office, it's known as mass psychosis.

Surely, there must be one honourable person on the right willing to stand up to the lying demagoguery. At least one?

You don't criticize the Commander-in-Chief in the middle of a firefight. That could be construed as putting U.S. forces in jeopardy and undermining morale.



There you go! I never thought I'd say this, but thank you, Bill O'Reilly, for being the voice of sanity – what? That statement was made in 2004? And, he was talking about then President George W. Bush, a Republican? But, surely, an honourable man would maintain that position no matter which party held the Presidency – to do otherwise would come close to situational ethics – and, since Bill O'Reilly is an honourable man -

It's like the judge telling the woman who got raped, "You asked for it because of the way you dressed." OK? That's the same thing. "Well, America, you should be the ones to apologize, you should have known this would happen, you should have done – what I don't know – but it's your fault that it happened."



Whoa! Did not see that one coming! I should have, of course. According to Rove's Corollary of Hitler's Propaganda Hypothesis, you can gain political advantage by claiming that your opposition is engaged in behaviour that you are engaged in. Are Republicans getting raked over the coals for Todd Akins' Neanderthal views on rape? Find a way to accuse the Democrats of being insensitive to rape victims. The less connection the accusation has to demonstrable reality, the more effective it is in confusing members of the public and generally undermining the legitimacy of the political process.

Thank you, Arizona Senator Jon Kyl, for a perfect example.

If America re-elects Barack Obama to a second term, we deserve all the pain and misery that will ensue.



And, to ensure that there is a lot of it to go around, we will dedicate ourselves to stalling any legislation that could make the economy better, reduce the deficit, promote better health care or otherwise help ordinary people.

I'm sorry, but who, exactly, is blaming the victim now?

Allen West? Florida Republican Representative Allen West is the most honourable spokesperson for the right?

The world is in big trouble.

Akin Breakin' Heart (Of The GOP)

It's not exactly Cirque de Soleil, but then Tampa ain't Paris, so we take what we can get when the Republican nominating convention comes to town. And, what better way to start than with a man putting his head in a lion's mouth...

"If it is a legitimate rape, the female body has ways to try and shut that whole thing down."



So, here's how it works: When a woman is violently forced to have sex, her body produces a hormone called pulleditouttamyassosol. Pulleditouttamyassosol reads the Congressional Record in such a droning monotone that it kills eggs with boredom before they have a chance to be fertilized. Thus, women who get raped are immune to becoming pregnant.

Pulleditouttamyassosol is controversial. In men, it is correlated with high levels of testosterone, and seems to contribute to them making statements not grounded in any sort of reality. Republican Representative Todd Akin, currently running for a Senate seat in Missouri, may have been suffering from excess Pulleditouttamyassosol when he made his remarks about "legitimate rape" (as opposed to all those phony rapes that one hears so much about these days).

In other words, crazy. But, by no means alone. Consider the next act, a sad ballerina...

I didn't want to be on radio yesterday because I couldn't officially hate Todd Akin until the 5 p.m. deadline. Once he refused to resign – not even resign. He doesn't hold the office – to withdraw as the candidate. Now I can officially hate him. If he had withdrawn, now we can rally around him. Say he is a fine man, good Republican doing what's best for the party. Now we can't say that. Now I officially hate him.



Of course, you could fill a book with the names of the people whom Ann Coulter officially hates. Lord knows, she has.

And, what circus would be complete without a clown?

Rape is rape and there's no splitting hairs.



Finally! A Republican who unambiguously repudiates Todd Akin's position. Of course, Vice Presidential candidate Paul Ryan's statement would have more credibility if he hadn't sponsored two bills in Congress that limited abortions to victims of "forcible rape." You'd kind of need an electron microscope to split that hair! Or, how about the 37 other bills he sponsored that used various methods and terminology to limit abortion, many even in cases of rape?

Hmmm... Why are Republicans coming down so hard on Akin when they often hold suspiciously similar positions? I have a theory (if you don't mind my using the terminology of science). You see, there's this magic fabric – let's not call it underwear, let's just suggest that image to you – that divides what Republicans tell their base from what they tell the public. Akin has soiled that...fabric by giving the base message (in every sense of the word) to the general public.

Now, if you would please direct your attention to the high wire above the stage. No, that was not really a request. Look up at the daring young lady on the flying trapeze. Look! Look up! Look now!

Bless his heart, I don't want to pile on Todd Akin because, in some respects, I understand what he's trying to say here in standing on principle, that he doesn't want to be perceived as a quitter. But you got to know when to hold 'em and know when to fold 'em. Believe me, I've walked it before. I know when you have to hold that mantle and then hand it to someone else in order to progress a positive agenda. That's what I had to do in Alaska... You have to step aside from self, from your self-desire to get in there and deserve and do what you believe is right, and you have to, in a sense, take one for the team.



Of course, Sarah Palin knows all about stepping aside from her self-desire...unless this statement was a ploy to remind the public that she has books to sell. Or, maybe she wanted the opportunity to justify quitting as Governor of Alaska – sometimes you have to take one for the team, even if it means quitting a job you were ill-suited for and aren't really enjoying. You know. In order to progress a positive agenda. Quitting – sometimes it's the American way. Or, maybe she just doesn't like men named Todd any more.

Honestly, Palin preaching self-sacrifice? That's like Darth Vader telling Dick Cheney that maybe he should try to understand his political enemies instead of destroying them!

Now that the show is half over, it's probably time for the ringmaster to show up. Or, at least, somebody who considers himself the ringmaster...

If I had demanded Akin drop out,
he'd be gone. If I had demanded that
Akin quit the campaign, he'd be
gone...

I'm a guy on the radio. Who am I to
tell this man what to do?



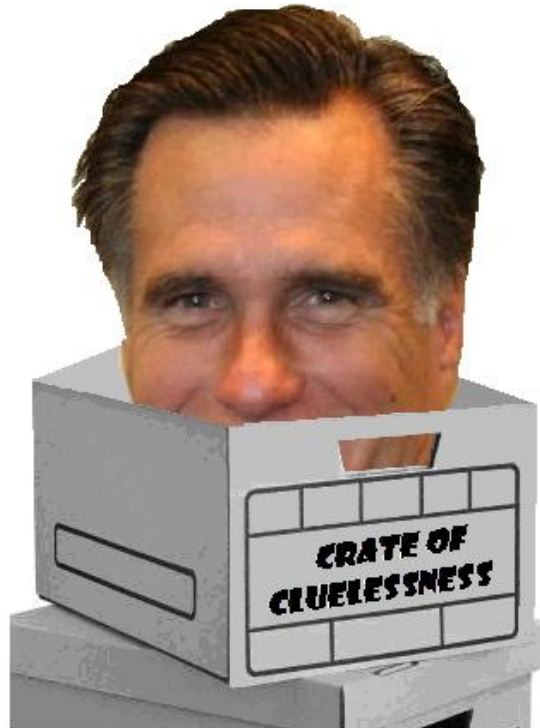
EARTH TO PLANET LIMBAUGH! EARTH CALLING LIMBAUGH! DO YOU READ ME, OVER? PLANET LIMBAUGH DO YOU READ ME, O – never mind. The gravitational pull of an ego that large makes it nearly impossible for sense to enter.

I mean, seriously? Rush, you can't go five minutes without telling somebody what they should do. You start to cough and your face turns red and you start beating your chest.

When was the last time you had your Pulleditouttamyassosol levels checked? Seriously! You need to see a doctor about that – it's not a charming quirk, it's a condition.

Oh, wait. Here comes another wannabe ringmaster...

Congressman Akin's comments on rape are insulting, inexcusable, and, frankly, wrong. Like millions of other Americans, we found them to be offensive.



Well, he would say something like that, wouldn't he? Romney is the quantum candidate whose position on any issue depends on nobody determining which side of the magic fabric he's on by actually looking into the crate. And, if anybody tries, he'll claim they're playing dirty politics and the subject should be off limits and next question please – I said NEXT QUESTION, PLEASE!

Of course, no circus would be complete without a clown...

Nobody is proposing to deny birth
control to anybody.



Now, when you say that, are you saying that denying birth control to women is off the table as an option, or that nobody needs to “propose” it because they are already carrying it out? Like the state of Texas, whose law defunding Planned Parenthood, a key supplier of contraception, was recently upheld by the courts? Ah, the Lone Star State, which forces women to go to Mexico for morning after pills that could kill them because legislators believe in the sanctity of life. But, of course, Texas isn’t the only -

Hey! Hold up a second! Paul Ryan, is that you again? You must want to get into the Bag of Crazy in the worst way.

Congratulations. You’ve succeeded.

**It’s a Wonderful Day in the Crazy Hood
A Wonderful Day for a Crazy, Would
You Be Mine? Could
You Be Mine?**

Well, hello, there. Come on in. Why don’t you take your mukluks off and come sit next to the fire, and I’ll tell you about some of our neighbours in the Bag of Crazy. Would you like that? Good.

People like former Vice Presidential candidate Sarah Palin. She hasn't been in the news much lately, probably because she's raking in enough bucks to expand on her already voluminous chalet on Politician Place. Still, when she does pop up to make a public pronouncement, she does her Bag of Crazy hood proud.

Obama lies, freedom dies.



What would you call a person who pushed the lie of “death panels” in the Affordable Care Act accusing the President of lying about the legislation? Post-ironic? Pre-menopausal? Antediluvian? Or, just a great neighbour?

Sarah Palin gives alternate realities a bad name. And, we love her for it.

...unlike most veterans I have had the honor to meet since my election to Congress, who rarely if ever talk about their service or the combat they've seen, that is darn near all of what Tammy Duckworth talks about.



Oh, look, just down the street from Sarah Palin is Illinois Republican Representative Joe Walsh. Hi, Joe! How does a man who has never fought in a war tear down his Democratic opponent, who lost both her legs fighting in Iraq? LOUDLY AND PROUDLY!

Of course, Republicans would go 50 shades of apeshit if a Democrat attacked one of their war vets this way. But, you don't get to live in the Bag of Crazy by feeling, you know, shame about your behaviour. If you did, Walsh would have paid the \$117,000 he owes in child support.

Real Republicans support the military and the family. Sure. Sure, they do.

When the legislation that passed in the farm bill that says that it's a federal crime to watch animals fight or to induce someone else to watch an animal fight but it's not a federal crime to induce somebody to watch people fighting, there's something wrong with the priorities of people that think like that.



Next door to Walsh lives Republican Iowa Representative Steve King. You might think that his statement was a call to ban boxing in the United States. DO YOU NOT UNDERSTAND HOW THE BAG OF CRAZY WORKS? No, King was arguing in favour of watching animals fight. Because, of course, dogs and cocks and other animals know the risks of fighting each other and do so of their own free will. It says so right there in the contracts they sign. And, of course, losing animals are never killed for the pleasure of the spectators.

Priorities, people. Priorities.

You may be wondering why Republicans are so over-represented in the Bag of Crazy. Don't Democrats say crazy things? Of course they do. Democrats have built a cozy community in and around Delusional Avenue. Even President Obama has a modest bungalow there: how many times do the Republicans have to slap him down before he abandons his belief in bi-partisanship? You know what they say: fool me once, shame on you. Fool me eight times, and I should start picking out furniture for my home in the Bag of Crazy.

The thing is, though, that Democrats still defiantly cling, however tenuously, to, you know, reality and facts and stuff. Republicans jettisoned all that unnecessary ballast years ago. And, when you don't have to ground anything you say in, you know, reality and facts and stuff, well, the crazy can flow freely. Just ask Virginia Republican Delegate Robert G. "sodomy is not a civil right" Marshall.

But you know what that behavior does? It cuts your life by about 20 years. It causes increased health problems. It doesn't serve the common good to promote this.

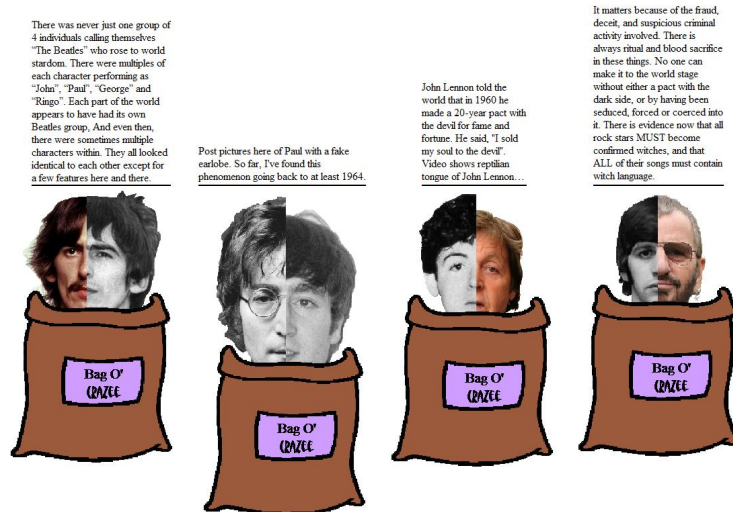


Okay, so, here it is: BEING GAY WILL KILL YOU. And, naturally, because we want every citizen to live as long as they can, we should discourage everybody from being gay; we certainly shouldn't promote it. No need to thank me for my homophobia – I only believe in it for your own good.

By the way – how do you like my modest little house – I'm only a couple of blocks away from Sarah Palin. That's right! Do you like my tasteful art and furnishings? THEY

WERE CHOSEN BY MY WIFE, AND ANYBODY WHO SAYS OTHERWISE IS A DAMN LIAR!

By this time, you're probably wondering to yourself: is the Bag of Crazy populated entirely by politicians? Is President Obama a Muslim? Of course not! At least, not if you live outside Conspiracy Corners!



Okay, to be honest, this area to the south of us is a bit of a slum – I mean, they'll let just anybody live there! Like Dorie Celestia, the woman behind the *The Beatles Never Existed Web* site (which, apparently itself no longer exists – **if it ever did...**) and discussion board (which does). As George explains, there may or may not have been four men named John, Paul, George and Ringo, but the phenomenon of The Beatles was maintained by a group of clones sent throughout the world to act like the rock band.

There were subtle differences in the clones that could be detected by close examination of their photographs and videos. One difference is that clones have longer necks than originals. I'm surprised that Celestia didn't demand that the government start a Neck Measurement Registry of every citizen; that way, if you were worried that your wife had been replaced by an exact copy, you could just measure her neck and compare the result with what had been in the registry.

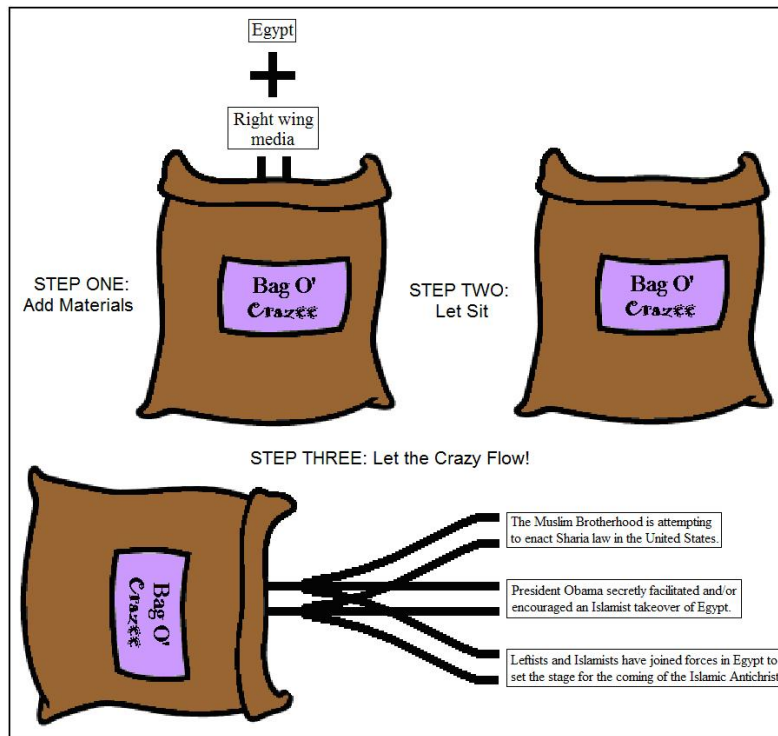
You might call it insane. I prefer to think of it as consistent.

These are some of the people in my neighbourhood. The Bag of Crazy – visit often enough and it begins to feel just like home...

Bags of Crazy/Baskets of Deplorables excerpted From *The Daily Me*

At Least Pandora's Ills Weren't All In Her Head

LOOK NOT INTO THE BAG OF CRAZY

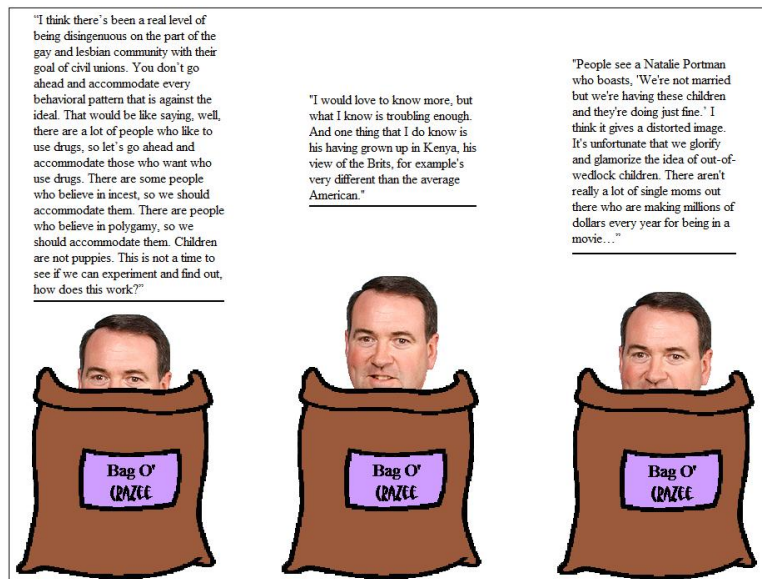


LEST IT BE THAT THE BAG OF CRAZY IS LOOKING INTO YOU

Has He Seen *Black Swan*?

If He Had, Huckabee Might Have Chosen His Fight More Carefully...

SOMETIMES THE BAG OF CRAZY IS MISTAKEN FOR WHACK A MOLE GAME



EXCEPT WITHOUT THE MOLE...OR THE WHACKING...

**If You Get Your Way, Rand, You Might Not Like What Some People Will Use
THEIR Toilets To Dispose Of**

SOMETIMES IT MUST FEEL

"The point is that most members of your administration probably would be frank and characterize themselves - and upfront - as being pro-choice for abortion, but you're really anti-choice on every other consumer item. I think there should be some self-examination from the administration on the idea that you favor a woman's right to an abortion, but you don't favor a woman or a man's right to choose what kind of light bulb, what kind of dishwasher, what kind of washing machine... We have to flush the toilet 10 times before it works. I've been waiting for 20 years to talk about how bad these toilets are and this was a good excuse today."



LIKE YOU WILL BE CRUSHED BY THE WEIGHT OF THE CRAZY

You Don't Know Just How Relative Truth Is Until You Open The Bag O' Crazy

How to Tell the Real Bag O' Crazy Occupants From the Wannabes

When caught in one foolish statement:

The Founding Fathers worked tirelessly until
slavery was no more in the United States.*



The true crazy will double down with an equally foolish statement:

Well if you look at one of our Founding Fathers, John Quincy Adams, that's
absolutely true. He was a very young boy when he was with his father
serving essentially as his father's secretary. He tirelessly worked throughout
his life to make sure that we did in fact one day eradicate slavery...**



* If you overlook the fact that most of the Founding Fathers owned slaves themselves, and that the Constitution they wrote didn't really deal with the issue. Only somebody who was a permanent resident of the Bag O' Crazy could believe this.

** Adams was a child when the Constitution was signed. He didn't actually become an anti-slavery crusader until much later. Oh, and, although he was many things in his life, a Founding Father of the United States wasn't one of them. You have to have breathed the putrefied air in the Bag O' Crazy to think that this vindicates your previous statement.

And, Speaking Of Exploding Heads...

We did it as a way to bring attention to the fact that we have all of these foreigners, and the Russian government, the official Chinese government - Mao said political power goes out of the barrel of a gun, he killed about 80 million people because he's the only guy who had the guns - so we did it to point out that this is globalism, and the mega banks that control the planet and brag they have taken over - in Bloomberg, AP, Reuters, you name it - brag that they're going to get our guns as well. They've taken everybody's guns, but the Swiss and the American people and when they get our guns, they can have their world tyranny while the government buys 1.6 billion bullets, armored vehicles, tanks, helicopters, predator drones, armed now in U.S. skies, being used to arrest people in North Dakota. ... I have FBI crime statistics that come out of a year late, 2011, 20-plus percent crime drop in the last nine years, real violent crime because more guns means less crime. Britain took the guns 15, 16 years ago. Tripling of your overall violent crime. True, we have a higher gun violence level, but overall, muggings, stabbing, deaths - those men [allegedly] raped that woman in India to death with an iron rod 4 feet long. You can't ban the iron rods. The guns, the iron rods, Piers, didn't do it, the tyrants did it. Hitler took the guns Stalin took the guns, Mao took the guns, Fidel Castro took the guns, Hugo Chavez took the guns, and I'm here to say that 1776 will commence again if you try to take our firearms! It doesn't matter how many leanings you get out there in the street begging for guns taken. We will not relinquish them. Do you understand?



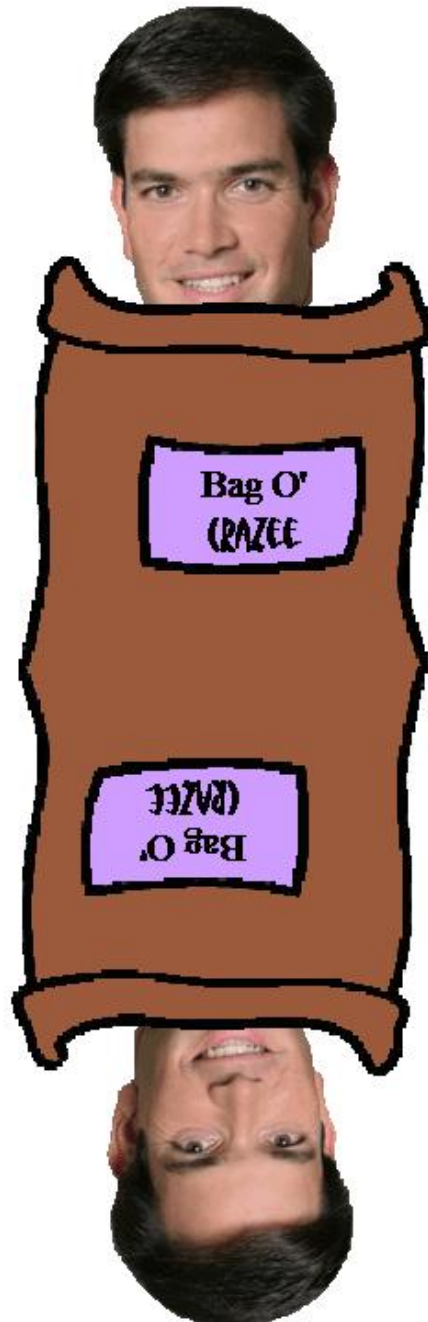
I have a theory that the skull of somebody living in the Bag of Crazy is like a Tardis, bigger on the inside than on the outside. Because of this, it can actually store far more cubic millilitres of crazy than a normal brain can store of sane.

Of course, although it may be large, even one of those skulls is not infinite, and the crazy can create increasing pressure until it eventually blows, forcing everybody in the vicinity to flee the devastation in terror. Talk radio host Alex Jones had just such a Vesuvian eruption in a debate with Piers Morgan on the issue of gun control on CNN.

It was a wonderful, horrible thing to behold.

Rubio, Oh Rubio, Wherefore Art Thou Rubio?

For me, Medicare is not a political talking point. My parents came to the United States in the late 1950s. They worked hard for over 40 years to provide their children with the chance to do all the things they could not. But they never made much money. As a result, they retired with precious little in savings. Medicare was and is the only way they could access health care. When my father got sick last year, Medicare paid for his numerous hospital stays. And as he reached the end of his life, Medicare allowed him to die with dignity, by paying for his hospice care.



churches and our synagogues. But all that changed when the government began to assume those responsibilities. All of a sudden, for an increasing number of people in our nation, it was no longer necessary to worry about saving for security because that was the government's job.

Taken on their own, neither of Florida Governor Marco Rubio's statements about Medicare are crazy – one is heartwarming, the other is harsh. One is sweet, the other is an ideological dog whistle for his most extreme followers. One is a little bit country, the other is a little bit rock and roll. But, neither one is crazy.

Assuming that nobody would ever point out the contradiction between the two positions, on the other hand, well, that's just nuts.

The Bag Of Crazy Is A Meritocracy: Not Everybody Is Allowed In – You Have To Work Hard To Earn Your Place!

I didn't send it as racist,
although that's what it is. I sent
it out because it's anti-Obama.



Okay, emailing racist jokes to a few of your closest friends about the president that equate interracial sex with bestiality isn't enough to get you into the Bag of Crazy. Racist? By definition. Tacky? Hell, yes. Crazy? Not by current definitions. Especially those that can be applied to Republicans.

But, acknowledging it was racist and then claiming that you weren't being racist when you forwarded it to others? Bush appointed Chief Federal District Court judge in Montana Richard Cebull, welcome to the Bag of Crazy. I hope you brought a toothbrush and pyjamas, because I suspect you're going to be here a while.

The Bag Of Crazy – Want Friess With That?

You think you know the Bag of Crazy? Take this simple test to find out: match the person in the Bag with their name, a recent quote and my opinion of their quote. Those of you who have studied the Commutative Law of Crazy will know that it's not as easy as it sounds!

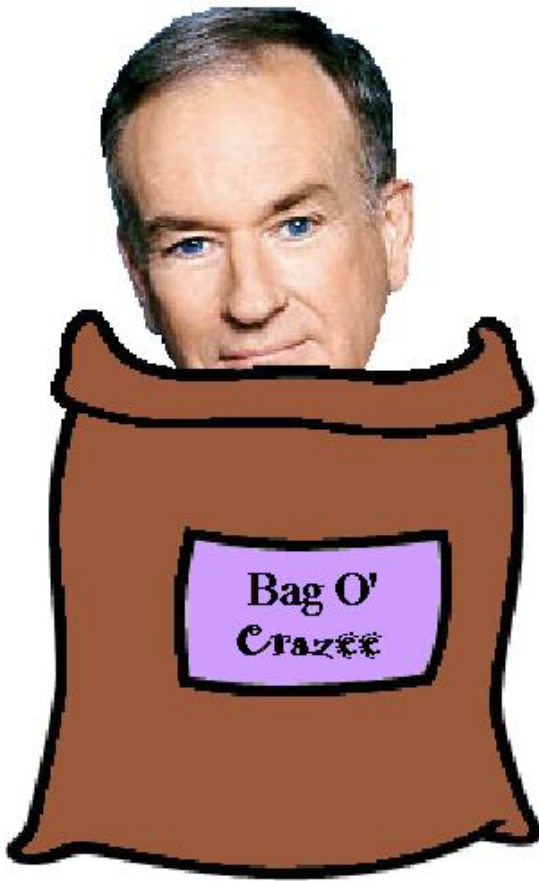
1)



2)



3)



4)



- i) Bill O'Reilly
- ii) Sarah Palin
- iii) Foster Friess
- iv) Michele Bachmann

one) "Back in my days, they used Bayer Aspirin for contraceptives. The gals put it between their knees, and it wasn't that costly."

two) "Kathleen Sebelius, the Health and Human Services Secretary – she said that it's important that we have contraceptives because that prevents pregnancy, and pregnancy is more expensive to the federal government. Going with this logic...it isn't far-fetched to think that the President of the United States could say, we need to save health-care expenses – the federal government will only pay for one baby to be born in the hospital per family, or two babies to be born per family. That could happen."

three) "Sandra Fluke... believes that all of us should pay for her sexual activities."

four) "Now, it has taken all these years for many Americans to understand that that gravity, that mistake, took place before the Civil War and why the Civil War had to really start changing America. What Barack Obama seems to want to do is go back to before those days when we were in different classes based on income, based on color of skin."

une) So, the black President, who happens to be black, wants to the United States go back to a time (did I mention that the President is black? Because, the fact that the President is black is kind of important, so try to keep the fact that the President is black in mind)

before the Civil War when blacks (you know, people like him) were slaves? There's got to be a flaw in that logic somewhere...

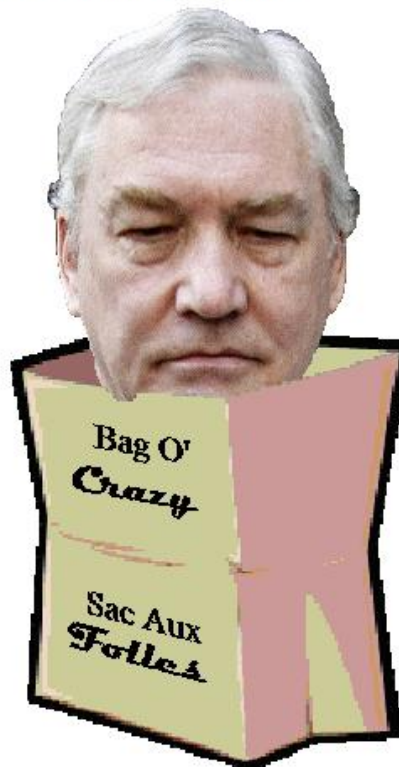
deux) I know, right – I thought it was Limbaugh, too! Maybe they get their talking points from the same Chinese laundry/Conservative think tank...

trois) It isn't far fetched? You should really gauge how high the ceiling is before you jump to those kinds of conclusions!

quatre) That must have made doing the Funky Chicken easier...

A Black Joke On Canada

I have reached the age where I'm tired of being oppressed and I'm tired of being defamed and I am not going to do anything that is going to lead to gratuitously antagonistic people making apparently plausible claims that I am morally unsuited to be a citizen of this country.



I have been inspired by Conrad Black's prosecution to start a campaign to Free the Oppressed Newspaper Tycoons of the World. Sorry: Free the Oppressed Newspaper Tycoons of the World!!!! (slogans for such campaigns are taken more seriously the more exclamation marks they employ). Oppressed Newspaper Tycoons of the World should not have to spend time in jail just because they were convicted of fraud!!! They shouldn't have to wait a whole 24 hours to get a temporary permit to live in Canada for a year before they had even been released from an American prison for fraud!!!! They certainly shouldn't have to be subjected to critical comments about their patriotism just because

they renounced their Canadian citizenship in order to obtain a foreign honour, or their fitness for renewed Canadian citizenship just because they spent time in an American prison for fraud!!!!!!!

It's wrong. It's so very, very wrong.

Or, I could just let Lord Black of Crossharbour express the sentiment in his own crazy way. Yeah. That sounds like a lot more fun.

Breaking The Cheney Of Command

Are you going to trade the lives of
a number of people because you
want to preserve your honour?
...I don't lie awake at night
thinking, gee, what are they going
to say about me



One of the questions I am least frequently asked is: "Isn't former Vice President Dick Cheney a resident of the Bag of Crazy?" And, when I'm not asked that question, I almost never answer: "Resident? Cheney has one of the biggest mansions in the bag, with enough security to protect a small Latin American country and a petting zoo!"

Since leaving office, Cheney has had the sense to keep his paranoid fantasies to himself. Except when he hasn't. This recent gem was part of his "Keeping Torture Alive – 2013 Tour." Forget the fact that just about every military interrogator on record has said that torture doesn't work, or that there is no proof that it has saved a single life. Cheney's advisers on this issue are clearly Jack Bauer and Master Sergeant Hans Georg Schultz.

Fictional characters don't reside in the Bag of Crazy (unless you count Ted Nugent), but so many of the real people who do live there think they have fictional characters as neighbours that I may as well charge them rent!

Collect Enough Bonus Points, And You Get To Live In A Bag Of Crazy Made Of Silk

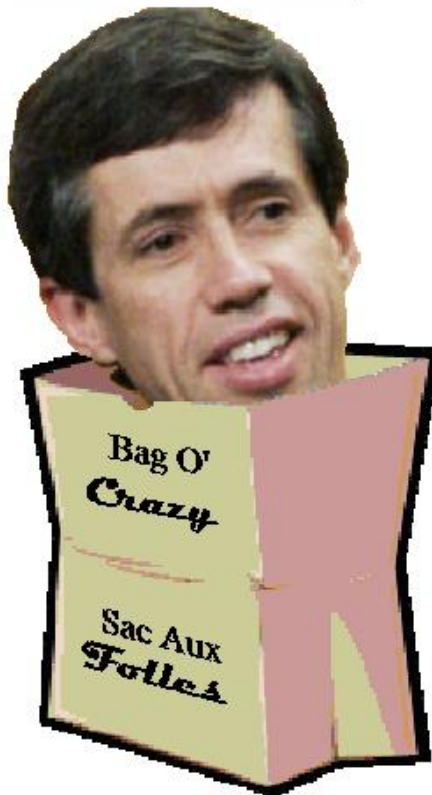
"Senator Sharon Carstairs said the following:
'The registering of hunting rifles is the first step in
the social re-engineering of Canadians.' That is
what Adolf Hitler tried to do in the 1930s."



KARL'S COROLLARY TO GODWIN'S LAW: The first person to compare his opponents to Hitler in an argument that is not about taking over countries and starting a war in which tens of millions of people die belongs in the Bag of Crazy. Congratulations, Conservative MP Larry Miller! They get bonus points if they misquote the person whose character they are attempting to assassinate. Two for two!

Conservative Can't Get His Head On Straight – It Tilts To The Right!

In this case, it's in every case a terminal victim as a result of the bullying that occurs. It seems almost too obvious to state, but [abortion is] bullying in the worst degree.



Parliament's backbenches are an incubator for the crazy. Sitting there, day in and day out, watching your party's leaders make grand speeches and propose sweeping laws while you have to smile and pretend that acting like the duck with the bobbing head and occasionally voting on something is what you entered public life to accomplish would make even the sanest person indulge in bizarre personal reveries. And, most politicians are not the sanest people to begin with.

In utero bullying? Thanks to Conservative MP Maurice Vellacott, I have images of gangs of fetuses invading wombs and demanding that the rightful residents hand over their lunch money, or making fun of the goofy way their telomeres look. That's an image that I'm going to need years of therapy to get out of my head.

Thanks, Maurice. Thanks a lot.

Education Doesn't Uncrazy You, Either.

Abortion doesn't unrape you.



Sometimes, the simplest crazy is the best.

Ryan Bomberger, co-founder of the Radiance Foundation, a marketing nonprofit that creates anti-abortion ad campaigns, could have taken up residence in the Bag of Crazy for his position that abortion is a war against black people (because, obviously, white women never undergo the procedure). However, it takes a certain demented genius to be able to sum up your contempt for women in four words.

Bomberger's appearance is also a reminder, now that Allen West has lost his seat in the House of Representatives, that crazy is truly colour-blind.

Everybody Limbaugh! – How Low Can You Go?

What does it say about the college co-ed Susan Fluke who goes before a congressional committee and essentially says that she must be paid to have sex -- what does that make her? It makes her a slut, right? It makes her a prostitute. She wants to be paid to have sex. She's having so much sex she can't afford the contraception. She wants you and me and the taxpayers to pay her to have sex.



A new national survey from Public Policy Polling found that 46 per cent of Americans had a positive opinion of Rush Limbaugh. Of course, it also found that 98 per cent of those people didn't actually listen to his show.

What are they missing? How about his attack on **Sandra** Fluke for testifying before Congress that a legal drug should be included in drug plans? What a radical concept! Ms. Fluke also told Congress about a friend who needed birth control pills for her health, not contraception, which is true of a lot of women; but, from its inception, the Bag of Crazy has been a fact-free zone.

His defenders claim that Limbaugh's rants are satire. His detractors suggest that he should lay off the oxycontin. Rick Santorum, Michele Bachmann and others who have taken up permanent residence in the Bag of Crazy just think of him as a good neighbour.

Every Man Is The Hero Of His Own Custody Battle

I miss my children terribly. I abandoned Canada, but not my children. My hope is that some day I can reconcile with my children, but not in Canada . . . a morally bankrupt state. The Philippines is about as far as I could go. If I had a spaceship I'd be much further away.



Sometimes, it's good to remember that the Bag of Crazy is truly democratic. You don't have to be rich, a politician, a celebrity, a used car salesman or a rich celebrity used care salesman politician to take up residence – there's always room for one more.

Now, you or I may have said that Hans Mills abandoned his children when he refused to pay child support for them; fleeing Canada was just bonus nuttiness. However, his special brand of denial makes him see things differently. After all, a 10 year-old fighting cancer, a 14 year-old with Down Syndrome and a 19 year-old with substance abuse problems don't need much care, right? RIGHT?

Oh, and we felt proud of not playing up the spaceship comment. Of course, being fans of good science fiction, we wouldn't...

From Small Akins, Mighty D'oh's Grow

Well, first of all, the premise of your question is that I'm making that particular distinction. I believe in free enterprise. I don't think the government should be telling people what you pay and what you don't pay. I think it's about freedom. If someone wants to hire somebody and they agree on a salary, that's fine, however it wants to work. So, the government sticking its nose into all kinds of things has gotten us in a lot of trouble.



You know, I really was planning on taking a vacation this week. No, seriously – I had the bus tickets in my pocket and was looking forward to slathering on the sunscreen so I wouldn't burn under the bright glare of the casino lights. Then, somebody asked Missouri Republican Todd Akin for his opinion of the Lilly Ledbetter Act, and my dream fell apart faster than a Mitt Romney budget proposal.

Akin's position on civil rights gives new meaning to the phrase, "Giving somebody the business," doesn't it? I wonder what his position would be if every individual in the country incorporated. Akin's head would probably explode. I would be willing to clean up the aftermath.

Now, if you'll excuse me, I have to take a shower. Sunscreen can get really itchy if you leave it on too long without going out into the sun!

Give The Man Credit – He Was Right About Being Wrong On Every Single Level

Where are we on all those psychiatric drugs? We've overmedicated kids. Quite frankly some of the overmedication of kids are because welfare moms want to get additional benefits and if they can put them on SSI through maintenance drugs, they can also put them on Social Security disability and get a separate check. That is wrong on every single level. Not only is it fraudulent to the government, but it also tells a kid with great potential, "don't try because you're disabled."



Okay, Republican Representative James Lankford's screed to his constituents was so risible, you could start a cake factory with it. He believes mothers intentionally put their children on drugs so that they can scam welfare? Seriously? Was this anally sourced? Frankly, the optics of attacking mothers for welfare fraud when you aren't willing to go after bankers who nearly tanked the world economy aren't exactly 20/20.

Oh, and when a Republican talks about "welfare moms," he's usually talking about "uppity black women who shouldn't be allowed to have children in the first place because they'll all end up dependent on government handouts **and vote Democrat.**" Poor white women, who outnumber poor black women on welfare, are definitely not who he is talking about because, well...obviously, they vote Republican. D'uh! What, you didn't get the memo? You're obviously not one of Lankford's constituents.

Okay, this is par for the Republican course, and wouldn't even be worth noting if it wasn't for the fact that Lankford was actually answering a question about gun violence.

Now, personally, I wouldn't have thought that overmedicated children would be prone to violent behaviour; I see them more as staring at the snow on TV for several hours. But, I don't live in the Bag of Crazy, I just give tours there.

Gunboat Diplomacy (Minus The Boat)

I supported the Paul Ryan budget and sent it over to the Senate. Now I live with some Senators, I yell at them all the time, I grabbed one of them the other day and shook him and I'd love to get them to vote for it — boy I'd love that. You know but other than me going over there with a gun and holding it to their head and maybe killing a couple of them, I don't think they're going to listen unless they get beat.



I guess somebody had to signal that it was okay to make remarks about violence against Democrats now that a full year has passed since the shooting of Gabrielle Giffords. Thanks to Oklahoma Republican John Sullivan for filling that obvious void.

You know, it wasn't really my intention to make the Bag of Crazy a daily thing, but conservative politicians make it too hard to resist.

Has He Never Seen *Equus*?

The first common misconception is that homosexuality is genetic, or hereditary, or as some say “born this way.” Homosexuality is actually a type of addiction. It is not “curable” as a disease because it is a “choice” driven by the person. EAP (Equine Assisted Psychotherapy) can help any person who is living the homosexual lifestyle or involved in it in any way



Raymond Bell, pastor of the Cowboy Church of Virginia, believes that stroking horses can help “cure” homosexuality. Come on, people, keep it above the belt – he means petting horses. That is to say, running their hands down a horse’s mane – in a purely innocent manner, okay? Equine Assisted Psychotherapy is supposed to help gay men get in touch with the inner butchness that they insist upon denying.

If that doesn’t work, you could always try Bullfighting Assisted Psychotherapy. Or, Skydiving Assisted Psychotherapy. Or, even Losing Teeth In an Ice Hockey Initiated Brawl Assisted Psychotherapy. What? Gay men already do all of those things? And, the activities don’t have any effect on the men’s sexual orientation? Well, have they ever tried Losing Teeth In a Bullfighting, Skydiving Ice Hockey Initiated Brawl?

Denying the evidence that sexual orientation is inborn tiptoes up to the Crazy. Offering bizarre cures for a non-psychiatric condition that isn’t curable dives into the deep end of the Bag of Crazy and does the breaststroke for several laps!

Head For The Hills!

Obama will "try to give the sovereignty of the United States away to the United Nations. What do you think the public's going to do when that happens? We are talking civil unrest, civil disobedience, possibly, possibly civil war... I'm not just talking riots here and there. I'm talking Lexington, Concord, take up arms, get rid of the dictator. OK, what do you think he is going to do when that happens? He is going to call in the UN troops, personnel carriers, tanks and whatever."



Still think there's no difference between Democrats and Republicans? How about this? When Democrats are faced with the reelection of a President they do not like, they threaten to move to Canada, which would mostly cause problems for themselves. When Republicans are faced with the reelection of a President they do not like, they imagine scenarios that would involve burning the country to the ground, which would be a major problem for the world.

I know what you're thinking: *Isn't talk of Liberals facilitating a UN takeover of the United States soooooooo 1980s?* Focus, people, focus! You don't get into the Bag of Crazy by being nostalgic for the rhetoric of the Cold War. Well, not entirely. So, now

you're thinking: *What should I be thinking? Nobody told me there was going to be a test! If I had known that there was going to be a test, I would have worn clean underwear!*

Okay, clearly you need help. With this – you're on your own about the underwear. You should probably be thinking something like: *Isn't what he said kind of like...well, treason?* Not to worry: Tom Head is a Texas Judge, so if anybody would know what is and isn't acceptable to say within the law, it's him.

He's Obviously Read *Attila the Hun's Guide To Democracy*

"We need to ride into that battlefield
and chop their heads off in November.
Am I - any questions?"



One of the most frequently asked questions at the *Big Red Web Page of Unreconstructed Marxism* is: "Karl, why hasn't Ted Nugent appeared in the Bag of Crazy?" Oh, Ted has been in the BOC since before Dylan got his first electric kazoo. In fact, Nugent has his own thousand acre estate in the BOC, complete with lawyer-infested moat, hanging gardens (with rose-scented nooses) and field large enough to reenact the most famous tank battles of the Crimean War.

The thing is, although it appears calm on the surface, the Bag of Crazy contains a roiling, churning mass of humanity. Think of it as quantum foam without baristas. The struggle to

be the one to burst out of the Bag of Crazy and share your thoughts with the world is fierce and never-ending.

Congratulations to Ted Nugent for finally making it through. Now, if you would be so kind, could you please drop back into the Bag of Crazy never to be heard from again?

He Undoubtedly Loved His Dog (Although He Had It Put Down Because He Didn't Trust Its Religion)

Everybody who knows me knows
I am not an autocrat, I am not
aggressive, I am not intolerant. On
the contrary, I am a mild man, a
tolerant man with a great capacity
to understand others.



European countries seem to have a better grasp of what it means to be truly insane – I can only assume that this is because they have had many more centuries to perfect the crazy than we have.

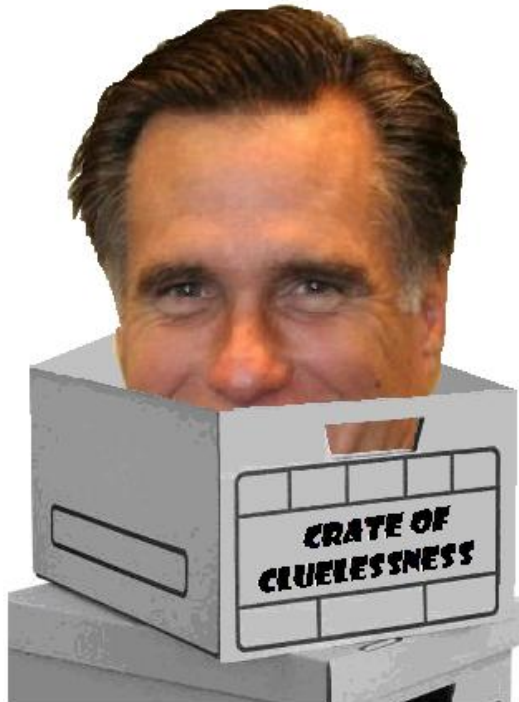
Case in point: Radovan Karadzic, on trial for war crimes at The Hague for his part in the war in what was once known as Yugoslavia. The man who is alleged to have said, “They have to know that there are 20,000 armed Serbs around Sarajevo. They will disappear.

Sarajevo will be a black cauldron, where 300,000 Muslims will die. It will be a real bloodbath,” now wants us to believe that he actually is a friend of humanity because he once had a Muslim barber?

Either he’s delusional, or he thinks we are.

I Know Humour Is A Highly Personal Thing, And Yet...

One of [the] most humorous I think relates to my father. You may remember my father, George Romney, was president of an automobile company called American Motors... They had a factory in Michigan, and they had a factory in Kenosha, Wisconsin, and another one in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. And as the president of the company he decided to close the factory in Michigan and move all the production to Wisconsin. Now later he decided to run for governor of Michigan and so you can imagine that having closed the factory and moved all the production to Wisconsin was a very sensitive issue to him, for his campaign.



Sometimes, the Bag of Crazy isn’t the most appropriate place for politicians to pop out of. Some politicians aren’t so much crazy as merely out of touch with the everyday reality of human beings. For them, the Crate of Cluelessness seems so much more appropriate.

And, who better to inaugurate the Crate of Cluelessness than Mitt Romney, whose every utterance cries out for a month of remedial life classes?

Hey, Scalia!
I Wouldn't Wanna Be Ya!

Now, I don't think that's attributable to the fact that it is so much clearer now that we need this. I think it is attributable, very likely attributable, to a phenomenon that is called perpetuation of racial entitlement. It's been written about. Whenever a society adopts racial entitlements, it is very difficult to get out of them through the normal political processes.



Abbott and Costello. Abercrombie and Fitch. Antonin Scalia and the Bag of Crazy. Some things were just made to go together. And, yet, this is the first time the Supreme Court Justice appears in the Bag of Crazy.

In our defence, some people lurk on the fringes of the Bag of Crazy, almost like they do not want to be seen inhabiting the place. I know, right? If you don't let the batshit crazy out once in a while, it will build until it turns you into a serial killer. Or activist right wing judge.

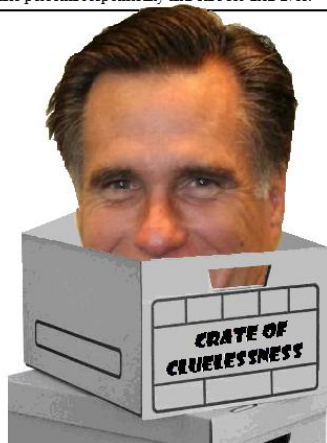
TO RECAP: if you're white, voting is a right; if you're not white, voting is a "racial entitlement." Once in place, legislatures will not change rules that ensure minorities can vote on the flimsy excuse that voters actually, you know, want those rules. Thus, only brave jurists like – oh, looky here – who could it possibly be? – oh, you're way ahead of me on this, aren't you? – Antonin Scalia can make the republic safe for racial disenfranchisement.

Can we call Scalia's statement racist? Sure. We're entitled.

When she heard the news, Rosa Parks had a heart attack.

If You Look Around The Table And You Can't See The Government-Dependent Victim Who Will Never Take Personal Responsibility For His Life, It's You

There are 47 percent of the people who will vote for the president no matter what. All right, there are 47 percent who are with him, who are dependent upon government, who believe that they are victims, who believe the government has a responsibility to care for them, who believe that they are entitled to health care, to food, to housing, to you-name-it. That that's an entitlement. And the government should give it to them. And they will vote for this president no matter what... These are people who pay no income tax... [M]y job is not to worry about those people. I'll never convince them they should take personal responsibility and care for their lives.



Okay, see, here's the thing: if you insult almost half of the voters in an election, you make it pretty much impossible to win. That's not politics. That's math. I know that Republicans have a troubled relationship with reality, but, if they cannot count to 100, why should anybody trust them with an economy that requires people to talk about trillions?

What makes this statement so terrible? It's not that the Mittwit earned so much of his wealth the old-fashioned way (by inheriting it – don't tell me you didn't see that one coming: it's been around since the 1800s, coincidentally the time the Republicans want to take us back to!). It's not that his company is responsible for so many Americans collecting government benefits because it shipped their jobs to other countries. It's not the equation of Democrats with Welfare queens (in fact, people on public assistance are more likely to vote Republican). IT'S ALL OF THESE THINGS, AND SO MUCH MORE!

But, you know how it goes. Mood lighting. Soft music. Everybody has had a little wine and is feeling really good. That's when you think it's a good idea to admit that you lost your virginity to the captain of the football team when you were 16. This was Mitt Romney's "I lost my virginity to the captain of the football team when I was 16" moment. Of course, he might not have grown up to be so contemptuous of so many people if he had lost his virginity to the captain of the football team when he was 16!

Isn't That The Way With democracy?

You Vote For Steve King, You Get Something Out Of A Novel By Stephen King

I've never heard of a girl
getting pregnant from statutory
rape or incest.



They say that the essence of crazy is to say the same thing over and over again and expect a different response from the audience. I may be paraphrasing a little, but still... When the thing you're repeating was crazy to begin with, do you get crazy squared, or is crazy times crazy still just crazy?

I leave the answer to that question to political mathematicians. Republican Representative Steve King, in an attempt to defend the indefensible (Todd Akin), came up with this gem. Do Republicans not know any women? This seems unlikely, given that most are married to one. Do they bring down a cone of silence whenever a woman around them starts talking? This seems unlikely, given that the technology, which first appeared in a

television series in the 1960s, doesn't exist. Do they have some kind of switch in their brain that translates anything a woman says to them into masculinist gibberish? This is...eerily plausible.

Ultimately, I must leave this question to political psychologists. Because, frankly, it hurts my head to think about.

Jesus Hates Black Folk – Discuss

I myself am an American. I'm a good ol' boy from the great state of Florida, and a citizen of this great nation. I know God recognizes me as my true self, a proud, strong white man given dark pigmentation. God had to give the blacks at least one intelligent person, so he chose to give me dark skin. I curse my birth as a black man every day. I'm black by birth, not by choice. It will all be sorted out when my name is called, and I step in front of the great white Jesus himself.



A day without Republican Senator Allen West is like a day without toxic fumes obscuring the life-giving sun.

I was going to use the example of his recent statement that, "Yesterday I asked the President to stay in Washington DC and not use South Florida as a venue to spread his socioeconomic rhetoric...his arrogance led him to not take my advice." Because, let's

face it, a Congressman trying to be the President's social secretary really shouldn't be calling anybody else out on arrogance. But, then I came across this quote from four months ago, and felt nothing could compare to its self-hating loopiness.

Which just goes to prove that time-tested nugget of wisdom: a great political speech is a joy to behold, but crazy lasts forever.

King Of (Unintentional) Comedy

Any common-sense interpretation of those speeches, the president is apologizing for the American position. That's an apology tour.



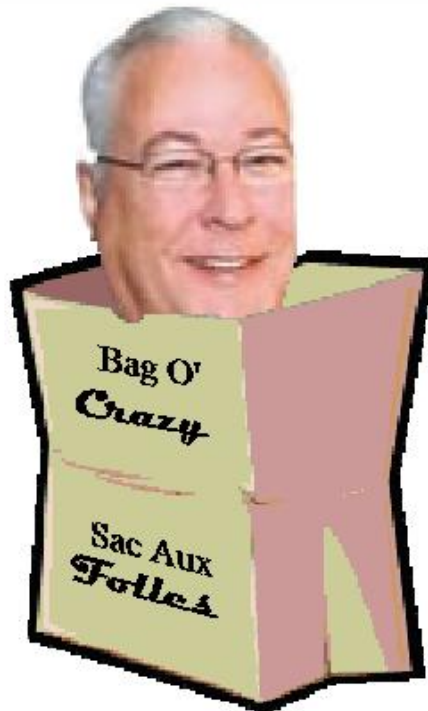
"I'm sorry." "I must apologize." "Can you ever forgive me for my error?" "Oops, my bad, yo." Funny, but I do not remember President Obama saying any of these things in his speeches on foreign policy. Well, except for the last one, but, really, when you've stepped on the Chinese Ambassador's wife, you do kind of owe him some kind of apology.

This must be one of those weird perceptual problems the Republicans sometimes suffer from where President Obama says, "Let's take out Osama bin Laden," but they believe he actually said, "I would like to apologize to the world on behalf of America for unleashing the tastelessly unfunny *Two Broke Girls* on you."

Not that Republican Representative Peter “There are too many mosques in America” King and common sense are on speaking terms. In fact, common sense has sued the Republican Party for divorce, citing “irreconcilable differences.” And, wasn’t it Peter King who commented, “Common sense wants to sue us for divorce? We need to put that bitch in her place!”?

Loose Lips Sink Election Campaigns

"I think as a Caucasian I have an advantage. When different community leaders such as a Sikh leader or a Muslim leader speaks, they really speak to their own people in many ways. As a Caucasian, I believe that I can speak to all the community."



I have been warned by Canada’s Ministry of No Fun At All that packages have to be labelled in both of the country’s official languages. “English and money?” I asked, hopeful. Obviously, not. The Ministry was well named. That probably deserves a Bag of Crazy itself, but the BOC is populated by individuals, not organizations. For now.

Welcome home, Ron Leech, Wildrose Party candidate for Alberta’s Calgary Greenway riding. I was considering choosing his clever witticism about gays (to wit: “To affirm homosexuality is to distort the image of god, to insult the nature and being of god.”), but, you know, nothing says Crazy quit so much as an ill-considered statement of racial superiority.

Like How Laws Are Passed...Or Breathing

They evolve into a person?



So, a high school science teacher, when asked if there had been any experiments that demonstrated Darwinian evolution, described one by Richard Lenski. Lenski froze some *E. coli* bacteria, while allowing others to continue to grow, while being subjected to various environmental factors, over a period of decades and 50,000 generations. When he compared the sample that had been allowed to grow with the sample that had been frozen, he found that they were very clearly different, concluding that an evolution in the germ had taken place.

In response to the testimony about this elegant experiment, Louisiana Republican State Senator Mike Walsworth asked the above question.

I'm tempted to suggest that noxious bacteria eventually evolve into state senators, but, unlike politicians, at least *E. coli* doesn't judge things it cannot understand.

Maybe He Confused It With The Vaguely Anachronistic Vivisection Act (VAVA)

I supported this
legislation because I
know how important it is
to empower women in
difficult situations.



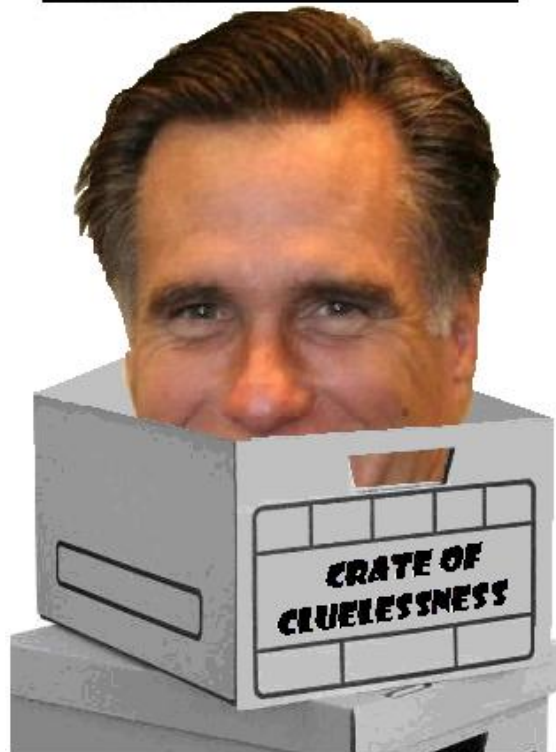
It's nice to see bi-partisan support for something as uncontroversial as the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). Of course, it's hard to know exactly how Representative Steve King supported the act since **he voted against its passage**. Maybe he meant he held the bill up in the air while he condemned it as unconstitutional. Or, perhaps he offered to replace the leg of a wobbly table on which a copy of the bill rested.

The thing about life in the Bag of Crazy is that there are so many theoretical explanations for inexplicable behaviour. Perhaps Representative King has selective aphasia, and has mixed up the words "for" and "against." It's possible that he had hallucinated that he was Susan B. Anthony in a previous life. Maybe he's just easily confused.

Or, maybe he thinks members of the public are.

Mitt Romney Is A Uniter, Not A Dividerer!

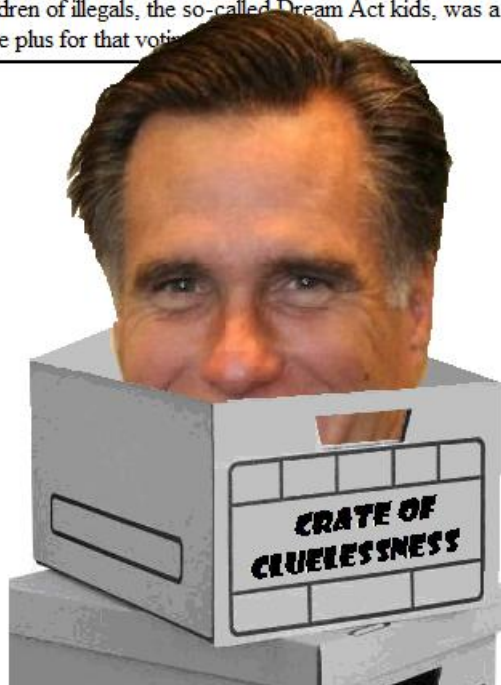
As you come here and you see the GDP per capita, for instance, in Israel which is about \$21,000 dollars, and compare that with the GDP per capita just across the areas managed by the Palestinian Authority, which is more like \$10,000 per capita, you notice such a dramatically stark difference in economic vitality. And as I come here and I look out over this city and consider the accomplishments of the people of this nation, I recognize the power of at least culture and a few other things.



Duuuuuuude! Yes, Jews are great at pinching pennies. Still, polite people don't say that in public any more! Oh, and Palestinians not doing well economically? You have heard of the Occupation, haven't you? Economic success is a lot harder **when you don't have control over your own land or resources, you know**. Or, you would know if you didn't live so much of your life in the CoC.

None So Big, However, As The Gift Romney's Candidacy Gave To The Democrats

The president's campaign, if you will, focused on giving targeted groups a big gift... With regards to the young people, for instance, a forgiveness of college loan interest was a big gift. Free contraceptives were very big with young, college-aged women. And then, finally, Obamacare also made a difference for them, because, as you know, anybody now 26 years of age and younger was now going to be part of their parents' plan, and that was a big gift to young people... You can imagine, for somebody making \$25,000 or \$30,000 or \$35,000 a year, being told you're now going to get free health care, particularly if you don't have it—getting free health care worth, what, \$10,000 per family, in perpetuity—I mean, this is huge. Likewise, with Hispanic voters, free health care was a big plus. But in addition, with regards to Hispanic voters, the amnesty for children of illegals, the so-called Dream Act kids, was a huge plus for that voting



Wow. Put a top hat and monocle on him and Mitt Romney could shill for the board game Monopoly. Tactlessly and strained through the special green-coloured glasses that seem to be all the rage among the wealthy these days, but still.

Funny how Romney's pet spending projects – such as two trillion additional dollars for the military – are not “gifts.” Corporations may be people, my friend, but, apparently, giving them government welfare doesn't create a culture of dependency among them.

You would have thought that, after the release of his 47% comments, Romney would have been a bit more circumspect about what he said in public. You would have thought that, after he had expended so much energy apologizing for the 47% comments, Romney would have worked harder at hiding his contempt for his fellow citizens. Clearly, you do not live in the Crate of Cluelessness.

On The Other Hand, The Companions In The Bag Of Crazy Aren't Nearly So Cuddly

Nonetheless, abundant evidence proves that the agenda of Planned Parenthood includes sexualizing young girls through the Girl Scouts, which is quickly becoming a tactical arm of Planned Parenthood... A Girl Scouts of America training program last year used the Planned Parenthood sex education pamphlet "Happy, Healthy, and Hot." The pamphlet instructs young girls not to think of sex as "just about vaginal or anal intercourse." "There is no right or wrong way to have sex. Just have fun, explore and be yourself!" it states... Many parents are abandoning the Girl Scouts because they promote homosexual lifestyles. In fact, the Girl Scouts education seminar girls are directed to study the example of role models. Of the fifty role models listed, only three have a briefly-mentioned religious background – all the rest are feminists, lesbians, or Communists."



You know, the Bag of Crazy is a lot like the TARDIS: it makes strange wheezing sounds, and it's bigger on the inside than it appears on the outside. It would have to be to be able to contain Rick Santorum, Pastor John Hagee and today's tenant, Indiana Republican Representative Bob Morris.

Remember: Crazy People With Guns Don't Kill People, Wearing A Hoodie While Black Kills People

When you see a black or Latino youngster, particularly on the street, you walk to the other side of the street. You try to avoid that confrontation. Trayvon Martin, you know God bless him, he was an innocent kid, a wonderful kid, a box of Skittles in his hands. He didn't deserve to die. But I'll bet you money, if he didn't have that hoodie on, that nutty neighborhood watch guy wouldn't have responded in that violent and aggressive way.



It's sad, isn't it, when a journalist hasn't gotten the news? Somebody should take Geraldine Ferraro aside and point out that no matter how reactionary he becomes, it will never make people forget the Al Capone's vault debacle. Never.

Remember How Pundits Used To Laugh At How The Republicans Got The Right Wing Religious Vote By Promising To Give It Things The Republicans Had No Intention Of Delivering?
That Joke's Not So Funny Any More, Is It?

Incest is so rare, I mean, it's so rare. But the rape thing - you know, I know a woman who was raped and kept the child, gave it up for adoption, and she doesn't regret it... On the rape thing, it's like, how does putting more violence onto a woman's body and taking the life of an innocent child that's a consequence of this crime - how does that make it better? You know what?

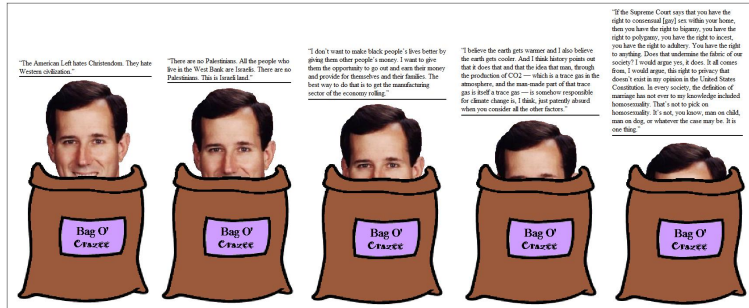


The rape thing? Republican Congressional candidate John Koster seems to think he's got the understanding thing down. Of course, statements like this may make it appear like he has a problem with the compassion thing. Or, even the rationality thing, given how his party is all for the whole small government thing, which you would have thought would have made the whole forced birth thing difficult to administer. Or, maybe he just likes exercising the male power privilege thing. That's usually the way with men who resort to the deity thing to tell other people how to manage the life thing.

Not to worry, though. This type of thinking is the domain of individuals, not the party as a whole. Individuals. Like Todd Akin. Lone wolves. Like Richard Mourdock. People who do not represent the party. Like Vice Presidential candidate Paul Ryan. Oh.

Clearly, this craziness is not isolated. It's a Republican thing.

Rick Santorum: The Incredible Shrinking Man of the GOP



The more you look at him, the smaller he gets...

Sheeeeee's Bach...mann!

The American people, especially vulnerable women, vulnerable children, vulnerable senior citizens, now get to pay more and get less. That's why we're here because we're saying let's repeal this failure before it literally kills women, kills children, kills senior citizens! Let's not do that! Let's love people, let's care about people. Let's repeal it now while we can... I believe, as part of my duty as a believer in Christ and what he has done for me, that we should do for the least of those who are in our midst. That's my personal belief and my personal conviction. And that's why I want our government to create the space so that we can help people, because I'll guarantee you one thing, this doesn't help people.



Michele, Michele, Michele. It's been too long since you popped out of the bag to share the special brand of Bachmann crazy. We...we missed you.

Will the Democrats' Affordable Health Act (AHA!), whose purpose is to help vulnerable groups, really kill women, children and seniors? More than the current insurance-company driven system, I mean? Don't you need to follow such assertions with, you know, facts? Oh, sorry – I forgot where you were...

Oh, and invoking your Christianity to support your unsupported allegation? Doesn't the bible have bad things to say about people who bear false witness? Especially on CSPAN?

Don't blame me if places of worship pop up in the Bag of Crazy. They aren't necessarily indigenous to the region – people seem to bring their religion with them when they immigrate.

Small Head, Big Crazy

In fact, Jesus's disciples carried swords, and Jesus even said in some contexts the unarmed should arm themselves... What does all this mean? Essentially that gun control represents not merely a limitation on a constitutional right but a limitation on a God-given right of man that has existed throughout the history of civil society.



I must admit, I kind of like the image of Jesus mowing down the moneylenders in the temple with an Uzi. None of that wimpy beating our automatic weapons into plowshares here, thank god! And, when the Romans came to take him to be crucified, Jesus should have barricaded himself in a compound with handguns, semi-automatic rifles, grenade launchers, anti-aircraft guns and any other weapons the NRA would happily make available to him. Of course, the meaning of Jesus' life would have changed a little in this telling...

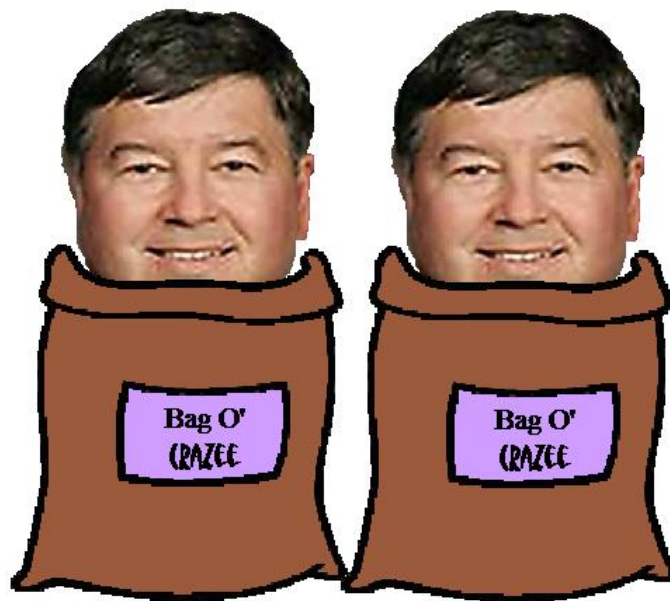
Okay, let's look at it a different way. Why isn't the NRA defending people's rights to carry swords? "You'll get my gladius when you pry it from my cold, dead fingers!" – it has a ring to it, don't you think? If the NRA won't come to the support of concealed spatha laws, who will?

David French, writer for the National Review, welcome to the religious ghetto of the Bag of Crazy. I'm sure you'll be happy with the company you find there...

Somebody Clearly Doesn't Understand The Difference Between Using His "Country Club Voice" And His "Public Voice"
Or, Possibly, The Voices In His Wrinkly Brained Head

They might try to Jew me down on a price. That's fine ... that's free market as well...I apologize to the Jews. They're good small businessmen as well.

It just came out of one of the wrinkles of my brain and it was not something that was intentional. I certainly didn't mean to offend anyone and I apologize for the folks I did offend. It is a comment that should never be made. I will never do it again.



This is Oklahoma State Representative Dennis Johnson, discussing a small business support bill. Then, apologizing for his contribution to the discussion of a small business support bill. Sort of. Then, non-apology apologizing for his discussion of a small business support bill.

How does anybody believe that using a derogatory phrase such as "Jew me down" is made better by pointing out how good Jews are at business? The Bag of Crazy is full of mysteries. Oh, and is there any way we can retire the phrase "I didn't mean to offend anyone" from public discourse? You might as well say, "I'm sorry that other people are so thin-skinned. Really, it's not like I said [INSERT YOUR FAVOURITE ETHNIC STEREOTYPE HERE] – now, that would have been really offensive!"

I could go on, but I feel like Johnson has Christianed me over, and I don't want to have to non-apology apologize for what I might say in response.

Somebody Should Have Told Him That The Trick To Journeying To The Centre Of The Mind Is Planning On Coming Back...

Barack Obama, the guy who received roughly 93 percent of black American votes, is the clear and present engineer of the destruction of black America... The truth is that the Democratic Party has been the engineer of the destruction of black Americans, and everyone knows it except the very people who need to know it the most - black Americans. The turbo-destruction will continue for black Americans until they realize that dirty Democrat politicians are their true enemy, not their salvation. Fortunately, some are beginning to embrace this self-evident truth. The truth will set those black Americans free who want to be free, who want to be the best they can be, who want to leave their granddaddy's shadow and build a better America.



Aah, Ted Nugent. If you hadn't been born...well, there are enough crazies on the right to fill the void, so nobody would have had to invent you. Still.

It's bad enough that a white man presumes to tell black people what's in their best interests, but that's a time-honoured tradition. What makes this statement crazy is the idea that lecturing blacks will somehow make more of them want to vote for right wing candidates. Are Republicans shooting for losing 100 per cent of the black vote in the next election cycle?

That's John McTernan, A Man Who Should Never Be Confused With The Director Of Die Hard

So. Yeah. That happened.

Many of the most prominent inhabitants of the Bag of Crazy lost their races for public office. For every Michele Bachmann who won, there were three Richard Mourdock, Allan Wests and Todd Akins who lost. We will no longer have to deal with End Times preachers proclaiming: "Obama is 100 percent behind the Muslim Brotherhood which has vowed to destroy Israel and take Jerusalem."

Phew! I'm really looking forward to a vacation from the crazy. I think I'll settle in on the couch in the den and watch the second season of Veronica Mars on DVD. Yeah, maybe make myself a nice cup of cocoa and

God is systematically
destroying America... Just last
August, Hurricane Isaac hit
New Orleans seven years later,
on the exact day of Hurricane
Katrina. Both hit during the
week of the homosexual event
called Southern Decadence in
New Orleans.



Dammit!

There's Crazy Enough To Go Around...

God's word is true. I've come to understand that. All that stuff I was taught about evolution, embryology, Big Bang theory, all that is lies straight from the pit of hell. It's lies to try to keep me and all the folks who are taught that from understanding that they need a savior. There's a lot of scientific data that I found out as a scientist that actually show that this is really a young Earth. I believe that the Earth is about 9,000 years old. I believe that it was created in six days as we know them. That's what the Bible says. And what I've come to learn is that it's the manufacturer's handbook, is what I call it. It teaches us how to run our lives individually. How to run our families, how to run our churches. But it teaches us how to run all our public policy and everything in society. And that's the reason, as your congressman, I hold the Holy Bible as being the only source of information to me of how I vote in Washington, D.C. That's what I believe.



I have to admit that Georgia Republican Representative Paul Broun was something of a conundrum for me. On the one hand, his anti-science beliefs are increasingly common in the Republican Party. If a belief is held by a majority of people in a given population, does it stop being crazy and start being the norm? On the other hand, he sits on the House Science, Space and Technology Committee. Go back and reread the quote with the knowledge that the person who said it sits on the House Science, Space and Technology Committee. The crazy pretty much announces its presence in 72 point type and a megaphone-enhanced voice, doesn't it?

Still, which is more crazy: a man who holds staunch anti-science beliefs in a position to rule on funding for scientific research programmes, or a party leadership willing to put a man who holds staunch anti-science beliefs in a position to rule on funding for scientific research programmes?

The Right Needs To Stop This Monkey Business

I call him a monkey... The comment was prompted by the Google image cartoon that was sent to me... With a last name of Espinosa I'm anything but racist... Monkeys are generally considered to be intelligent... Unless there has been a takeover of America and free speech is no longer allowed and I can be put to death for making a remark, I refuse to take the fifth.

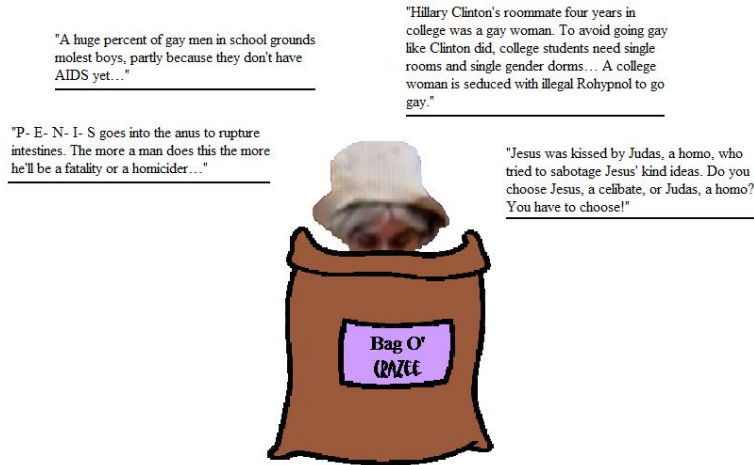


I'd like to believe that Barbara Espinosa, host of Arizona radio talk show *Hair on Fire*, is a Red Lectroid from Planet 10. If that was the case, her comment about President Obama would be no more offensive than John Worfin, in the body of Doctor Emilio Lizardo, shouting, "Laugh while you can, monkey-boy!"

Unfortunately, she's a human being (very loosely defined), so the only way a reasonable person could interpret the comment is that it was racist. Unfortunately, the Obama/monkey comparison is not uncommon on the right, and it's not like any of the senior members of the Republican Party have condemned it, so this is not what makes Espinosa take up residency in the Bag of Crazy.

No, it's the kaleidoscope of rationalizations that seems a bit unhinged. This isn't *Family Feud*, Barbara! Nobody's here to say, "Monkeys are generally considered to be intelligent' – SURVEY SAYS!" Choose a justification for your racism and stick to it!

Some People Are Born To Hateness, Some Have Hateness Thrust Upon Them

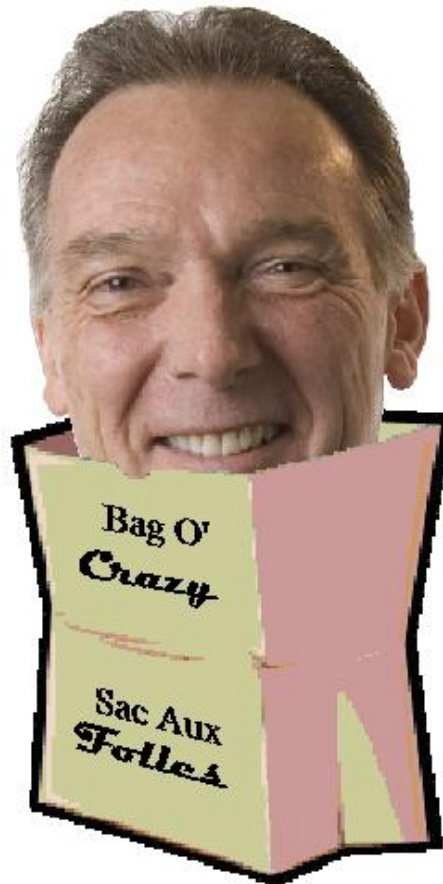


Generally speaking, the Bag of Crazy is reserved for public figures like politicians and pundits. Is this elitism? After all, a person that nobody has ever heard of can be just as crazy as Glenn Beck or Michelle Bachmann, can't they? Oh, sure, Rush Limbaugh has a greater reach than an ordinary person, but there are far more ordinary people than there are Rush Limbaughs. Surely, their collective crazy can do almost as much damage.

I'd like to thank Jane Svoboda, who used the platform of a Lincoln Nebraska city council debate on a proposed LGBT protection ordinance, for reminding us all that crazy doesn't need to hold a press conference in an election for public office or appear on 500 radio stations. Crazy...well, crazy is a state of mind that even the least famous among us can aspire to.

Somewhere In His Brain, A Lonely Synapse Cries Out For Reason

Some groups with charitable status have been going well beyond the CRA guidelines for what is acceptable practice as a charitable agency. And there has also been concern that some Canadian charitable agencies have been used to launder off-shore foreign funds. Whether you call it money laundering or a financial shell game or three-card Monty, it is inappropriate under those organizations' charitable status



Okay, okay, we get it: right wing politicians are not concerned about the environment because they assume the free market will find solutions to any problems that may arise. Polluted water? No problem. Human beings will be genetically reengineered with filters in our throats. Unbreathable air? Human beings will be genetically reengineered to breath sulfuric acid. Surface temperatures of over 200 degrees Fahrenheit? Well...outside of Palmolive commercials, soft skin is overrated.

Environmentalists who say different are just mindlessly standing in the way of progress and must, therefore, have the full weight of the government brought to bear against them.

What makes Environment Minister Peter Kent different from most Conservative hacks – and his statement more crazy than mere partisan hackery – is that, for decades, he was a journalist. At some point in his life, he knew the value of carefully chosen words, and must have had some respect for, you know, facts. I'd hate to be the ref in the wrassling match between his ambition and his rationality!

So, You're Saying That Marriage Is...Two Hydrogen Atoms And One Oxygen Atom?

"It's like saying this glass of water is a glass of beer. Well, you can call it a glass of beer, but it's not a glass of beer. It's a glass of water. And water is what water is. Marriage is what marriage is."



No Bag of Crazy would be complete without Republican former Senator and current Presidential hopeful Rick Santorum. "It's like saying this glass of water is a glass of beer," he said. It's like saying this table is a 15th century scimitar. It's like saying this pen is the javelin Tatyana Biryulina used to win 1980's best throw in the world. *It's like saying deconstruction didn't show us the ultimately arbitrary nature of words.* But, it is especially like saying that a social construction such as marriage can be compared to a physical object.

Those kinds of apples and hand grenades comparisons only make sense in the Bag of Crazy.

That's Funny Because It's Moo

There are even some creepy people out there... [who] say it is okay to have consensual relations between humans and animals. Will that be a future step? In the future, will we say, "These two creatures love each other and maybe they should be able to be joined in a union?"



They say that humour doesn't travel well. Perhaps, but crazy, crazy is universal.

Umm, so, Australian Senator Cory Bernardi, how does an animal consent to relations with a human? Does neigh mean neigh? Does a pig say: "I'm not easy, you know. If you want to have sex with me, you're going to have to by me slops, first. And, not at any cheap dump, either. I want five star slops!"? When a Priest says, "Do you take this woman to be your lawfully wedded wife?" does the animal answer, "I moo"?

You want a slippery slope? How about this? "There are even some creepy people out there who say it is okay to have consensual sexual relations between Priests and underage boys. Will that be a future step?" Should we outlaw religion the way you want to outlaw homosexuality?

“Islam itself is the problem – it’s not Muslims,” Bernardi responded. “Muslims are individuals that practise their faith in their own way, but Islam is a totalitarian, political and religious ideology.”

How did I know you were going to say that?

There’s A Six Month Waiting List, You Know

Former Republican Maryland Governor Robert Ehrlich wrote a column for the Baltimore Sun arguing that charges of racism are being used by progressives seeking to discredit the Tea Party.

In response, Ozark Tea Party member Inge Marler made the following joke:

“A black kid asks his mom, ‘Mama, what’s a democracy?’

“‘Well, son, that be when white folks work every day so us po’ folks can get all our benefits.’

“‘But mama, don’t the white folk get mad about that?’

“‘They sho do, son. They sho do. And that’s called racism.’”



In humour there is often a lot of truth, and the truth conveyed by this joke is certainly that there is no racism in the Tea Party. However, this is not the only example of

argumentatum ad humerus. Consider the joke circulated by the branch of the Tea Party known as the Northeast Pennsylvania Spirit of 1776:

When Obama died, George Washington met him at the Pearly Gates. He slapped him across the face and yelled, "How dare you try to destroy the nation I helped conceive?" ...

Thomas Jefferson was next, beat Obama with a long cane and snarled, "It was ebil men like you who inspired me to write the Declaration of Indepencence." ...

As Obama lay bleeding and in pain, an Angel appeared. Obama wept and said, "This is not what you promised me." The Angel replied, "I told you there would be 72 VIRGINIANS waiting for you in Heaven. What did you think I said?? ... You really need to listen when someone is trying to tell you something!"



Nyuuuuuh...okay. Strictly speaking, President Obama is a Christian, not a Muslim. Otherwise, there's nothing racist about the first black President of the United States of America getting the crap beaten out of him, just as there would not have been anything disrespectful if you replaced Obama with, I don't know, Ronald Reagan?

The Tea Party is clearly a movement that supports tolerance and diversity. This can be seen clearly in Tea Party Activist Jerome Corsi's response to President's Obama's announcement of his support for gay marriage:

His Pakistani roommate, whom we also went to Pakistan with, from Occidental, seems to have been, take a look at pictures of he and his roommate together, Obama had all these roommate pictures, seems to be sitting about on the guy's lap. I've not seen a lot of roommate pictures where two guys are that chummy. The issue is again, not an issue that we want to raise in terms of criticizing the homosexuality or the bisexuality or whatever Obama's true inclinations are, the issue is why does he have to lie about this too.



Umm...yeah. Okay. I can see as how such statements could be misinterpreted as hateful. Given such a possibility, you may be wondering why Governor Ehrlich isn't in the Bag of Crazy. Listen: the condo boom in the Bag of Crazy may be bigger than anywhere in the sane world, but that doesn't mean people can move in right away!

The Wages Of Sin Is A Lucrative Political Afterlife As A Public Speaker

We don't have a crime problem, a gun problem or even a violence problem. What we have is a sin problem. And since we've ordered God out of our schools, and communities, the military and public conversations, you know we really shouldn't act so surprised ... when all hell breaks loose.



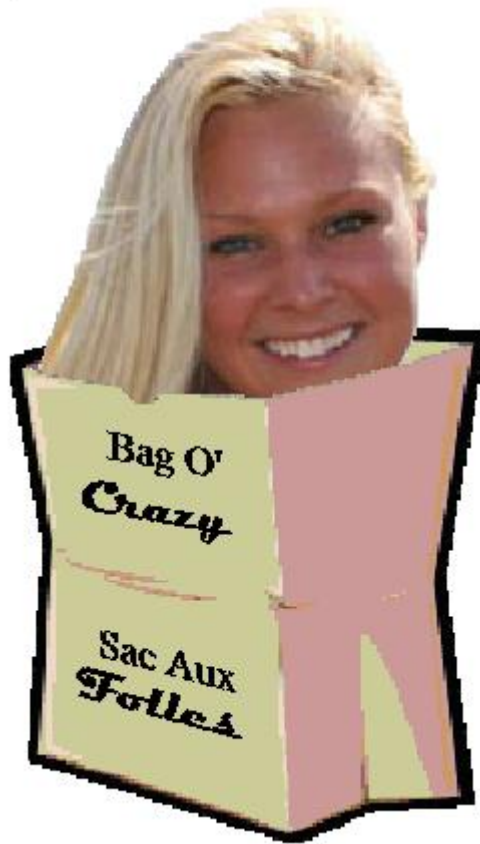
Imagine that you are the only person in ancient Sodom who sees the wickedness of the people around you. You would want to go on television and warn them to repent their evil ways lest they bring the wrath of god down on themselves, wouldn't you? Of course you would! To be honest, most of the sinners around you would deserve to burn in hellfire, but compassion would demand that you try to save them. So, you would grab every microphone you could get your hands on and publicly warn whoever listened, even though nobody really would, because, let's be honest, hell and damnation are no fun.

Pity poor Mike Huckabee, a wannabe Biblical prophet in a modern secular democracy. Where he sees the devil, we see mental illness. Where he sees religion as a cure, we see a better social safety net and stricter gun laws. Where he thinks he's being compassionate, we see a heartless man using a tragedy to promote a political agenda.

Modern prophet or Bag of Crazy resident? I have my own thoughts on this subject, but I guess we'll have to wait until somebody writes the New New Testament to be sure.

With Her Track Record, Ford Can Expect To Be Given A Syndicated Advice Column Any Day Now

Stay alert, walk tall, carry mace, take self-defence classes & don't dress like a whore. #DontBeAVictim #StreetSmart



Absolutely! Because the 80 year-old rape victim was just asking for it wearing those surgical stockings and that sack dress that completely covered her figure! Mmmmm...surgical stockings! My heartbeat quickens just thinking about them! Or, how about the 12 year-old sexual assault victim who was wearing her school uniform – there's nothing hotter than a girl wearing the exact same outfit as 100 other girls! Even as Ford tweeted, an Amish bishop was in court for allegedly coercing his female followers to have sex, and we all know that there's nothing modest about Amish clothing!

Okay, this is a common enough bit of ignorance. What blasted Krista Ford's tweet into the "Where is the sanity?" stratosphere is that she was once a player in the Lingerie Football League. And, miraculously, despite getting physical in her underwear in public, she wasn't raped once!

**You Have A Mind As Sharp As A Bowl Full Of Overcooked Spaghetti
But, Don't Take It The Wrong Way – I Like Mushy Spaghetti!**

You get the pick of the litter and
you got yourself a pretty good
bird dog. Well, we've got the pick
of every donor civilization on the
planet. We've got the vigor from
the planet to come to America.



Okay, let's see what we've got. A man compares immigrants to dogs. Not the craziest thing that's ever been said – hell, not the craziest thing that's been said this week (after all, Conrad Black was interviewed by a BBC journalist). Still, the man who said it popped out of the Bag of Crazy, so he must be a long-time resident.

But, who is he? I'm guessing he's a Republican. Yeah, okay, that's not a big stretch. Hmm...he got some attention from the media, so he probably isn't a marginal figure in the party – I'm going to go with a Senator or a member of the House of Representatives.

Oh, come now, don't be shy. Who could you possibly be?

It was a compliment...
They knew it was a
compliment, they turned
it into an insult because
they're professional
hyperventilators.



Aha! If it isn't Republican Representative Steve King! Nailed it!

Oh, and, justifying comparing immigrants to dogs by saying the statement was a compliment is just plain nuts. It's nice to know that if a resident of the Bag of Crazy makes a borderline nutty statement, you just have to wait and sooner or later – but, usually sooner – they'll follow it up with something truly detached from reality!

You Say Potato, I Say Partisan Hack

Same Difference – People Change Their Social Roles From Time To Time

The leader of the NDP, in 1939, did not even want to support war against Hitler.



Okay, so, here's the thing: you can be a Prime Minister who wants Canadians to learn more about and be prouder of their history, or you can be a partisan hack who distorts the historical record of your opponents to score cheap political points. But, you cannot be both.

The Stephen Harper who wants Canadians to know more about their history would have to point out to the political hack Stephen Harper that the NDP didn't exist until 1961, long after the war was over. He might go on to say that, although the leader of the CCF was a pacifist who opposed the war, the rest of the CCF caucus supported the war, even to the point of voting in favour of conscription, a very divisive issue in the country.

The political hack Stephen Harper would, of course, respond with a snarled, "You think we live in a reality based world? Did you learn nothing from your meeting with Karl Rove?"

Of course, there's a word for people who argue with themselves like this, and a place where they are more than welcome to do so...

Being Evil Never Tasted So Good!

I don't want to support
lesbianism, I don't want to
support Planned Parenthood and I
don't want to support abortion,
and if that be the case I'm not
buying Girl Scout cookies... The
vision of the Girl Scouts of
America is antithetical to a biblical
vision for womanhood. It's
antithetical



Okay, we know Girl Scouts are emotionally manipulative in their mad competition to sell cookies which, frankly, taste like sugar coated cardboard. But, agents of the lesbocalypse? Hard to believe. Fortunately, we have Pastor Kevin Swanson to show us that this is, in fact, the case.

Because there it is in the book of Owtyerassicus, Chapter four, Verse Sixty-nine (!): "And, lo, thou shalt not partake of the Thanks-a-Lot, the Do-si-do, the Peanut Butter Patty, the Samoa or the Thin Mint, for yea, verily, wilt these turn you queer, which is an abomination in the sight of the Lord. Especially the Thin Mint."

I'm sure Pastor Kevin will be happy to know that there are no Girl Scouts in the Bag of Crazy. They're too busy trying to do well in high school and worrying about boys to have the time or energy to turn him into a lesbian. His neighbours in the Bag of Crazy, on the other hand...

Crazy Is Not An Exact Science

Do I really want to take my kids to watch a movie [*Star Trek: Into Darkness*] that implicates the good guy in the film as mating with the wrong species? ... of course the whole premise of this is that within an evolutionary construct there is no real problem with speciation and cross-species mating, there's no problem with that at all, in fact that's how you evolve, that's how you get evolution, and so the end result of course is that evolution has no basic problem with bestiality or cross-species mating. Okay? Now some of you are saying that I can't believe these guys are saying this on this radio program. I can't believe I'm saying this either. They are going to be the first man has gone before. Or should.



Reformation Church pastor Kevin Swanson has a radio show. This is the sort of thing he says on it.

As it happens, Swanson is wrong, wrong, wrong, wrong, wrong. Evolution doesn't happen when species cross-mate. That's ridiculous! Everybody knows that evolution happens when the mating pixies wave their magic...err...wands over animals of two different species and they melt together to create a completely new species. Seriously, if you're going to criticize science, you need to get your facts straight!

Swanson should stick with what he knows best: calling feminists "family-destroying whores." Umm, no, maybe not that. He should stay with his more reality-based positions: that allowing gay marriage will cause the government to swoop in and abduct the children of straight couples to give to gay couples, and straights will be burned at the stake. Ooh. No. Not that either. Well, there's always...well, no, no, the Jim Henson Corporation didn't deserve that.

Still, if Swanson ever loses his day job, he should be comforted by the knowledge that Radio Free Bag of Crazy is always looking for on-air personalities...

Cunningham On Wry

Do you spend evenings marveling at how funny right wing humourists are? Yeah – neither do I.

Oh chill out, Gabby. It's called humor. I assumed some PC idiot would make the comment you made.



Now, you and I may not think that people who are mourning the violent deaths of relatives at candlelight vigils are a good subject for satire. But, you and I are not Blogger Matthew Cunningham, who took photos of a teddy bear with its head mutilated lying on the street next to two candles, one of which contained an image of the Virgin of Guadalupe (a sacred icon to Hispanics, but the image wasn't racist because...umm...because, you see...can I get back to you on that one?). The comic potential of vigils for the recently killed is...well, it ends pretty quickly, actually.

According to Cunningham, the image satirizes the politicization of police shootings. How? Well, obviously, because...umm...because, you see... Well, okay, Cunningham may be a bit fuzzy on the details. But, what he lacks in knowledge of how satire actually works, he more than makes up for in a willingness to personally attack anybody who tries to point this out. As the wise saying truly advises: better to open your mouth and pour your stupidity throughout the Internet than to remain silent and let people think you're a wuss. Or, something like that.

It's a fine line between complete lack of human empathy and sociopathy. Fortunately, like most of its residents, the Bag of Crazy discriminates.

Exhaust From Pixie Dust Fuelled Engines Smells Like Almonds, Cinnamon And Environmental Despair

I'm so used to liberals telling conservatives that they're anti-science. But liberals who defend this and say it is not a bad thing are very anti-science. When you look at biology, when you look at the natural world, the roles of a male and a female in society and in other animals, the male typically is the dominant role. The female, it's not antithesis, or it's not competing, it's a complementary role.



So responded CNN environmental reporter Erick Erickson to news that mothers were now the primary source of income in 40 percent of American households. That he had to go to Fox News to say it should tell you something right there.

Of course, Erickson has a point. Five out of every four biologists know how the female peacock has colourful plumage to attract the male, even if they're not saying. Not only that, but 247 per cent of them will tell you that the male black widow spider kills the female after mating. Because, having a female actually carry fertilized eggs to term is not necessary for the propagation of your species. And, that has to be true because it's scientific!

Sigh. So many religious people try to use science to justify their faith-based beliefs that there is a whole suburb of the Bag of Crazy just for them. The buildings are made out of marinara sauce and the cars run on pixie dust, of course. Unbelievers shouldn't scoff - pixie dust gets better mileage than diesel fuel!

He Obviously Doesn't Believe In The Hippopotamus Oath

Obamacare is "the worst thing that has happened in this nation since slavery. It is slavery because it aims to make all of us subservient to the government. It was never about health care. It was about control."



I have a friend who believes that being a black Republican is the very definition of crazy. I would argue that the fact that some black Americans feel comfortable protecting their economic interests at the expensive of their fellow citizens regardless of race, creed or colour is a sign of how successful America has been in overcoming racial prejudice.

You've come a long way, baby.

It's hard to know what's crazier about Ben Carson's statement. Invoking slavery in the health care debate is ignorant and foolish, especially since giving Americans who didn't have it a choice of health insurance is the exact opposite of government control. The fact that the statement was made at the Value Voters Summit gives one pause, although keeping many Americans poor and sick is a value, I suppose. No, ultimately, it's the fact that Carson is, himself, a doctor. If anybody should appreciate the dysfunction of the American health care (lack of) system...

Fortunately, the Bag of Crazy has a robust health care system. Given the havoc crazy can cause, it's kind of necessary.

How That Happened Is The Real Murdoch Mystery

Maybe most Moslems peaceful, but until they recognize and destroy their growing jihadist cancer they must be held responsible... Big jihadist danger looming everywhere from Philippines to Africa to Europe to US. Political correctness makes for denial and hypocrisy.



To be fair, media mogul Rupert Murdoch hasn't developed some strange form of neural speech defect – this quote is actually made up of a couple of tweets he posted on Twitter. Any neural defect is strictly in the area of cognitive function.

Is Rupert suggesting that we arrest all Muslims until all Muslim extremists are destroyed? All one and a half billion of them? Where would we put them? How would we feed them? WHO WOULD MAKE US FALAFELS AND KEBABS? If not, how would he propose they be held responsible? Being spanked? Sent to bed without dinner? Forced to watch Fox News until they become babbling idiots...or, worse, modern Republicans?

Such collective punishments are war crimes.

What's really crazy is that this man controls so much media in America and Europe.

**If Anybody Is Offended By This Article, I Would Just Like To Say That I'm Sorry
That I Have No Intention Of Apologizing For It**

I think women need to be more aware of a man's sexual desire that when you're in that position that you are about to engage in sexual activity there's a huge amount of energy in the male body, there's a huge amount of will and intent, and it's very difficult for many men to say no when they are whipped up into a bit of a storm. It's the old adage about if you yank a dog's tail then don't be surprised when it bites you.

THREE DAYS LATER

I made it clear on several occasions that rape is an abhorrent and inexcusable crime and that women and victims were in no way to blame. Some of my comments in one section of the discussion were ill-judged and were offensive to some. I apologise to anybody who was offended by what I said.



You can tell a lot about somebody from their public statements. Like what time period they must imagine they're living in.

From his recent statements, for example, I would put BBC radio host Nick Conrad at around the Neanderthal period of human development; however, given his belated apology, I suppose some people would be willing to give him the benefit of the doubt and place him in the 1950s. As if there was that much difference between the two, smart clothes and three martini lunches notwithstanding.

And, what great principle was Conrad defending? Nothing less than the possible reinstatement of football (soccer to heathen North Americans) Ched Evans, who was released from jail after serving over two years for the rape of a 19 year-old woman, to his team, Sheffield United.

I know that sports makes many men crazy, but, umm, so...this. Wow.

As for the non-apology apology, that's so...last week, actually. People in the public eye still use it a lot of the time. However, saying, "I'm sorry you were offended by my statement" is like saying "I'm sorry you're upset that I just ran over your dog," or "I'm sorry you're in pain because I just cut off your arm." You're not actually saying you're sorry that you just ran over the person's dog or cut off the person's arm at all. And, given that it's hard to accidentally cut off somebody's entire arm, it should surprise no one that you aren't sorry you did it!

The Journey To The Center Of The Mind (As Imagined By H. R. Giger)

I say we the people have had way more than enough compromise, backpedalling, Joseph Goebbels and Saul Alinsky smoke-and-mirrors for one generation! And, I say it's about time we go Eric Cantor on the whole gang of deceivers and liars infesting our government right now. There's only so much decent people can take.



So. Yeah. That. The Bag of Crazy doesn't like to pick on rock stars, because, you know, drugs and alcohol. On the other hand, Ted Nugent. Check and mate to appeals to compassion.

Now, you might think that comparing the only Republican Jewish member of Congress to a Nazi was a little...out there, especially since, you know, Jews control the banking system and stuff. That'll make it harder to get campaign contributions, boy! But, that's the dilemma today's right wing faces, isn't it? The stupid have been indulging the insane for so long that the insane think they own the joint!

And, holy heaping beating a dead horse that nobody even knew was in the race, folks: who the heck is Saul Alinsky? I've asked all of the political historians in the Bag of Crazy, but all I got in return were gibberish filled rants. Okay. I should have expected that. Still, if the right insists upon harping on this guy, I may just have to read some of what he wrote!

Not Very Bright, Lee

It has been proven, time and time again, that the way to stop a gasoline fire is to add gas to it. And, if the Internet is slow where you live because there are too many users online at the same time, the obvious solution is to add more users. Given these common sense ideas, it should come as no surprise that the answer to gun violence in schools is to add more guns. And, to build on this principle, bigger ones.

I would think a teacher
protecting a school grounds
should be able to carry
whatever she can carry
legally... The Second
Amendment is pretty clear. It
says the right to carry arms
should not be infringed.



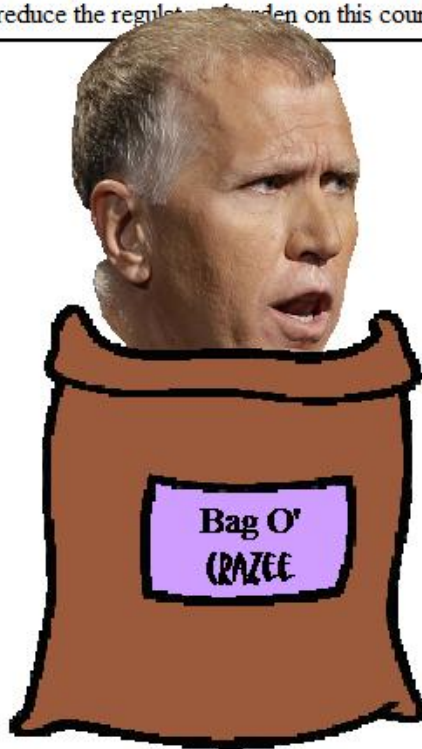
Say hello to South Carolina state Senator Lee Bright. Hello, South Carolina state Senator Lee Bright. Appearing on Fox News Radio's *The Alan Colmes Show*, he was asked if school teachers should bring machine guns to work. This was his reply.

Can you picture it? The Math teacher bringing a bazooka to the lunchroom to get whoever it is who takes bites out of the sandwiches she brings for lunch to fess up and stop? Then, the French teacher takes a Kalashnikov out of her locker and leads a cadre of armed students to the principal's office to try and convince him not to close the French department in the latest round of cutbacks? I'm sure our children feel safer already.

As it happens, there are no schools in the Bag of Crazy. Those who live there never learn.

Left Unwashed, The Invisible Hand Of The Market May Be The Worst Disease Vector Of Them All!

I was having this discussion with someone, and we were at a Starbucks in my district, and we were talking about certain regulations where I felt like maybe you should allow businesses to opt out. Let an industry or business opt out as long as they indicate through proper disclosure, through advertising, through employment, literature, whatever else. There's this level of regulations that maybe they're on the books, but maybe you can make a market-based decision as to whether or not they should apply to you... I don't have any problem with Starbucks if they choose to opt out of this policy as long as the post a sign that says "We don't require our employees to wash their hands after leaving the restrooms." The market will take care of that. That's probably one where every business that did that would go out of business. But I think it's good to illustrate the point that that's the sort of mentality that we need to have to reduce the regulatory burden on this country.



At a time when Ebola, antibiotic-resistant superbugs and the measles are in the news, it takes a brave politician to come out in favour of making the nation's restaurants disease vectors. Brave, or delusional. It can be a fine line, sometimes, but that's okay: the Bag of Crazy likes to make the tough calls.

Thomas "Thom" Tillis, the junior Senator from North Carolina, is just that man.

Are the pennies saved when restaurant workers don't wash their hands really worth the millions of dollars it will take to save the country from a disease pandemic? Okay, wrong question: the restaurants won't have to pay for the rampant illnesses to which they contribute, so their answer is likely to come across as a little anti-social. Just a tad. However, restaurants may not get as much business when large swaths of the population

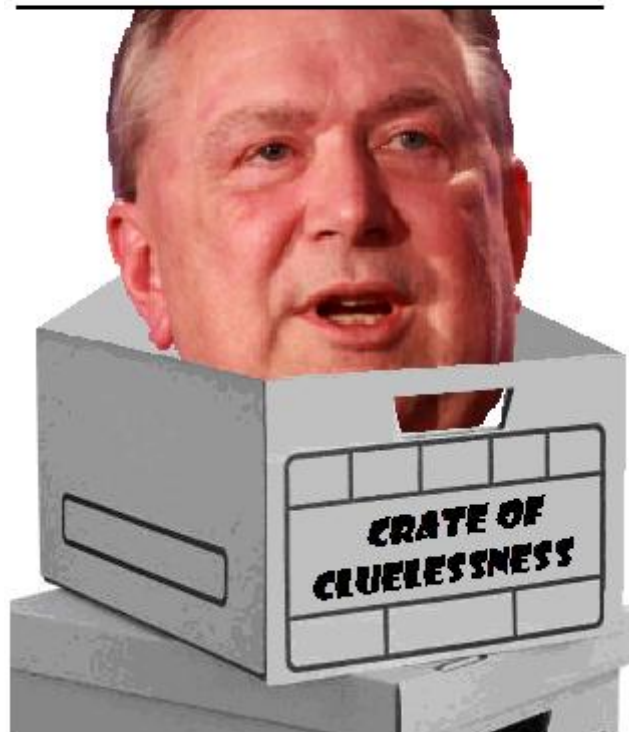
are told by their medical practitioner to stay home for a couple of weeks...or when they die... Insisting that your staff wash their hands after they go to the bathroom doesn't seem so cost inefficient now, does it?

What makes this truly Bag of Crazy-worthy is Tillis' insistence that the invisible hand of the market is the best way of dealing with a public health problem. Seeing invisible hands is worth at least a bungalow in the BoC. Beyond that, thinking that the threat of bankruptcy will be effective in an economic climate where all restaurants are motivated to cut costs in the same manner is just the kind of delusion the BoC was meant to accommodate.

When Tillis moves permanently into the Bag of Crazy, just hope that he doesn't buy a McDonald's franchise...

Of Course, We Need The Polar Ice To Make Ice Cream...

Think about it. If your ice cube melts in your glass, it doesn't overflow. It's displacement. This is some of the things that they're talking about that mathematically and scientifically don't make sense.



If a Congressman makes a fool of himself in the forest and there are no cameras to record it for the nightly news, is he still a fool? Who cares! There are so many Congressmen who say foolish things when the cameras are rolling that we could be amazed for a thousand years and never have to go anywhere near the forest!

So, Republican Representative Steve Stockman was explaining at a hearing of the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology why melting ice won't raise ocean levels. And, if the only ice that was melting was in the oceans, he might have a point. Unfortunately, much of the ice that is melting exists on land and runs into tributaries that eventually lead to an ocean, so warming really will raise sea levels, just like those pesky scientists have been saying. Smug bastards!

This is what you get when your main source for scientific facts about global warming is the movie *Titanic*. Or, *The Ultimate Bar Book*.

One Stop Shopping For All Your Crazy Right Wing Needs

But as has been true throughout Obama's illegitimate presidency, as all credible evidence suggests that he was born in Kenya and is neither a natural born citizen eligible to be president, nor has he been "naturalized" as a citizen to even have the right to remain here – see the deportation petition I filed recently – regrettably our Muslim commander in chief has favored his own creed over the rest of us. Obama has turned Martin Luther King's revolution for equality for all races, colors and creeds on its head. Now, during his regime, relegating whites and others who are not black or Muslim to the back of the bus has become an invidious form of reverse discrimination. This was not right when blacks were subjected to this treatment, and it is not right now – particularly given its deadly implications... This is not just an incompetent and lazy president who prefers golf outings and vacations at taxpayers' expense on Martha's Vineyard to governing, but an evil one who is a danger to the continued existence of our nation. With this new Ebola-gate scandal, Obama's remaining in office becomes an issue of life and death for us all. I do not advocate violence, and I want Obama to be taken alive to be deported and pay for his inadequacies under the rule of law. But he must be forced from office as soon as possible, before all is lost. We the people simply cannot, and should not, take it anymore.



Wow. This column by *World Nut News*...presumed human Larry Klayman reads like a crazed right wing anti-Obama fanatic's greatest hits (expect the K-Tel album any day now). The only things that are missing are FEMA concentration camps and Benghazi. Sarah Palin must be kicking herself that she didn't write this first!

If Obama's plan is to destroy the United States by "knowingly and willfully providing material support and aid to international terrorism and facilitating terrorism by allowing unrestricted entry of persons from countries experiencing outbreaks of the Ebola virus and adamantly opposing efforts, including calls from the U.S. Congress, to restrict travel

from outbreak countries,” it’s a terrible one. To date, only three Americans have gotten Ebola, and only one has died. At this rate, the US won’t be destroyed for at least five thousand years!

But, that’s the thing about crazy: it lives in a world of its own. Or, a bag. An ever-expanding bag with plenty of room for company.

Remember: Obstetrical Information You Pick Up On The Street May Not Be Accurate!

There's no effort here to try to restrict a woman's right to have an abortion. What we're trying to do is make her care competent... There are opportunities for doctors to learn this. Abortion physicians learn from all kinds of training – spontaneous abortions or miscarriages. Sometimes, you learn how to act in an emergency situation.



You know, when I went in for heart surgery, I wanted it to be a magical process that not only was painless and effortless, but left me looking 50 pounds lighter and 20 years younger. Since that was only really possible in a Harry Potter novel, I was willing to

settle for a surgeon who had learned everything he knew about cutting into human chests from emergencies because, well, how can anybody trust a doctor who only knows medical procedures from that there book learnin'?

And, now, thanks to North Carolina Republican state Representative Pat McElraft, there is at least one politician who agrees with me! McElraft is a vocal supporter of a law that would force UNC School of Medicine doctors to no longer perform abortions or teach medical students how to perform them, which could have the perverse effect of causing the school to lose its accreditation because the national accrediting body for medical schools kind of, you know, requires OB/GYN residents to be educated in performing abortion procedures and stuff.

Oops.

Oh, sure, it would suck to be one of the women an OB/GYN learned from. If your fetus was stillborn and carrying it to term endangered your health, I can see that you would want a doctor who had actually learned how to deal with the situation in order to kind of, you know, save your life and stuff. How selfish some people can be! You should be happy to be in a position to give your life so that some people's perverted idea of Christianity can dominate a supposedly secular country! Or, so it would seem when you live in the Bag of Crazy.

Representative's Remarks A Boon To Sonogram Fetishists Everywhere

Watch a sonogram of a 15-week baby, and they have movements that are purposeful. They stroke their face. If they're a male baby, they may have their hand between their legs. If they feel pleasure, why is it so hard to believe that they could feel pain?



Republican Texas Representative Michael Burgess might be on to something, here. Were the fetuses looking at tiny magazines of other naked fetuses when they were touching themselves? Is there, perhaps, a market for certain drugs – you know the ones I’m talking about – if fetuses can’t pleasure themselves to the extent that they would like?

On the other hand, isn’t masturbation a sin? Perhaps it would be best if onanistic fetuses were aborted – they would only cause trouble and misery if they were born!

On the other other hand, scientists say that nerve endings in fetuses don’t develop until at least 23 to 30 weeks, which means they cannot feel pleasure (or pain or embarrassment, much like Republicans) after only 15 weeks, which would make the whole discussion ridiculous. Good thing the Bag of Crazy is impervious to, you know, facts and stuff!

Republicans Eat Their Own (And Then Get Robot Doubles To Replace Them To Cover Up The Crime)

I will be stating that...it is widely known Rep. Frank D. Lucas is no longer alive and has been displayed by a look alike... On television they were depicted as being executed by the hanging about the neck until death on a white stage and in front of witnesses. Other now current Members of Congress have shared those facts on television also. We know that it is possible to use look alike artificial or manmade replacements, however Rep. Lucas was not eligible to serve as a Congressional Member after that time.



So. Say you're running in a primary against a popular incumbent and you not surprisingly lose. What do you do? Do you congratulate your opponent on running a good campaign? Do you skulk away muttering to yourself about his campaign's dirty tricks (or the relative ineffectiveness of your campaign's dirty tricks)? Do you take a trip to Disneyland to regroup?

If you are Tea Party candidate Timothy Ray Murray, you claim that the winner, Frank Lucas, was executed in 2011 in southern Ukraine, throwing in the deaths of "a few other Oklahoma and other States' Congressional members" to bolster your claim. Why does Lucas keep showing up at legislative sessions and public functions if he, you know, no longer functions himself?

The man claiming to be Lucas is a body double. Maybe a clone. Maybe a robot. Maybe just a pug from Podunk with an amazing resemblance. Please – this is a major scandal, let's not get bogged down with details!

Lucas has denied ever being in the Ukraine and there is no credible video of his “execution.” Still, reality is just a minor pothole on the superhighway through the Bag of Crazy...

Smiles As Much As You Kindly Old Uncle
Makes As Much Sense As Your Crazy Old Uncle

Can this same procedure then
be done in a pregnancy?
Swallowing a camera and
helping the doctor determine
what the situation is?



In a hearing on a state law banning the use of telemedicine to perform abortions even though medical experts insist that the procedure is safe, Idaho State Representative Vito Barbieri asked the question on everybody's mind: can the state of a woman's pregnancy be determined if she swallows a camera? Don't try to argue that you hadn't wondered the very same thing. And the answer would be yes, in the same way that examining a woman's ear would help determine if she has gout or giving her a CAT scan would tell you if she has an impacted wisdom tooth.

Medical science is pretty amazing.

Later, when it was pointed out that a woman's reproductive system was in no way connected to her digestive system, Barbieri claimed that, "I was just being rhetorical." Unfortunately, this merely showed that he was ignorant of English as well as female anatomy. But, is ignorance a sign of insanity? Let me put it this way: Barbieri is an anti-abortion crusader. That means he wants to dictate what women can do with their own bodies **even though he doesn't understand how they work.**

That's just nuts.

When It Comes To Deciding Who Deserves The Guilt For Killing Jesus, You Can't Be Too Jewsy

I think Mel Gibson crashed a gate, in a very big way, 10 years ago. Oh, he got attacked when he was shooting The Passion, from the Jewish community, saying "look at the way you're portraying us," I mean, I go, okay, news bulletin: you did kill Jesus.

...

I sort of understand how they never want to deal with the New Testament in Hollywood, because it's pretty much, you know, run by the world of the, um, Jewish population. At the same time, at least get someone that has, you know, believes that the potential is there, that it could be a real story.



We like our Greek gods to personify the three Ss: strong, studly and stupid. (I mean, what person in their right minds would fight a three headed Hell dog or snake who grows two heads for every one you cut off?) The actors who play Greek gods, not so much. Unfortunately, the public has no say in casting.

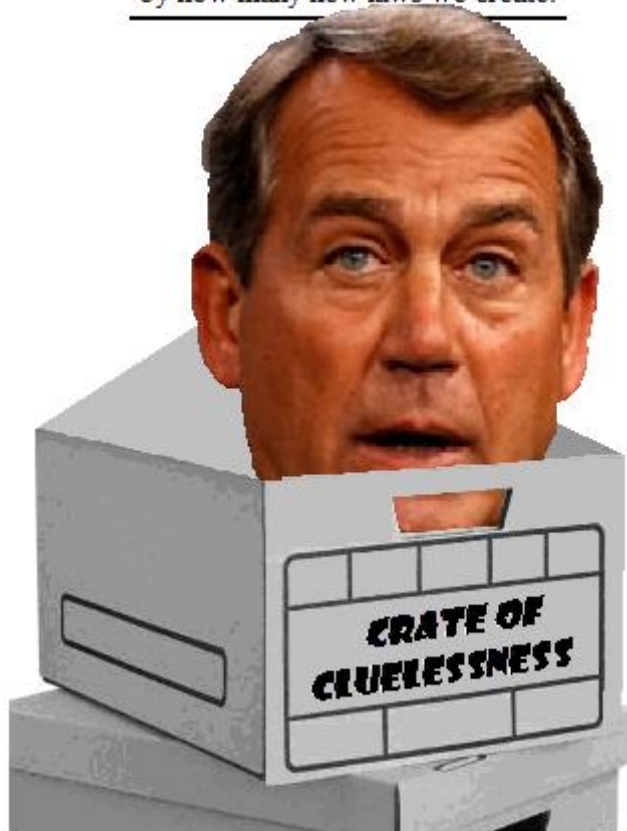
One-time Hercules Kevin Sorbo decided to go old school (like, twentieth century old) anti-Jewish in public statements. Kevin. Kevin. Kevin. Don't you know that all the cool kids are claiming that Israel's treatment of Palestinians makes the Jewish state as bad as

Nazi Germany? Of course, many of them are conflicted because they admire Hitler's way of dealing with Jews. Let's leave them to their angsty lack of self-reflection.

When reminded that the Jews handed Jesus to the Romans, who were the ones who actually crucified him, Sorbo replied: "Details, man. It's all details. The important thing is not to get distracted from the issue of who really killed Jesus." The Bag of Crazy may be paraphrasing his response, but only for purposes of making fun of his attitude.

Speaker Of The Mouse

Congress "ought to be judged on
how many laws we repeal" and not
"by how many new laws we create."



After Mitt Romney proclaimed himself finished with politics after losing the presidency to Barack Obama, I was concerned that the Crate of Cluelessness would have to retire as well. Thank voters for Republican Speaker of the House John Boehner! He is so gormless – I don't think I have ever known a human being that had less gorm!

My guess would be that a single mother who has to hold down three part-time jobs just to cover rent and food for her family would have a different set of criterion for judging a government's effectiveness than how many laws they repeal. Selfish bitch!

But, even by his own standards, Boehner's Conservative majority in the House has been a failure. They have, for example, held 40 votes to repeal the Affordable Health Care Act, but, oh, look, it's still there! The Republicans say the votes are symbolic. Perhaps, but I do not think they symbolize what the Republicans think they symbolize...

The Ultimate Medical Researcher

If a woman drives a car, not out of pure necessity, that could have negative physiological impacts as functional and physiological medical studies show that it automatically affects the ovaries and pushes the pelvis upwards. That is why we find those who regularly drive have children with clinical problems of varying degrees.



Did you know that medical studies have proven that driving a car weakens men's sperm because it forces the male pelvis upwards, crushing a man's testicles under the dashboard? Did you know that this results in an increase in the number of babies born with clinical problems of varying degrees? No? I didn't know it either until just a moment ago, when I made it up. Isn't science awesome?

I must admit, I don't understand why a powerful man like Saudi Arabian Sheikh Saleh al-Lohaidan feels the need to resort to science to justify a fundamentally religious social

edict. It's like saying, "God told me to stand on one foot for six hours a day to prove my devotion to Him...and here are the clinical research studies that prove that's actually good for my health!" What's the point? He can make clinical studies show anything he wants – He's God!

Fortunately, the Bag of Crazy is both international and ecumenical. Welcome, Sheikh Saleh al-Lohaidan! Just, please, try to get your llamas to stop eating Terry Jones' petunias – the pastor can be very territorial!

What Is It With Kevins And Crazy?

Our national commitment to permanent, asinine, incontinent juvenility, which results in, among other things, a million or so abortions a year, is not entirely unrelated to the cultural debasement that is the only possible explanation for the career of Lena Dunham. A people mature enough to manage the relationship between procreative input and procreative output without recourse to the surgical dismemberment of living human organisms probably would not find much of interest in the work of Miss Dunham.



I was ready to take *National Review* writer (he strings words together into a good approximation of sentences, so let's give him the benefit of the doubt) Kevin D. Williamson to task for claiming that women who have abortions should be killed. Remember the commandment "Thou shalt not kill," Kevin? There may be wiggle room in some of god's laws, but that was one of the ones that he deemed important enough to be written in stone.

But, that's just standard issue right wing hypocrisy. What distinguishes Williamson is how he managed to turn an anti-abortion argument into a screed against actor and comedian Lena Dunham. This takes exceptional craziness – Williamson has, with one statement, vaulted to the head of the line for a star on the Bag of Crazy Walk of Infamy.

And, what's with the whole managing the relationship between procreative input (I'm guessing he's talking about sex) and procreative output (babies?) thing? Williamson makes physical expressions of love about as appealing as a corporate manager's work flow chart! For that, his star on the WoI deserves to have its own stars!

You Can't Really Argue With The Islam Of The Mind

I don't oppose Islam as a
country, but I do feel their
laws should not be
welcome here in Australia.



Life is full of compromise. You want Sarah Palin. You'll settle for Michele Bachmann. You get Stephanie Banister.

Banister was contesting a seat in Queensland, Australia for the anti-immigration One Nation Party. She quit the race after only 48 hours, probably for her statement confusing a religion with a country. But, it was likely jump or be pushed: she was facing charges of "contaminating or interfering with goods" for putting stickers on supermarket Nestle products that read "halal food funds terrorism." Really? Halal food barely funds halal butchers!

Even though she wasn't around long, her "crazy to hours in politics" ratio must qualify her for the *Guinness Book of Dubious Political Records*. Could memoirs and a reality TV show be in Banister's future? If history has taught us anything, it is that the crazy may be down, but it's never out.

You Don't Become A Venture Capitalist By Thinking Through The Implications Of What You Say

Writing from the epicenter of progressive thought, San Francisco, I would call attention to the parallels of fascist Nazi Germany to its war on its "one percent," namely its Jews, to the progressive war on the American one percent, namely the "rich." This is a very dangerous drift in our American thinking. Kristallnacht was unthinkable in 1930; is its descendent "progressive" radicalism unthinkable now?



Godwin's Grove is a quiet little neighbourhood of the Bag of Crazy where Holocaust deniers drive down the property values of those who would use the Holocaust to score points in an argument, usually, but not always political. Venture capitalist Tom Perkins, who has a nasty habit of writing letters to the Wall Street Journal, has a tasteful villa in a shady part of the neighbourhood. Really, if it wasn't for the six foot tall stone wall with manned gun turrets every few yards, you wouldn't even know it was there.

Perkin's comparison of progressive social activists to Nazis might seem inappropriate at first blush, but you don't become a venture capitalist by blushing. The wealthy caste whose fraudulent behaviour nearly caused a worldwide depression – for which it was and

continues to be obscenely compensated – are clearly the same as German Jews in the 1930s, who were guilty of...umm...well, that is to say...err...being Jewish.

Well, okay, that part of the analogy doesn't scan well, but you don't become a venture capitalist by scanning well. The one per cent, who can afford to protect themselves with small armies carrying the latest weapons, are clearly on a par with German Jews in the 1930s who were able to protect themselves with soup spoons and...and moral outrage. Well, okay, that doesn't seem like much, but you would be surprised how much damage somebody who is morally outraged can do to a heavily armed police unit with a soup spoon.

You don't become a venture capitalist by being driven by paranoid delusions. It is, however, a great way of taking up residence in the Bag of Crazy.

Bag Of Heartless Assholery Is Probably More Appropriate, But That Would Require Some Serious Rebranding...

Fetal abnormalities should not justify taking the life of unborn babies... [Fetuses] are going to suffer, they're going to feel pain [but] that's part of the human condition, when sin entered the world, and it grieves us all.



They do everything bigger in Texas. Including the crazy.

Republican State Representative Matt Schaefer has proposed an amendment to the Health and Safety Code for medical facilities that would “prohibit the performance of an abortion at the facility on the basis that the fetus has a severe and irreversible abnormality.” When he first justified this amendment, I thought he was referring to the potential suffering of the mother, who would be susceptible to sepsis and other painful, potentially fatal illnesses, if forced to carry an unviable fetus to term. But, no, he was actually talking about the fetus itself.

And, what sin, exactly, is a fetus capable of having? Thou shalt not kill...your mother's healthy cells? Obey thy mother...when she tells you to stop kicking because you're

interfering with her playing bridge with the Wilsons? Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's...womb in the maternity ward? There certainly are some original sins there, boy!

Schaefer will take up residence in the Bag of Crazy at 237 Lack of Empathy Laneway, where he will be able to mingle with others with his condition. Perhaps there is a god after all.

Bush League Beliefs

In the 2000 Presidential election, between George W. Bush and Al Gore, I lived in a place called Broward County, Florida. When they declared the state of Florida—and the election—for Al Gore, I, like so many others, got down on my knees and asked for something that had never been done before. I asked for God to change the outcome of the election. You know what happened: He answered that “ridiculous” prayer. And if God can change the outcome of a presidential election, He can change the outcome of a Supreme Court ruling. Ask Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine to file a motion for rehearing the marriage case at: 800 455 1515. Then, pray to the God of the impossible.



It should be obvious that anti-gay Christian activist Janet Porter is delusional, but a lot of people might accept her statement at face value. So, for those people, let me just say: **Jane Porter is delusional.** All of her prayers would have been for nought if a Supreme Court stacked with Republican appointees hadn't twisted the law into a seventeen dimensional pretzel to stop the Florida recount.

It's not like Porter is relying exclusively on god. If Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine can be convinced to bring the case back to the Supreme Court and if it can be convinced to reconsider the case (on this, I would have said she didn't have a prayer, but under the

circumstances...) Porter would insist that Justices Elena Kagan and Ruth Bader Ginsburg recuse themselves because they have presided at gay marriages. If they didn't go willingly, Porter could always ask her best bud god to rain a plague on them – nothing too nasty, mind you, just boils or locusts or something that would keep them off the bench until a new decision on gay marriage had been made.

You have to wonder, though, if Porter really had that much pull with her god, do you think he would have let Betty-Lou Rackheimer win the pie baking contest instead of her? Betty-Lou's not a bad cook, she just doesn't know when to throttle back the lard. And, honestly, if Porter and god were BFFs, would he have allowed this image of her emerging from the Bag of Crazy to circulate over the Internet? I mean, that hair!

As it happens, god and I hang out at the same gym, and, when I told him about Porter, he just shook his head sadly and responded, "You know, if I did everything people asked of me, everybody in the world would be dead at least six times over. I love you guys, but you really need to get a handle on this whole 'Free Will' thing. Really, really, really, really, really – that's five reallys, so you know how seriously I take this matter. Now, if you'll excuse me, I have an appointment to meet a 'friend' in Aruba, and he doesn't like to be kept waiting..."

Did I Say "Joy?" I Meant Utter Contempt
The Modern Republican Party Can Be Confusing That Way

Harriet Tubman would likely be turning over in her grave if she knew she would be the new face of American debt slavery.



Former Republican presidential candidate Ben Carson couldn't wait to share his joy at the news that a black woman will be featured on American currency. I'm not sure how the concept of debt slavery is relevant when Alexander Hamilton, whom Tubman is displacing from the front of the \$20 bill, was an owner of, you know actual human slaves. Still, it's good to know that a black Republican can be just as deserving of a chateau in the Bag of Crazy as a white one – that's an advance in racial equality, I guess.

If he is so down on the American currency, what form of exchange does Carson use in his day-to-day transactions? Do Carson's medical patients pay him in chickens? When he rented rooms for rallies for his failed Presidential bid, did he pay the facility owners in gold doubloons? When he goes to the corner store, does he pay for his packet of smokes with a wink, a nod and some good old-fashioned Republican obstructionism?

It's like a random word generator went off in Carson's head when he heard the news, and he thought: *How can I connect this to slavery to make Obama look bad. Hmm...catapult slavery? No. Purple slavery? Nice colour, but no. Slavish slavery? It has a ring to it, but no. Blue suede shoe slavery? No. The King would have hated Obama with me, but no. Six hours and several thousand words later, he would have finally thought, ...ance scam*

slavery? Closer, but no. Debt slavery? No – no, wait. I think I’ve got it! By George, I think I’ve got it!

What is it about President Obama that has Republicans froth at the mouth at everything he does? Doctor Pavlov, can you make a house call in the Bag of Crazy?

Either Way, There Will Always Be Room In The Bag Of Crazy For Him
And, Isn’t That A Comforting Thought?

Mary and Jesus didn’t have
suicide bomb vests strapped
on them, and these folks do.
You can see it in technicolor
in Paris



I think it’s safe to say that Mary and Jesus didn’t use their cellphones to call ahead for reservations, either, and they certainly didn’t use Airbnb, or they wouldn’t have ended up spending the night in a stable. And, they certainly hadn’t traveled to Jerusalem to see the Middle Eastern premier of *Mockinjay, Part 2*; I know some people like to get to a theatre early to make sure they get seats, but 2,015 years seems excessive.

I also think it’s safe to say that the federal agencies vetting refugees haven’t had to confiscate a whole pile of suicide bomb vests at the US border. If they had, I’m sure some military contractor would have offered to repurpose the vests for American use, months late and at inflated costs, as is the American way.

The safest thing I think I can say is that Texas Republican Representative Brian Babin is highly delusional and probably should not be allowed to give interviews on important subjects, let alone hold public office. Maybe he has a problem parsing language, such that he believes that “travelled freely through Europe with their European passports” means “were refugees.” Of course, if he’s not delusional, he a raving, ignorant bigot, so the conclusion on his fitness for public office stands.

Even If He Was In The Bag With Everybody Else, Trump Would Still Need A Separate Bag For His Ego

She's not very tough and not very sharp. I don't respect her as a journalist... There was blood coming out of her eyes, blood coming out of her wherever.



If you double down on doubling down after having already doubled down, are you down six times or eight times?

The question was prompted by the toupee that walks like a man, Donald Trump. It started with Trump making disparaging remarks about women (down). Then, when Fox lightweight (okay, he got that right) Megyn Kelly asked him about it at the first

Republican Presidential candidates debate, he said he was only talking about Rosie O'Donnell (double). In an interview the next day, he made the above statement (Tim Hortons). When there was an uproar about Trump's crude reference to Kelly's femaleness (think about it), he claimed that he was talking about her nose, and "Only a deviant would think anything else" (doubling tripled). Then, sending doubling out of the atmosphere on the first leg of a flight through the solar system, he dismissed the whole controversy with the following tweet: "So many 'politically correct' fools in our country. We have to all get back to work and stop wasting time and energy on nonsense!"

Well, quite.

Why does Trump get his own bag? Frankly, none of the other children are willing to play with him. Even longtime residents of the Bag of Crazy, including other Republican Presidential hopefuls like Mike Huckabee and Marco Rubio, have condemned Trump's remarks. Of course. They may be crazy, but they're not stupid!

Fake It Until You...Uhh...You Break It, You Bought It

No, I don't know anything about it. You're telling me about it for the first time and it doesn't sound like my voice at all. I have many, many people that are trying to imitate my voice and you can imagine that. This sounds like one of these scams, one of the many scams. It doesn't sound like me. It was not me, on the phone. And it doesn't sound like me. I'll tell you that. It was not me on



So, here's a thought: what if, in the early 1990s, a public relations specialist named John Miller created a corporate alter-ego named Donald Trump. Miller took all of the worst aspects of the stereotyped American identity (boundless undeserved self-regard, sexism, racism, ignorance, bullying bluster) and created a capitalist monster in order to parody the excesses of the 1980s.

To Miller's surprise, people ate it up: the public couldn't get enough of the boorish know-nothing that he portrayed. In fact, 25 years later, Miller finds his creation a billionaire reality television star who has just become the Republican Party's candidate for President of the United States.

Stand-up comedians and performance artists can only look upon Miller's work with awe and envy.

Everything is threatened when a recording from 1991 in which you identified yourself as John Miller surfaces. At the time, your Trump persona admitted to being Miller, waving

the whole thing off as a joke gone awry, in order to maintain the façade. But, that was then: now, how do you let go of a joke that you've been playing on the public for over two decades, a joke that has made you ridiculously wealthy and possibly the most powerful man on the planet? You don't, of course: you respond as if the whole incident never happened.

It's a crazy thought, to be sure. But, is it any more crazy than what the situation looks like: a successful entrepreneur created a PR person persona to talk to the press about how great he was? There's crazy, and then there's just plain nuts.

The Henny Youngman Approach Would Have Saved So Many Words...So...Many...Words...

Take Obamacare — not literally, but figuratively, here OK? We now know that this law will discourage millions of people from working. The Left thinks this is a good thing. They say, hey, this is a new freedom — the freedom not to work. I don't think the problem is too many people are working. I think the problem is not enough people can find work. And if people leave the workforce, our economy will shrink. There will be less opportunity, not more. The Left is making a big mistake here. What they're offering people is a full stomach and an empty soul. The American people want more than that.

You know, this reminds me of a story I heard from Eloise Anderson. She serves in the Cabinet of my buddy, Gov. Scott Walker. She once met a young boy from a very poor family. And every day at school, he would get a free lunch from a government program. He told Eloise he didn't want a free lunch. He wanted his own lunch — one in a brown-paper bag just like the other kids. He wanted one, he said, because he knew a kid with a brown-paper bag had someone who cared for him.

This is what the Left does not understand. We don't want people to leave the workforce. We want them to share their skills and their talents with the rest of us. People don't just want a life of comfort; they want dignity; they want a life of self-determination.



Upon hearing this bit of deplorableness from House Speaker Paul Ryan, the first thing I thought of was Oliver Twist walking up to the leader of the workhouse, empty bowl in hand, timidly asking, "Please, sir, I want some more...dignity." And, of course, the response would be: "Shut up! You're getting more gruel, you ungrateful wretch! Your dignity be stuffed!"

Dickens really understood what need does to people psychologically.

My second thought was to wonder if the 4.5 million Donald Trump voters who will lose their health insurance when the Republicans repeal the Affordable Care Act will be grateful to get their dignity back, even if it means not being able to get that hip replaced or that spleen ectomied. But, yeah, if Doctor Trump tells them that there's nothing wrong with them, and that the pain they're feeling isn't real, I suspect that most of them will be okay with it.

My third thought was of reports that Eloise Anderson hadn't actually witnessed the scene Ryan claims, that she heard it from a friend who...heard it from a friend who...heard it from a friend that you were messing around. It would appear – sorry. I got caught in an REO Speedwagon moment, there. The point is, the story at the heart of Ryan's argument was highly embellished, if not entirely made up. It would appear that – ahem – estrangement from the truth is catching.

My fourth thought was: holy fregolis, I think too much about this stuff!

I, Carly Fiorina: Sooooooooooooo Not Ready For Disney

I dare Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama to watch these tapes. Watch a fully formed fetus on the table, its heart beating, its legs kicking, while someone says we have to keep it alive to harvest its brain. This is about the character of our nation, and if we do not stand up and force President Obama to veto this bill, shame on us.



So, here's the thing: Republican Presidential hopeful Carly Fiorina is actually talking about a video that shows a woman talking about a video that doesn't seem to exist. And, Fiorina wants Democratic Party leaders to watch a video that doesn't seem to exist just because there is a video that shows a woman talking about it.

Dizzy yet?

You have to feel sorry for Fiorina: as the only woman in the Republican race, she has to work twice as hard to convince primary voters that she's half as anti-woman as any of the men. (Ten times as hard as Donald Trump.) She also seems to be a woman out of time: her gruesome apocalyptic vision would have gone over big with audiences in the fifteenth century. Just think of the possibilities: she could have gotten Joan of Arc to be her running mate!

Unfortunately for her, this is the first part of the twenty-first century. Perhaps the craziest thing about Fiorina is that she actually thinks she has a chance to win the Republican Party presidential nomination.

If Any Good Is To Be Found In The Election, It Is That We Now Have A Meme To Describe Modern Right Wing Politicians



“Drain the swamp! Drain the swamp!” was one of the common chants at Donald Trump rallies, right up there with “Jail her!” and “Hey! – That’s my beer! Hand it over and I won’t have to take The Terminator out of his holster!” Drain the swamp. As if.

Trump’s own swamp contains toads like Chris Christie and Rudy Giuliani, snakes like Newt Gingrich and David Duke, mosquitoes like Ben Carson and grizzlies far from their native habitat like Sarah Palin. Is this one of those Nixonian, “we had to drain the swamp to save the swamp” kind of moments? Because, honestly, if Trump’s intention is to turn Washington into a quagmire of his own creation, we may soon learn if swamps can go bankrupt.

But, that’s not even the crazy thing. No, my friends, the crazy thing is that at some point Trump’s followers are going to realize that they were promised a shining city on the hill and given a new and improved swamp. Trump’s pre-angrified followers. Trump’s heavily armed, pre-angrified followers.

If you don't think there are going to be consequences, you must be have collected a lot of frequent flyer points travelling to the Bag of Crazy!

I Love Louie

I really wonder how many people in [Congress], who have the ultimate power to decide whether humanity would go forward or not – if it were an asteroid coming, something that would end humanity on earth as dinosaurs were ended at one time – we have a space ship that will go as Matt Damon did in the movie, plant a colony somewhere, we can have humans survive this terrible disaster about to befall. If you could decide what 40 people you put on the spacecraft that would save humanity, how many of those would be same sex couples? You're wanting to save humankind for posterity, basically a modern-day Noah, you have the opportunity to be a modern day Noah, you can preserve life. How many same sex couples would you take from the animal kingdom and from humans to put on the spacecraft to perpetuate humanity and from humans to put on the spacecraft to



Some politicians refuse to answer hypothetical questions on the not unreasonable grounds that they have to deal with what is, not the large number of things that could, maybe, possibly, you never know, perhaps, in one's wildest dreams, perchance, you really never know one day be. Then, there are politicians like Texas Representative Louie Gohmert, who talks about things that may be, in order to comment on what is. I think. Hypothetically.

Fortunately, we don't have to hypotheticalize. We can simply read Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi's Alternate Reality News Service article "How is the Eridanus Up There?", which is about the first interstellar journey to search for habitable planets. The 40 people chosen for the flight to the constellation Eridanus were all part of same sex pairs.

Why? The hundreds of thousands of stored sperm and eggs and the millions of computerized DNA sequences would ensure the genetic diversity of the human colony if the mission found a habitable planet. However, children born on the 20 year journey

would strain the limited resources of the ship. Members of the ICSF (International Consortium of Spacefaring Folk) decided that an entirely gay crew would minimize the possibility of encountering this problem.

What does it say about a politician's grasp of reality when he can be refuted by reference to an article written by a fictional journalist for a non-existent news agency?

I Vote For The Right's Assumption That The American Public Is Infantile



Okay, so, the Supreme Court is hearing a case on the constitutionality of a Texas law, SB 5, mandating that abortion clinics can be no bigger than a bread box and must be equipped with AI enhanced laser scalpels and tricorders...to protect women's health. In the middle of this, Justice Samuel Alito spaketh.

Soon after, Justice Elena Kagan pointed out that over a dozen abortion facilities closed within days of passage of the Texas bill, and almost immediately reopened when the bill was stayed. Did Alito respond by saying, "I apologize. After having reviewed the evidence, it is clear that the clinics closed as a direct response to the law." You think that sounds like something he would say? Really? Do you live in the Bag of Crazy?

No, he put his hands over his ears and repeated, "I can't hear you! I can't hear you! I can't hear you!"

It gets better (in the sense of "it gets worse"). When StandwithTXWomen.org tweeted "If SB 5 passes, it would essentially ban abortion statewide," Texas Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst responded, "We fought to pass SB5 thru the Senate last night, & this is why!" When confronted with this apparent smoking gun, Alito stuck out his tongue and made the sound of derision heard in grade school playgrounds across the country: "Pfffffffbbbbbbbttttt!"

It's hard to know which is worse: Alito regressing to infantile behaviour, or Alito's collusion in the right's infantilization of women.

Just Because You Don't Have Any Enemies Doesn't Mean That Anybody Is Out To Get You

I asked the State Guard to monitor Jade Helm 15 so that "Texans know their safety, constitutional rights, private property rights and civil liberties will not be infringed."



You support America's military – you've got the bumper sticker and yellow ribbons to prove it. So, when the government announces a military training exercise (gotta keep our fighting men and women combat ready, right?) across seven southern states, including the one in which you live, how do you show your support for the troops?

You claim that they're there to get your guns and snatch people who disagree with the government off the streets to put them in internment camps, of course.

Paranoid delusion is the magpie of mental illnesses: it can take anything in its environment and weave it into a gloriously nutty nest. Government trains moving into the area? They're not just transporting things necessary for the training exercise – OH, MY GOD, THOSE TRAINS HAVE GOT CHAINS ON THE SEATS! THEY'RE HOW THE GOVERNMENT IS GONNA SPIRIT AWAY THE DECENT AMERICANS THEY GRAB IN THE "TRAINING EXERCISE!" Wal-Mart stores have been shut in the area? OH, MY GOD! THEY WILL BE FOOD DISTRIBUTION CENTRES WHEN THE FALSE FLAG ECONOMIC CRISIS GIVES THE GOVERNMENT THE EXCUSE TO INVOKE MARTIAL LAW. OR, HOUSE THE HEADQUARTERS OF INVADING TROOPS FROM CHINA! OR...SOMETHING INVOLVING UNDERGROUND TUNNELS! THE DETAILS AREN'T IMPORTANT! THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT THEY WILL BE USED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO DO VERY, VERY BAD THINGS!

As for the dude in the Bag? That would be Republican Texas Governor Greg Abbott, pandering to the lunatic fringe of his party. Nothing new in that – the Republicans have been courting the crazy for decades. What makes Abbott eligible to become a citizen of the Bag of Crazy is the idea he seems to have that he will somehow be able to control the anarchy that he and fellow Republicans have indulged for so long – talk about delusional!

Physician, Heel Thyself!

With regard to the idea of whether or not you have a right to healthcare, you have to realize what that implies... I'm a physician. That means you have the right to come to my house and conscript me. It means you believe in slavery. It means you're going to enslave not only me, but the janitor at my hospital, the assistants, the nurses... There's an implied threat of force: do you have a right to beat down my door with the police, escort me away and force me to take care of you? That's ultimately what the right to free healthcare would be.



The other day, I went to my family doctor to have a persistent cough looked after. After a few preliminaries, he cheerfully asked: “Could you loosen my shackles? Just a bit? They’re making it difficult for me to hold this tongue depressor!” I smiled and genially replied, “Nope. Sorry. You might try to escape, and then I would have to get the Health police to track you down and whip you to make you more obedient, possibly even hang you from a tree as a warning to any other doctors who would want more freedom, and then what would I do about my cough?”

Can you imagine being a patient of Senator Rand Paul (I don’t even bother identifying Bag of Crazy residents as Republicans any more because obvious)? “Your cough is a sign of advanced pulmonary fascitis.” “Is that a real disease?” you would have to ask, “Or is it something in your head?” “It could be a real disease,” Rand would assure you. “In some other universe where diseases like that exist. Will that be debit or credit?”

Of course, universal health care is not free – it is paid for out of general government revenues. And, countries that have it generally have better health outcomes for lower cost

than the United States. This makes the whole “slavery” thing the strawiest of straw man arguments. Not to mention, the most offensive.

But, ssh. Don’t tell Rand Paul that. The health clinic that he runs in the Bag of Crazy only has three patients – coincidentally, they’re all named John Galt – but they’re billionaires, so everybody is happy.

Remind Me: What’s So Poetic About A Babbling Brooks?

I’m one of these folks that think we need to stop paying these folks to come here. And we’re paying them about \$15,000 a year in free health care, free food, free shelter, free clothing, free transportation. You know, just go down the litany of wealth-transfer programs that these people are entitled to, and that answers very quickly why so many of them want to come to the United States of America. We’re paying them to come here. Paid vacation.

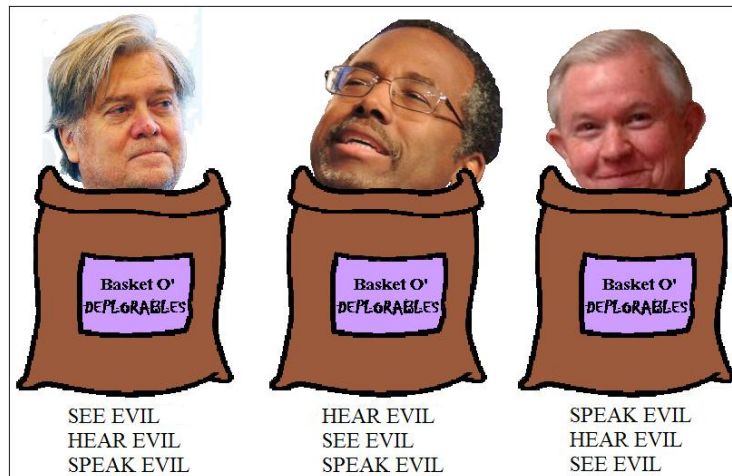


It takes a special kind of person to look upon vast amounts of human suffering and say to himself, “But, how is this going to affect government revenues?” (By which, of course, he actually means: “But, how is this going to affect my taxes?”) Fortunately, the Republican Party seems to have no shortage of special persons these days.

Who wouldn't want a vacation from torture, rape and murder? Alabama Representative Mo "Better" Brooks, it would appear. If he ever found himself in an overcrowded refugee camp facing food shortages, filthy water, disease-carrying insects and potential violence, he would undoubtedly say, "I'm not going to try and make my way to a free country because I don't want to be a burden on their already overtaxed citizens!"

Yeah. Sure, he would.

Their Slogan Is: "All For One...No, That's It. All For One. You Were Expecting Something More?"



The Three Basketeers

The Right To Hate Is Not Enshrined In The Constitution
Although The Right To Be A Whiny Bastard About The Supreme Court May Be

I don't think a lot of pastors and Christian schools are going to have a choice. They either are going to follow God, their conscience and what they truly believe is what the scripture teaches them, or they will follow civil law. They will go the path of Dr Martin Luther King, who in his brilliant essay the letters from a Birmingham jail reminded us, based on what St Augustine said, that an unjust law is no law at all. And I do think that we're going to see a lot of pastors who will have to make this tough decision. You're going to see it on the part of Christian business owners. You'll see it on the part of Christian university presidents. You'll see it on the part of Christian school administrators.



Okay, so, that happened.

Let's overlook the mealy-mouthed way Republican Presidential wannabe Mike Huckabee threatened civilian disobedience in the aftermath of the Supreme Court decision allowing gay marriage throughout the United States; it's so polite, you could be forgiven for mistaking him for a Canadian! Deciding to quote civil rights activist Martin Luther King must have caused so much dissonance in his brain, it's a miracle he could get any words out at all.

Why dissonance? Let's look at what the two men stood for:

MARTIN LUTHER KING	MIKE HUCKABEE
In fighting for his religious beliefs, he was fighting to extend basic rights to all Americans.	In fighting for his religious beliefs, he is fighting to deny basic rights to a specific group of Americans.

Can you spot the difference? I know it's subtle, but if you work at it, I'm sure you'll see it eventually. Think. Think hard.

This comparison is beyond crazy. It's in really, really, really, really, really bad taste.

These Days, The Problem With Dancing The Charleston Is That Nobody Wants To Lead



How can you tell if you're one of the empathy-impaired members of a crazy chorus? Ask yourself a simple question: when a tragedy happens to other people, what is my first thought? If your first thought is, *That's horrible! My heart goes out to the victims of this tragedy and their friends and family*, you're a real human being. Congratulations. If, on the other hand, your first thought is *How can I turn this tragedy to my political advantage?*, well, I would suggest that you start singing, but you've probably already got the sheet music out and are warming up your voice, so I needn't bother.

Why were seven black people shot to death in a Charleston, South Carolina church by a white man? According to Senator Rand Paul, it's because they weren't Christian enough, and, anyway, government is too big. According to Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal, it was because the murderer was evil, and who among us can understand evil, really? According to pro-gun advocate and Fox News darling John R. Lott, they were killed in a hail of gunfire because there weren't enough guns in the church. According to Texas Governor Rick Perry, it was because the killer was high on drugs, and, anyway, the Obama administration was politicizing the incident. Republican strategist and other Fox News darling contributor Tony Sayegh, agreed: the tragedy was being used by unscrupulous people to further their own political agendas.

Shame on them.

What did the killer think he was doing? His confederate flag and racist Facebook posts should have been clues. Then, there was a report that the killer stopped his shooting spree to say, "I have to do it. You [blacks] rape our women and you're taking over our country. And you have to go."

But, what does he know? He's never been a pundit on Fox News.

Yeah, You Know, Johnny Cash Didn't Sing "I Islammed A Man In Reno Just To Watch Him Die" For A Reason

Barack Hussein Ohblahblah might be the dumbest person alive. For goodness sakes, that gun didn't kill anyone. It was his fellow Muslim that killed all those Puerto Rican homosexuals. Islam kills. Guns save lives.



Delusions come in many forms. Some people convince themselves that taunts that kindergarteners might say if they were tired and cranky are the height of wit. (Oscar Wilde must be spinning in his grave, counter-clockwise, as was his wont.) Some people delude themselves into thinking that if you repeat something often enough, the repetition will make it true. (President Obama is not a Muslim – he's a capitalist.) Some people have washed their own brains so thoroughly, they can make the argument that objects

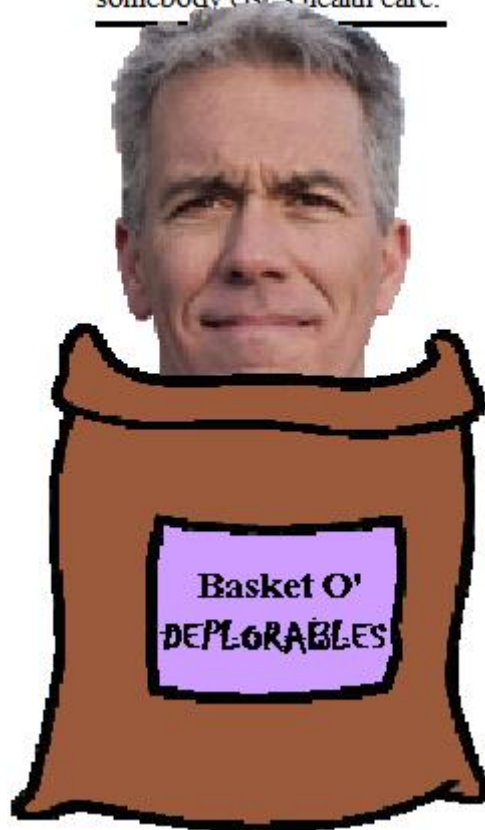
created for the purpose of killing are actually fluffy kittens that are the subject of so many adorable YouTube videos that it's a surprise they don't collectively break the Internet.

Hard as it may be to believe, all of these delusions come together in a single psyche, that of a woman known primarily for hunting grizzly bears from a helicopter, although there are rumours that she may have been a politician at some point in her life. Her name is...umm...oh, what was it? Sadie Pullet? Sandy Putin? Sardinia Poopiehead? (She started it!) Sorry I can't quite put my finger on it – the woman's 15 minutes of fame happened long ago (or it may have been so traumatic that we have erased it from the collective consciousness – stranger things have happened in American politics).

Perhaps her greatest delusion is that she believes that she is still somehow relevant to anybody other than her immediate family.

Atlas Shrugged Reduced To A Single Sentence – Why Couldn't You Have Said This When I Was In My Twenties? You Would Have Saved Me Hours Of Exposure To The Most Leaden Prose In Literature!

Sorry Jimmy Kimmel: your
sad story doesn't obligate me
or anybody else to pay for
somebody else's health care.



You don't need to learn a secret handshake to get into the basket of deplorables. You don't have to wear a pin with the image of a bear mauling a small child. You don't have to pay any fees, charges, taxes or gratuities. You just have to be willing to say the first heartlessly awful thing that pops into your head in public.

Joe "I'm not the Eagles guitarist and singer, for which we are both grateful" Walsh has done it so often he will never be able to completely get the straw out of his ass crack. Not when he keeps adding to it with gems like this.

Kimmel, for the contextually challenged among you, talked on his late night show about the difficult birth of his son, and how only severe medical intervention saved his life, and how he could afford it but many parents couldn't (which was why access to affordable health insurance was such an important thing), and how devastating it would be if you had to watch a child die because you didn't have the financial resources to save him, and cried. Only a heartless bastard would fail to be moved by such a heartfelt display.

Feel free to draw your own conclusions. The basket of deplorables has drawn its.

Being An Ambulatory Godwin's Law Violation Must Make You A Hit At Parties

Disgraceful that @nyjets owner will pay fines for players who kneel for National Anthem. Encouraging a movement premised on lies vs. police. Would he support all player protests? Would he pay fines of players giving Nazi salutes or spew racism? It's time to say goodbye to J



Living in the Basket of Deplorables is a lot like living in Alice's Wonderland. Except for the part where a red queen screams, "Off with his head!" (although Vladimir Putin is giving it his best shot). And, okay, nobody in the BoD smokes a hookah pipe, not even caterpillars (they inject the stupid directly into their eyeballs – one quickly gets used to the burn). And, no, nobody's playing chess – most of the people in the Basket have not evolved beyond War (don't ask any of the cards how they feel about **that** unless you've got an hour to kill!).

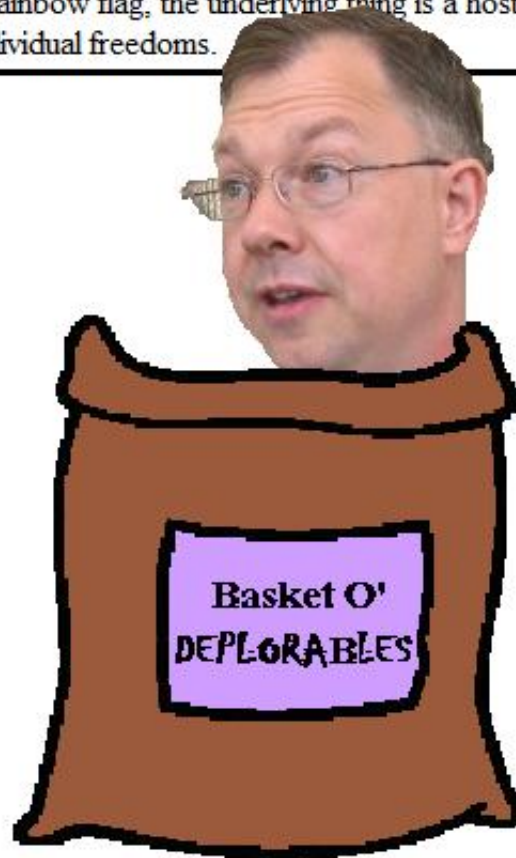
Alright, living in the Basket of Deplorable is not very much like living in Alice's Wonderland except for the part where everybody believes that "words mean what I want them to mean." So, for example, when Republican Congressnozzle (the "douche" is implied) Peter King talks about anti-racism protesters, he feels no cognitive dissonance when he compares them to Nazis. (Some psychologists believe one has to cognate in order for dissonance to occur, but they're just being churlish because their latest paper was rejected by the *Journal of Latent Obviousness C.*)

At first blush (something King hasn't done since he was still in the womb, although he has argued that the ultrasounds that showed it were doctored by Hamas, which was

funded by George Soros for...reasons), King seems a perfect candidate to be a lead character in an episode of *The Twilight Zone*. Even if he did find himself in a Concentration Camp, though, his response would likely be, "You think this is bad? You ever heard of a little thing called Black Lives Matter? Now, **they're** evil!"

Carpay Diem – Seize The Eww!

How do we defeat today's totalitarianism?
You've got to think about the common characteristics. It doesn't matter whether it's a hammer and sickle for communism, or whether it's the swastika for Nazi Germany or whether it's a rainbow flag, the underlying thing is a hostility to individual freedoms.



The great thing about the Basket of Deplorables is that if you believe your right to make homophobic slurs is more important than the right of gay people to live without the fear of violent attacks, you can find a neighbourhood of like-minded people. Of course, that's also the deplorable thing, but please remember where you are.

Ordinarily, a low level political grunt like John Carpay would live ignominiously in the Basket (despite being such a...a...a lawyer!). But, he was compared by Jason Kenny, leader of the breakaway (on his own net) United Conservative Party, to civil rights activist Rosa Parks.

Carpay was compared to civil rights activist Rosa Parks.
Civil rights activist Rosa Parks.

Rosa Parks.

Okay. Sure. Carpay is exactly like Rosa Parks, if, when she refused to leave her seat on the bus, she put equal blame on the racist southerners and the Jewish owners of the bus company. Unfortunately for him, history remembers the incident a little differently.

Kenny's willingness to allow people like Carpay to be members of UCP is the real issue. According to a Kenny spokeswiesel, "The UCP is a big-tent party..." Does that mean that it will accept Nazis as well as homophobes?

The Basket of Deplorables is big enough for the whole circus. It just wishes it didn't have to be.

Conservative Senator Enjoys Beyacking At The Moon

Trade your status card for a Canadian citizenship, with a fair and negotiated payout to each Indigenous man, woman and child in Canada, to settle all the outstanding land claims and treaties, and move forward together just like the leaders already do in Ottawa. None of us are leaving, so let's stop the guilt and blame and find a way to live together and share. All Canadians are then free to preserve their cultures in their own communities, on their own terms, with their own dime.



Natives! What a bunch of whiners! Am I right? Want other people to pay for preserving their culture and will complain about the slightest thing, like the suicide rate among their children or a series of missing and murdered women. And, they absolutely refuse to take any responsibility for things like residential schools just because they had no control over them. Grow a spine, people! We all have problems! And, I have no intention of feeling guilty for yours just because my people caused them!

Or, that's what Conservative Senator Lynn Beyak seems to be saying. (Yes, Canada has a Senate, too. It's like the American Senate, but unelected, so it's far less legitimate and hijinksy but far more easy to ignore.)

Hard to know which is more deplorable: the fact that Beyak felt the need to say what she said – out loud – in public – with adults present – or the fact that the Conservatives have not seen fit to throw her out of their Senate club. That does illustrate the great thing about the Basket of Deplorables, though: it truly is a big tent that welcomes all who want to enter.

**Do You Think A Lot Of Racists Don't Want To Think Of Themselves As Racists,
Or Do They Just Not Want US To Think Of Them As Racists?**

I do not bathe in tears of white guilt. That does not make me a white supremacist. I oppose state multiculturalism and affirmative action. That does not make me a racist. I reject cultural relativism. That does not make me a fascist.



After Charlottesville, many far along the spectrum to the right were shocked to discover that people who espoused violent views could actually be, you know, violent. Politicians and pundits who, mere days before, were partying with people on the so-called Alt Right, taking selfies with them to share on Facebook and Instagram, couldn't take down those images fast enough.

Not Rebel Media correspondent Faith Goldy, Satan bless her. She stood her ground and defended her beliefs. For which she was fired by the company; even Ezra Levant's fire breathing poodle reconsidered its love for the Alt Right when the movement graduated to terrorist murder. Still. She can take her ideological purity with her when she applies for one of the suddenly available positions at Breitbart.

It's true that understanding how matches and lighters work doesn't make you an arsonist. Standing next to somebody who is pouring gasoline in an empty house, however, and

gushingly reporting on his way with matches (as if he was a teen idol and you were a 13 year-old who had a mad crush on him), makes you, if not an arsonist yourself, certainly an arsonist enabler. And possibly an accomplice.

Oh, and what you call “white guilt,” most people would call “a conscience.” I assume your conscience was strangled at birth, as is the custom with your people.

You have fun playing footsie with neo-Nazis, Faith. I’ll be busy planning an escape route to Israel.

For The Love Of God, Won’t Somebody STOP Thinking About The Children?!

You cannot rebuild your civilization with somebody
else's babies.



When we think of baskets, we usually think of fair maidens skipping down forest paths carrying dainty comestibles to grandma’s house in the woods. We were brought up that way. We don’t usually think of aging white guys carrying despicable ideologies to ignoramuses in the suburbs.

Thank you, Representative Steve King, for updating our understanding of fairy tales. Apparently, Grimm wasn’t grim enough.

King, a long-time resident of the basket of deplorables who most recently earned his place there by reducing racism to a t-shirt slogan, wanted people to know that he wasn't being racist. "It's the culture, not the blood," he explained. "If you could go anywhere in the world and adopt these little babies and put them into households that were already assimilated into America, those babies will grow up as American as any other baby." But, wouldn't that mean that you actually could rebuild your society with somebody else's babies?

Deplorable isn't all that big on consistency. Or, logic. Or, compassion. But, at least it's consistent in that way...

I Don't Mean To Appear Flip About Child Molestation, But...

Judge Roy Moore graduated from West Point and then went on into the service, served in Vietnam and then came back and was in law school. All of the ladies, or many of the ladies that he possibly could have married were not available then, they were already married, maybe, somewhere. So he looked in a different direction and always with the [permission of the] parents of younger ladies. By the way, the lady he's married to now, Ms. Kayla, was a younger woman. He did that because there is something about a purity of a young woman, there is something that is good, that's true, that and he looked for that.



By day, Philip "Flip" Benham is an Evangelical Christian minister and the national leader of Concord, North Carolina-based Operation Save America, a pro-life group that evolved from Operation Rescue. By night, he gives relationship advice that would make contributors to *Penthouse Forum* blush.

The most obvious defence of accused child molester Roy Moore would be to deny the allegations against him, but the Bible inveighs against bearing false witness, so what is a man of the cloth to do? This, apparently. You know, when Jesus said, “Suffer the children,” he didn’t mean to literally make them suffer by taking away the quality you claim to value most in them: their innocence.

By the way, Ms. Kayla, Moore’s much younger wife, had been previously married. It’s certainly possible that the marriage was never consummated, preserving her “purity.” It’s also possible that, in an age where hymens can be reconstructed, a woman’s “purity” can be operated on and restored. Or, “purity” can be defined as “the corrupt sexual longings of an adult for children.”

Maybe we should ask the Lord for guidance on this matter – just not the Reverend Benham’s Lord.

Inanity Is The Spicer Of Life

We didn’t use chemical weapons in World War II. You know, you had someone as despicable as Hitler who didn’t even sink to using chemical weapons.



Imagine that you have a job explaining to the press the latest actions of the Deplorable in Chief. It happens to...well, not the best of us, but certainly those who are...not completely, irredeemably, down to the bone awful, anyway. What do you do? You can rise above your boss and be honest with journalists. Or, you can be Sean Spicer.

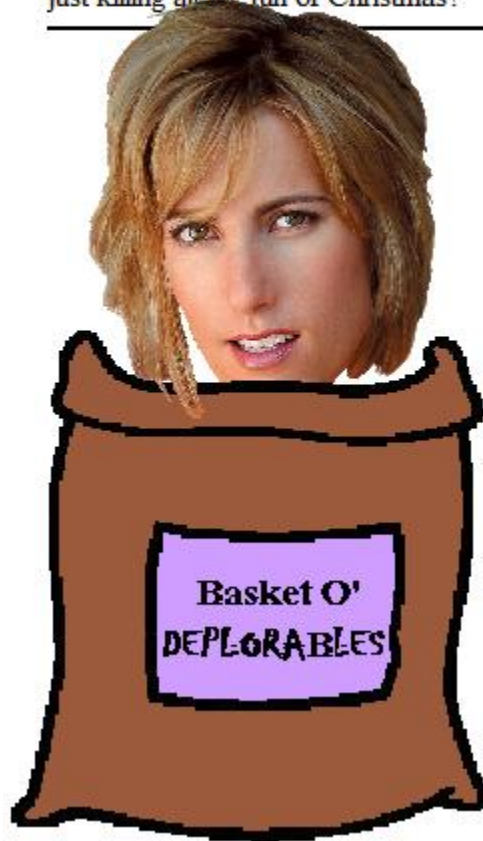
To justify the attack on a Syrian air force base, the Trump administration decided on the time-honoured tradition of demonizing the object of their attack. Unfortunately, they're very bad at it. While it's true that the US didn't use chemical weapons in World War II, it ignores the fact that the country used chemical weapons with gleeful abandon in Vietnam; just ask the natives who were burned to death by Agent Orange. On the other hand, the US did drop two atomic bombs during WWII, as any of the people who were vapourized by them can attest. Oh, and if that wasn't bad enough, it's worth keeping in mind that the Germans didn't kill people in the death camps by drowning them in rose petals and well wishes.

In violation of the first rule of getting out of holes, when Spicer was challenged, he continued: "The media has mischaracterized my recent statements on the Assad regime. It was not my intention to imply that Hitler had never used chemical weapons, but that he never used them on fellow Germans." Is he saying that the millions of Jews living in Germany who died in the camps **had faked German passports**? Boy, somebody must have made a killing!

Figuratively, I mean.

Laura The Deplora...Bull

I can see this year it might be - a little less festive, let's say that. No alcohol and no fun and no lampshades and, I don't know, maybe that's better. Is this just killing all the fun of Christmas?



Remember when it was considered great fun to feel up a drunken co-worker next to the office water cooler at the annual Christmas party? When nobody would bat an eyelash if you told a sexual joke, and, if one of your female co-workers did complain, you would call her a vulgar term for a part of her anatomy and everybody would laugh? Including her if she valued her job?

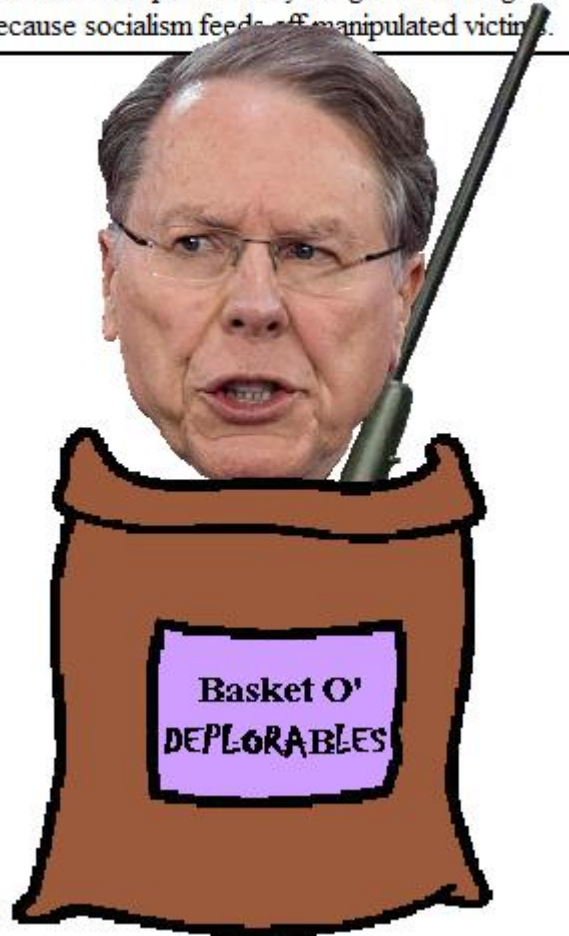
Good times. It seems like forever since we were all that carefree, even if it was only last year. What happened?

According to Fox News spokesblond (do women come in any other flavour on that network?) Laura Ingraham, the #metoo movement happened, that's what. All those women telling stories about how they were raped, sexually harassed or otherwise mistreated by powerful men have destroyed the spirit of Christmas!

Hmm. As former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said, "There is a special place in the basket of deplorables for women who don't help other women."

Life, Liberty And The Pursuit Of AR-15s – The American Birthwrong

What they want is more restrictions on the law-abiding. They want to sweep right under the carpet the failure of school security. Socialism is a movement that loves a smear. Racists, misogynists, sexists, xenophobe and more. These are the weapons and vitriol these character assassinations permanently hang on their targets because socialism feeds off manipulated victims.



Is that a gun sticking out of National Rifle Association President Wayne LaPierre's head, or is he just glad to shoot you?

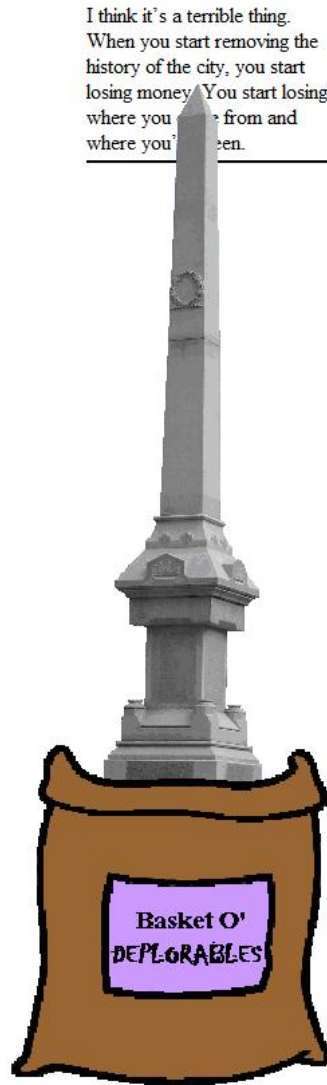
There is something...off about complaining that people who oppose you are into personal smears and then personally smearing them, but I can't quite put my trigger finger on it. Could it be that LaPierre went to the cupboard of rational argument, but found it completely bare?

LaPierre went on to say that the right to bear arms is "not bestowed by man but granted by God to all Americans as our American birthright." Remember when Jesus lobbied

Congress to pass the Second Amendment to the Constitution. “Blessed are the gunmakers,” he said in an impassioned speech on the floor of the Senate, “for they shall protect the children in their schools.”

It’s hard to know which is more deplorable: the fact that there is a man whose job it is to convince Americans to love guns more than their own children, or the fact that he has been able to convince so many of them.

A Monument To Deplorableness



Usually, the basket of deplorables is populated by individuals. Sometimes, however, the deplorable is spread among a lot of people. Fortunately, the basket has group rates to accommodate such situations.

This is the case in New Orleans, where an 1891 obelisk called The Liberty Place Monument had to be removed in the dead of night by workers wearing bullet-proof vests

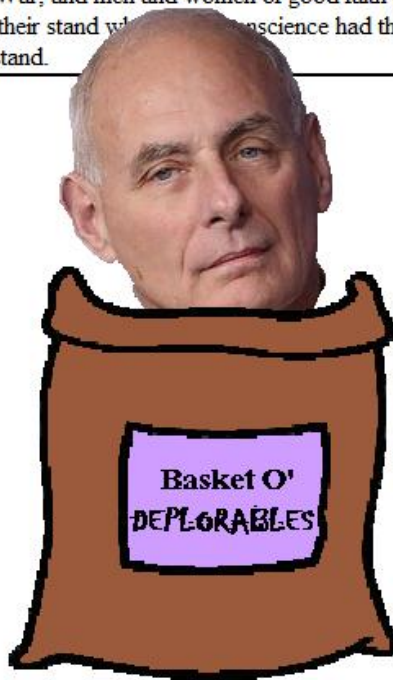
because death threats had been made against anybody who touched it. The monument celebrated the Crescent City White League, which violently protested the integration of the city's police force, resulting in 35 deaths.

63-year-old Civil War re-enactor Robert Bonner may have been the one who made the argument that you don't have to be a racist to celebrate racist events in American history, but he was speaking for all of the citizens (as long as they were older, white and male) of the majority black town.

While celebrating their heritage, those who opposed removal of the monument might want to keep something in mind: **you lost!** Monuments to the south during and after the Civil War are **monuments to losers! Loooooosers!** If you want to keep the memory of **losing** alive, that's your prerogative (I find it a strange thing to celebrate, but I don't live in the basket of deplorables, I just visit from time to time to report on its denizens), but the world has moved on. You might want to consider joining it.

One Person's Heraitor Is Another Person's Traitero

I would tell you that Robert E. Lee was an honorable man. He was a man that gave up his country to fight for his state, which 150 years ago was more important than country. It was always loyalty to state first back in those days. Now it's different today. But the lack of an ability to compromise led to the Civil War, and men and women of good faith on both sides made their stand with their conscience had them make their stand.



Remember when White House Chiefs of Staff stayed out of the spotlight, quietly going about the business of making sure the president didn't tweet anything inane in the middle of the night and information embarrassing to the government didn't leak faster than a gutted teenager on Elm Street? Donald Trump's Chief of Staff John Kelly sure doesn't.

Whether it's lying about a black Congresswoman or praising traitors to the United States of America, he seems quite happy to survey the chaos in the White House and see if he can find some way to add to it.

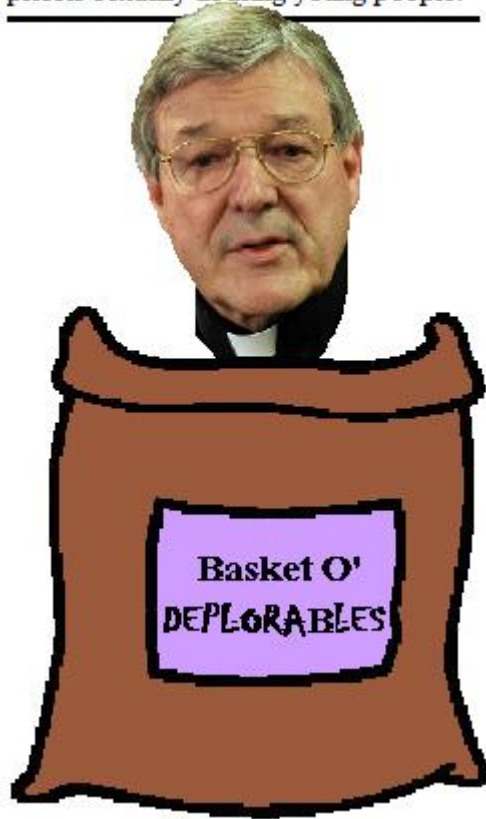
Robert E. Lee wasn't a traitor to his country, according to Kelly, he was a hero to his state. By that logic, the 40 per cent of southerners, including many of Lee's closest relatives, who fought against the South weren't heroes to their country, they were traitors to their state. Hmm. Maybe we need a new term to describe such people, a compromise of the two points of view. How about...heraitors?

That's what could have averted the Civil War – the spirit of compromise! The south could have agreed to only own slaves on weekends, for example. The north could have agreed to accept whippings as long as slave owners didn't pour vinegar into the wounds (as "honourable man" Lee was known to do – can you imagine his howls if he had been presented with that compromise?). Hard to see how the two sides could compromise on lynching (hang every second black man and merely shoot the others?), but, then, I'm not a retired General, so I clearly don't have the right way of looking at the problem.

Remember when John Kelly was one of the adults in the room who was supposed to moderate the craziness of President Trump? Apparently, John Kelly doesn't, either.

Pell Is Other People

Abortion is a worse moral scandal than
priests sexually abusing young people.



Claimed Cardinal George Pell, a priest accused of sexually abusing young people.

Do you think that God really makes such calculations? Do you think He makes those weighing scales motions with his hands and goes, “Hmm...abortion or sexually abusing young people? Sexually abusing young people or abortion? Tough one. A or SAYP? SAYP or A?” Then, hitting Himself in the forehead, he says, “Oh, wait – I hate women. Obviously, abortion is worse than sexually abusing young people!”

Yeah. Seems unlikely to me, too.

I’m not really sure how the third ranking person in the Vatican thinks that this statement is somehow a defense of what he has been accused of. It’s like having to choose between brain cancer and bubonic plague – **it’s still sexual abuse of young people!**

How a man with such a damaged moral compass becomes an important spiritual adviser in the real world is a mystery. That men like him become spiritual advisers in the basket of deplorables is less a mystery than an inevitability

People With Money Are People, Too, You Know

I've already talked to some of the biggest developers in this country and, again, I wish I could say it's my idea, but it was their idea as well. Give us property, we'll build and we'll drive the cost down. That's my plan for affordable housing. We will open up the Greenbelt - not all of it, but we're going to open a big chunk of it - and we're going to start building and making it more affordable and putting more houses out there.

The people have spoken. We won't touch the Greenbelt. Very simple. That's it, the people have spoken. I'm going to listen to them. They don't want me to touch the Greenbelt. We won't touch the Greenbelt. It's as simple as that.



Greenbelt. Black belt. Good belt of Scotch. It's all the same to the man who would be the next Premier of Ontario.

Is Conservative Party leader Doug Ford the new Donald Trump? (It wouldn't be a bad trick, considering that Donald Trump changes positions so often that he is the new Donald Trump once every three or four days.) Pandering to the wealthy? Check. Using real social problems to justify rewarding his backers? Check. Getting caught saying embarrassing things on video? Oh, yeah. Telling different groups of people what they want to hear, even if the promises are contradictory? Ford sure has that one down!

What's the big deal about the Greenbelt, anyway? The province doesn't need farms. Or...trees. And, wildlife? Highly overrated! It's good to know that Ontario is still a place to grow, even if it is no longer a place for a stand.

High on a hill in the basket o' deplorables is Demagogue Drive. When newly elected Premier Ford opens up areas of the Greenbelt for development (oh, come on – you know he wants to!), it will pay off at least a month's rent on his luxury condo.

She's Definitely Not The Subject Of A George Michael Song, Although I Can Understand Your Confusion

We were never asked if we wanted to turn our proud, rich nations into essentially the boarding houses and battered women's shelters for the third world. And then we have the problem of fellow white people who are telling us that all of this is antiquated and 'white supremacy.' People are starting to wake up. I think this is an exciting time to be a [white] nationalist and a right-winger.



As you might expect, Nazis have their own community (gated, of course) in the basket of deplorables, because it is the home of everybody who believes that it is virtuous to speak untruths against the powerless. The community is a hotbed of seething rage and paranoia – you could be forgiven for mistaking it for Alabama.

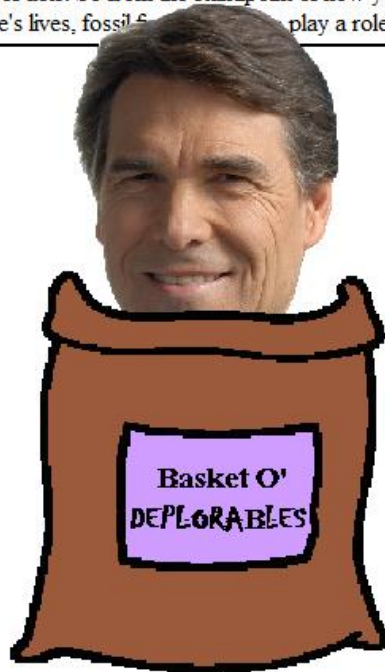
Why single out white supremacist Faith Goldy for attention, then? Aside from the fact that she has been seeking it? Because she has been successful at getting it. Whether it's a rally at Nathan Phillips Square in which the white supremacists were outnumbered by the mounted police, prompting an epic rant on YouTube about the lack of white nationalist solidarity, or having her picture taken with the Mayor of Toronto, Goldy has been bringing her message to the masses.

Her carefully worded message. I mean, scare quotes for the term white supremacy? Really? Because people from the third world (read: people of colour) will be supreme in their boarding houses and battered women's shelters? (And, what's with boarding houses, anyway? Does Goldy have a time machine that sends the rest of the world back to the 1880s?)

I believe in keeping the Faith...in the basket of deplorables where she belongs.

That's One Small Step For A Deplorable, One Giant Leap Into The Abyss For Deplorablekind

Let me tell you where people are dying, is in Africa, because of the lack of energy they have there. And it's going to take fossil fuels to push power out into those villages in Africa, where a young girl told me to my face, "One of the reasons that electricity is so important to me is not only because I'm not going to have to try to read by the light of a fire and have those fumes literally killing people." But also from the standpoint of sexual assault. When the lights are on, when you have light that shines, the righteousness, if you will, on those types of acts. So from the standpoint of how you really affect people's lives, fossil fuels play a role in that.



Rick Perry, President Trump's Secretary of Energy, was deplorable long before he was White Housed. The fact that he is now among his own kind only appears to have emboldened him. Unfortunately.

Perry has promoted the proposition that the main contributing factor to women getting raped is darkness. Because he has done an empirical study and can conclusively show that rapes never happen to sedated patients in well lit hospitals or dentist's offices. Or, in brightly lit schools. Or, during the day.

Instead of pushing American oil on Africans, Perry might have chosen American coal instead. It would be much more practical for a woman who is being sexually assaulted to hit her attacker with a nice, hard lump of rock. And, more environmentally friendly than other things that could be done with it. I have done an empirical study that proves beyond a shadow of a doubt that every unreconstructed Marxist pundit named Karl believes that

hitting himself repeatedly in the head with coal was Perry's main qualification to become Energy Secretary.

Can't argue with that. It's deplorable science.

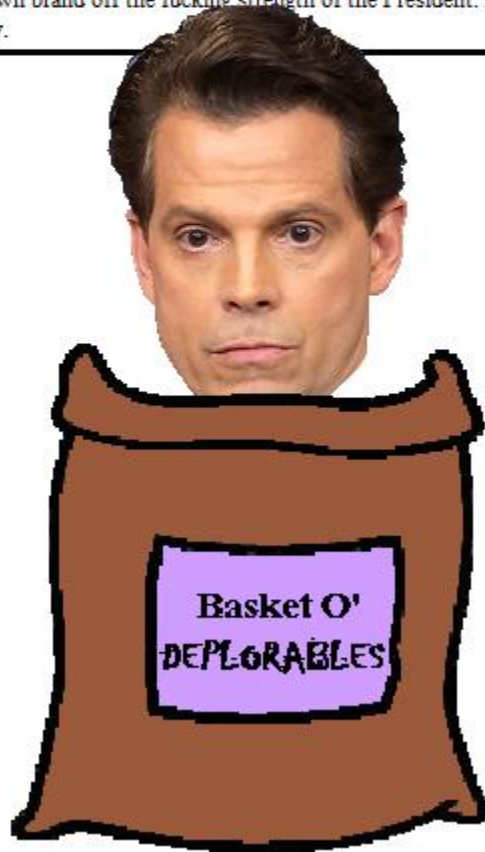
That Will Leave A Lasting Scaramucci

What I want to do is I want to fucking kill all the leakers and I want to get the President's agenda on track so we can succeed for the American people.

The swamp will not defeat him. They're trying to resist me, but it's not going to work. I've done nothing wrong on my financial disclosures, so they're going to have to go fuck themselves.

Reince is a fucking paranoid schizophrenic, a paranoiac. "Oh, Bill Shine is coming in. Let me leak the fucking thing and see if I can cock-block these people the way I cock-blocked Scaramucci for six months."

I'm not Steve Bannon, I'm not trying to suck my own cock. I'm not trying to build my own brand off the fucking strength of the President. I'm here to serve the country.



It usually seems unworthy to kick a man when is down. But, when the man is Anthony Scaramucci, it seems less like a shame and more like a duty.

People who follow the goings on in Washington and those who are affected by them (which, let's be honest, is everybody) like to think that the dialogue in the West Wing is written by Aaron Sorkin. Unfortunately, in a single ill-considered interview, Scaramucci revealed that it's actually written by David Mamet. But, if Scaramucci is Ricky Roma, does that make President Trump...Dave Moss? It would be nice if he suffered the same fate as Shelley Levine, but that's just wishful thinking.

Note that Scaramucci wasn't fired because his profane attacks reflected poorly on the White House; Scaramucci is the man Donald Trump hopes to become if he ever grows up (I know, I know: given his success so far, why would he?). He was fired because an actual badass – a General – took over and wanted nothing to do with him.

What have we learned from this fiasco? When in doubt, punt? To avoid gum disease floss regularly? Sometimes, the best course of action is to just clean up the wreckage of the train and find another route home...?

What's All The Hullaba Lou?

We are watching, you know, millions of illegal immigrants cross our borders, and many of them voting in the past election that's what, just a couple of weeks ago and having immense impact



Remember when Lou Dobbs was a respected journalist? No, seriously, he was once a respected reporter. If you don't believe me, ask your parents – no, just to be on the safe side, ask your grandparents. You don't want to take chances with ancient history...

So much deplorable, so little time. Millions of illegal immigrants have not crossed into the United States from Mexico. Discounting the thousands who have, quite legally, asked for asylum, only three illegal immigrants entered the country in the week before the election. And, Petey One-Eye doesn't really count: he got drunk one night and on the way home took a wrong turn at El Paso.

And, that immense impact on the election? If it had existed at all, it would have been less than a rounding error.

Dobbs may believe he has found a home at Fox News. But, it's obvious that his real home is in the basket.

When The Going Gets Deplorable, The Deplorables Turn Pro

While some have likened it to — them to concentration camps or cages, you do see that they have those thermal blankets, you do see some fencing, but keep in mind — some have referred to them as 'cages,' but, keep in mind, this is a great, big warehouse facility where they built walls out of chain link fences... Some refer to these [child detention facilities] as cages. I'm from a farm community, I see the chain-link fences, it's more like a security pen to me.



Which brings up the question (because real questions never beg): if you're paid to be deplorable, are you better or worse than somebody who comes by their deplorableness honestly, either by birth or acquired conviction? On the one hand, you probably don't truly believe the nonsense you spout, which should elevate you above the average mindlessly nonsense-spouting deplorable. On the other hand, you probably don't truly believe the nonsense you spout, a hypocrisy which makes you lower than whale spit.

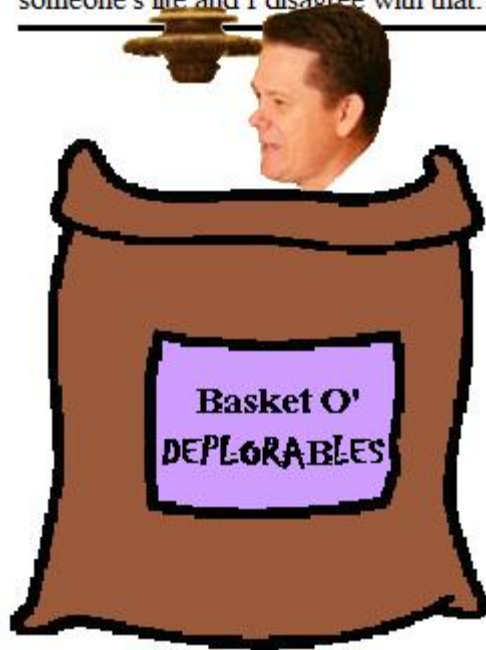
It's a toss-up, really.

I don't know what kind of farm Fox spokesdeplorable Steve Doocy was raised on, but I'm pretty sure human beings weren't kept in security pens there. Unless, of course, it was run by Ed Gein. And, I guess Doocy isn't a wrestling fan, unless he thinks that two people going into a ring surrounded by chain link fences is called a "security pen match." And, anyway, **how does comparing an enclosure that houses people to an enclosure that houses animals make the reality better?**

To say that Steve Doocy is tone deaf is an insult to people who don't have ears.

Women Must Act To Protect Their Hard Fought Rights

It's a great question to ask. And, obviously if it happens in someone's life, it may not be the best thing that ever happened, but – so you're saying that God is not sovereign with every activity that happens in someone's life and can't use anything and everything in someone's life and I disagree with that.



Hey, Oklahoma state Representative George Faught – nice hat!

The Republican's stand on abortion in cases of rape is that it might not be the best thing that ever happened to a woman (which leaves open the possibility that it might – perhaps in the alternate reality where Republicans like to hang out they meet a lot of female constituents who tell them that rape was the best thing that ever happened to them), but, you know, God meant it to happen, so...there.

This is the swiss cheese of anti-abortion arguments.

For instance, why is it God's will for a woman to be raped, but not for her to get an abortion? Did God not also create the chemicals that abortion doctors use? Forceps? Stirrups? Maybe He was having a bad day when He did ("And, on the seventh day, God had a blistering headache and took an Advil and layeth in the dark for a very long time.")

Oh, wait. It gets worse. Why should anybody be arrested for theft? I mean, isn't it God's will that that object be given to a different owner? Or, for that matter, murder? Or, tax evasion? (Okay, tax evasion isn't the sexiest of crimes, but do you really believe that God

doesn't love white collar crimes as much as all of the others He created? What kind of a monster do you think he is?)

The argument is nonsense, but denizens of the Basket of Deplorables work in mysterious ways...

You Can Run, But You Can't Hyde-Smith

If he invited me to a public hanging, I'd be on the front row.



Some people think that statements made by deplorables are calculated for maximum offence. You know: size of community of potential offence x overtness of offensive sentiment x the D. Duke Coefficient = deplorable. I prefer to think that most statements made by people who reside in the basket of deplorables are from the heart, an actual representation of the deplorableness deep down in their souls.

I can be sentimental that way.

So, I would like to believe that Cindy Hyde-Smith, the stand-in Mississippi Republican Senator, was expressing her honest emotions when she made this thinly veiled reference to lynching. Appealing to the darkest elements of the history of the deep south as a conscious campaign tactic would be more appalling than deplorable, and I'm still getting

estimates from builders for an appalling annex to the basket of deplorables, so, if that was the case, I would have no place to put Hyde-Smith.

On the other hand, when she made the statement, “There was no ill will, no intent whatsoever in my statement. This comment was twisted and it was turned into a weapon to use against me, a political weapon used for nothing but personal and political gain by my opponent,” it was pure calculated political opportunism. No ill will? Where, exactly, is the good will in a lynching?

I suspect that many denizens of the bag of deplorables will be vacationing in the appalling annex. If that turns out to be the case, I may have to commission the creation of a high speed rail line between the two...

You Think He's Willing To Be The Subject Of His Own Thought Experiment?

I think poverty to a large extent is also a state of mind. You take somebody that has the right mind-set, you can take everything from them and put them on the street, and I guarantee in a little while they'll be right back up there.



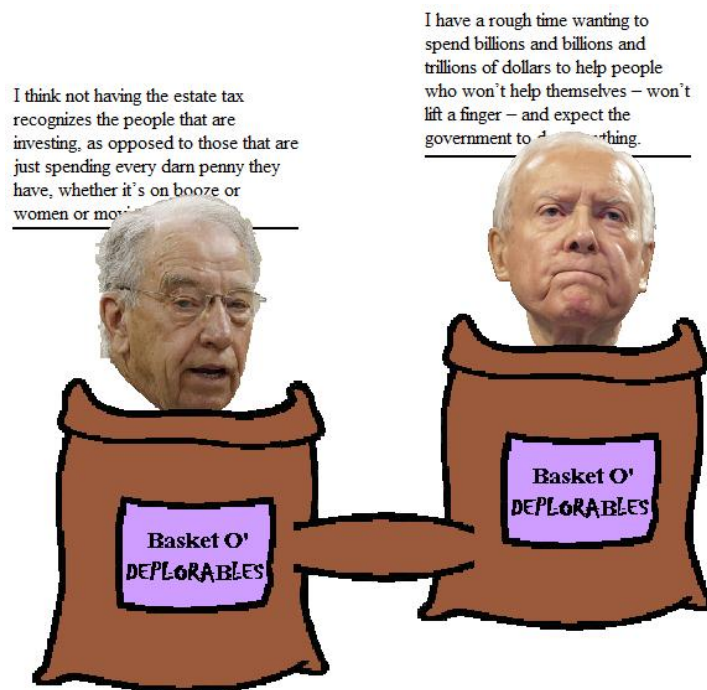
I've often wondered if Housing and Urban Development Secretary Ben Carson bathes in deplorable before he speaks in public. Perhaps he has a small voice in his head that goes, “No, no, no. That's too reasonable. If you really want to piss off liberals, you need to go

bigger, go more tone deaf and offensive.” Maybe he’s just not that smart – wearing glasses doesn’t make you Einstein, you know.

Irene Adler works three jobs to put food on the table for her six children, at least four of whom she is considering selling for medical experiments to help make ends meet. She was raised on *The Power of Positive Thinking*; she says affirmations hourly (and twice an hour on Sundays). Is she poor because she doesn’t have the right attitude? Never mind that there are few full-time, good paying jobs available, or that the education needed to get them is too expensive for her – attitude determines altitude *uber alles*.

I have no doubt that two thirds of Adler’s children will enjoy participating in medical experiments. It’s all a matter of how you approach the experience emotionally...

You’ve Heard The Saying Two Heads Are Better Than One?
When The Body Parts Are In The Basket Of Deplorables, The Math Gets Tricky...



Oh, look! It’s the Biheadal Dinosaur Grassleyatch! They hate the glare of the spotlight, tending to hide in their constituency office and only come out to vote in favour of bills that enrich them and their friends, screw ordinary people or, ideally, both. To find them speaking out against ordinary people, you have to track them to their natural habitat – a bar on E Street, where you can find them grazing on peanuts and class resentment.

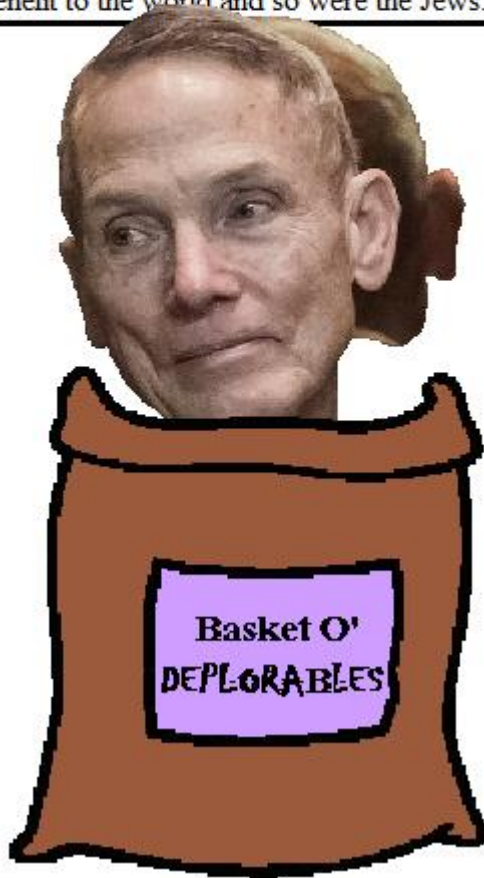
On the left, I give you Republican Senator Chuck Grassley; on the right, Republican Senator Orrin Hatch. I give them to you in the sense of hurling them as hard as I can away from myself; if you choose to catch them, that becomes your problem.

Although it has two heads, the Biheadal Dinosaur Grassleyatch has but a single mind, and a feeble one at that. When not regurgitating anti-poverty talking points to its young, the specimen can be found in a dark corner of the Basket of Deplorables sucking up to wealthy donors for approving pats on the head and scraps of campaign funding.

The only consolation is that the Biheadal Dinosaur Grassleyatch was born old, and has the life expectancy of a dyspeptic termite on a sliver of wood in the middle of the ocean. Long may it sail!

And We Appreciate Your Approval

You know, I get called a denier and anyone who objects to all of the hype gets called a denier. That's supposed to make me a Holocaust denier. You know, I'm getting tired of that and the comment I made was that the demonization of carbon was just like the demonization of the poor Jews under Hitler. Carbon dioxide is actually a benefit to the world and so were the Jews.



Oh, boy.

There's climate change denial, then there's climate change "If you even think about going there, I will cut you." William Happer, a National Security Council senior director in the Trump administration, has earned his million dollar condo in the Basket of Deplorables for brandishing his six inch rhetorical knife.

As I Jew, I have always been happy to be compared to CO2 emissions that are causing the planet to heat up, with devastating consequences for all life, including human. I find it comforting to know that people like Happer believe that Jews are making a contribution to the world.

And, yet...

Is it wrong that the argument is being made by somebody who worked for an organization, the George C. Marshall Institute, that received money from an oil company, or that Happer has also taken a lot of money from Robert and Rebekah Mercer, far right wing billionaires who have funded climate denial campaigns? It must be wrong. Right? This would be like a Holocaust denier claiming he was a friend of carbon dioxide even as he took money from IG Farben.

Did I mention that his condo in the Basket of Deplorables has more floor space than a basketball arena? Confusion pays...

The Basket Of Deplorables Zone – Somebody Get Jordan Peele On The hone!

After every mass shooting, the liberals start the blame game. Why not place the blame where it belongs? The breakdown of the traditional American family (thank you, transgender, homosexual marriage, and drag queen advocates); fatherlessness, a subject no one discusses or believes is relevant; the ignoring of violent video games; the relaxing of laws against criminals (open borders); the acceptance of recreational marijuana; failed school policies (hello, parents who defend misbehaving students); disrespect to law enforcement (thank you, Obama); hatred of our veterans (thank you, professional athletes who hate our flag and National Anthem); the Dem Congress, many members whom are openly anti-Semitic; the culture, which totally ignores the importance of God and the church (until they elect a President); state officeholders, who have no interest whatsoever in learning about our Constitution and Second Amendment; and snowflakes, who can't accept a duly-elected President. Did I forget anybody? The list is long. And the fury will continue.



Indeed. I remember the three page rant the Texas mass murderer posted to Facebook on how horrible it was that nobody stopped him from using marijuana, if only society had not made it so easy for him to get the drug, he wouldn't have had to kill all of those people.

I may be paraphrasing. Or, completely making it up. Not that that would be a problem for Trump's followers...

Republican Ohio Representative Candice Keller lives in Middletown, about 30 miles south of Dayton, the other place a gunman killed multiple people early Sunday. But, although her body may reside in Middletown, her soul exists in...the Basket of Deplorables.

Oooh, I just had a Rod Serling moment!

By my count, Keller names at least 17 causes for mass shootings, while the liberals who are the real – I want to say targets, but that would be insensitive – object of her...attack (a term which I use reluctantly given the context) only have one: guns. It would appear that the liberals are outgunn – dammit, English! Why are you so full of violence?

The Flowing Streams Are Warm And Golden

That's the way the Jews work, they are deceivers, they plot, they lie, they do whatever they have to do to accomplish their political agenda. This 'impeach Trump' effort is a Jew coup and the American people better wake up to it really fast because this thing is moving now toward a vote in the House and then a trial in the Senate. We could have a trial before Christmas. This country could be in civil war at Christmastime. Members of the US military are going to have to take a stand just like they did in the 1860s with the Civil War. They are going to have to decide: are you fighting for the North or the South?



Remember when we thought that genteel anti-Semitism was the worst thing that could happen to North American Jews? Good times. Fortunately (broadly defined), Rick Wiles, pastor of the Flowing Streams Church, is always willing to stick his head out of the hole in the Basket of Deplorables to remind us that the reality is much less comfortable. If you believe that Donald Trump was chosen by God to lead the United States, then, I suppose impeaching him would be seen as an act of the devil. At this point, both of them are probably laughing their asses off.

But, "Jew coup?" Really, Rick? I am familiar with the terms "Jew brew" (kosher beer) and "Jew stew" (borscht) and even "Jew Sudoku" (puzzles you don't solve on the Sabbath). But, Jew coup? That whole Jews are traitors with dual allegiance thing is so 1930s, don't you think?

(And, what about Christians? There's Christian...fistin'? Okay, some concepts are fun to contemplate, but, uhh, maybe there are limits to the power of glib rhymes.)

As for your final complaint, Jews haven't taken over a country in modern times; when they were given the state of Israel by the United Nations, they did not kill millions of anybodies, let alone Christians. About the worst thing Jews would do if they did take over a country would be trying to sell Christians mutual funds, or trying to reduce the tax burden on Christians who already own a lot of mutual funds. The bastards!

Sometimes, it's hard to distinguish the Basket of Deplorables from a rock creepy crawlies live under.

He's Not A Medical Doctor, He Just Plays One On TV And, Not Even That Convincingly

Look, the fact of the matter is we have people dying: 45,000 people a year die from automobile accidents, 480,000 from cigarettes, 360,000 from swimming pools. But we don't shut the country down for that. But we're doing it for this?



Somebody should tell Dr. Phil (McGraw) that the 1980s called and they would like their moustache back. Is that petty? Well, pettiness never killed anybody. Unlike this clinical psychologist, whose rash words about medical matters could contribute to a lot of deaths.

Dr. Phil is wrong, but only on the facts. A mere 3,709 Americans died from accidental drowning or submersion in 2017, not all of them in swimming pools. That is now roughly one twentieth of the number of Americans that have died from the coronavirus, or, twenty times the number of people who died of COVID-19 in Dr. Phil Math.

But, even if his numbers were right, he would still be wrong. You can't catch swimming pools if somebody sneezes on you. Infected people don't get on planes and carry their swimming pools around the planet, causing others to drown wherever they go. People in close quarters, such as meat packing plants and prisons, are not coming down with and dying from swimming pools.

I can't believe I have to say this. Unfortunately, in the basket of deplorables, the obvious rarely is.

High Nunes

The schools were just cancelled out here in California, which is way overkill. It's possible kids could have gone back to school in two weeks to four weeks, but they just cancelled the rest of the schools...The vaccines are going to take a while, but look, we have this bill that we just passed last week, \$2.2 trillion worth, we have to focus on keeping people employed. I will tell you this: If we don't start to get people back to work in this country over the next week to two weeks, I don't believe we can wait until the end of April. I just don't know of any economy that's ever survived or you unplug the entire economy and expect things to go back and be normal. So the more tests that are out there, the more people getting testing, let's learn about the treatments. Let's get good data as to who is being impacted and let's figure out a way to get back to work.



Is there anything sadder than somebody who keeps putting out the message after the message has changed? Yes. Republican attack poodle Representative Devin "Midnight Run" Nunes.

In the real world, political representatives exist to protect the welfare of the people. All of the people. During World War II, for example, FDR did not say that he would protect only Democrats against America's Axis enemies.

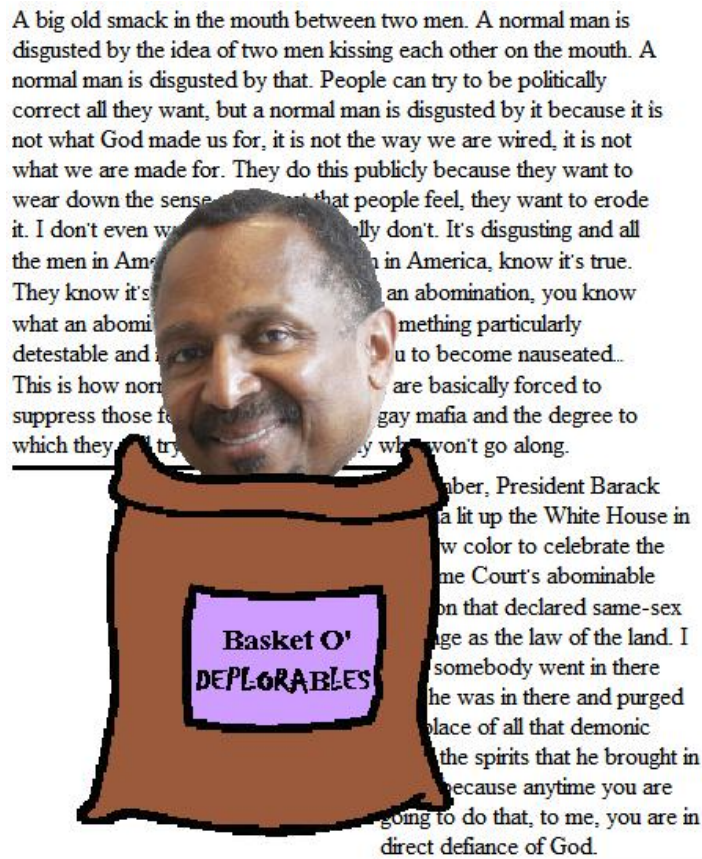
In the Basket of Deplorables, by way of contrast, political representatives exist to protect the welfare of large corporations. They are willing to sacrifice people, including their own voters, to keep profits high and the economy humming.

Send young people back to school, where many will catch the deadly COVID-19 virus? Nunes must have taken the Biblical injunction to “suffer the children” a little too much to heart. Or, maybe he had a horrible childhood himself and turned out just fine, so he thinks a little coronavirus will teach the younger generation an important lesson. Like, survival.

Nunes was talking about getting people back to work after President Trump had admitted that 100,000 to 200,000 Americans could die from the coronavirus. Perhaps he didn’t get the memo. Perhaps he thinks he’s a spy, and he ate the memo (in which case, he’s a bad spy, not having read it first). Maybe he’s just a horrible human being.

I mean, look at where he chooses to live.

Homocracy Alone:
Putting the E. W. Back In Ewww!



Have you ever played Broken Telephone? Yeah, you know the game. It’s where you whisper into a friend’s ear, “The horses are at the gate.” Then, they whisper it into another friend’s ear, and so on until the sixth friend believes that they heard, “Porous arms are the new gelato.”

Good times.

This is exactly how bible interpretation works. Except the number of people in the chain is in the thousands (most of whom are not your friends). And, the words were written down over 1,500 years ago, hundreds of years after the events they describe. And, they were all originally written in another language.

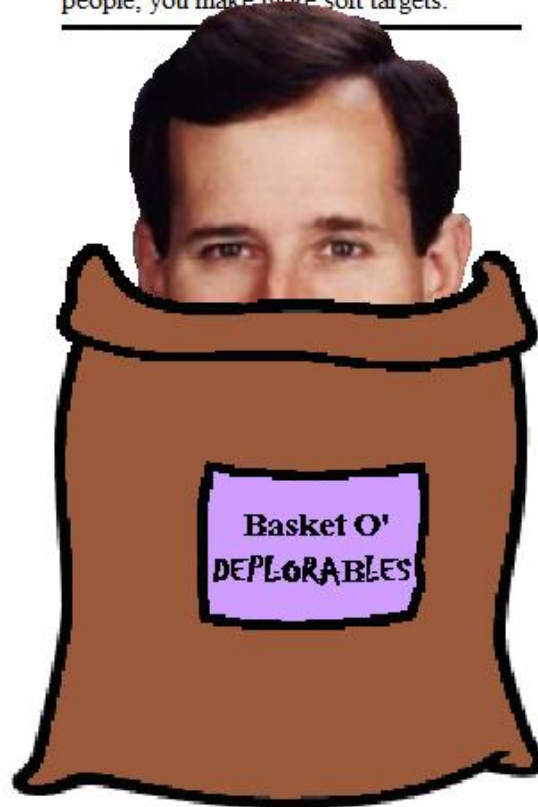
It's a wonder it isn't new gelatos all the way down.

Pastor E. W. Jackson obviously never played broken telephone as a child. Assuming he ever played games as a child. Or, ever was a child. If he had, he might have known that the book that he quotes to justify his homophobia contains admonitions such as "Love thy neighbour as thyself" and "Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me" and "Boogie down with thine own bad, bad self." Okay, one of these quotes has been disputed by Biblical scholars. The point, though, is that Jackson was not only quoting a text that had a questionable relationship to historical truth, **but he wasn't even quoting the text in front of him honestly!**

There's broken telephone, then there's bad faith. Do I have to point out which one gets you a condo in the Basket of Deplorables?

If Ever A Politician Needed To Be Put In A Straitjacket In A Santorum...

What you see from the shootings that take place, several of them this year, which is law-abiding people - not police - but other law-abiding people come and stop these things. Because they have the right to own guns. So taking that right away from law-abiding people doesn't do anything to reduce the amount of crime and can make things worse... They go to soft targets. That's exactly right. The whole point is that when you restrict guns to law-abiding people, you make more soft targets.



Rick Santorum is no longer a Senator – why does anybody pay any attention to what he has to say?

Okay, yes, he was the third ranking Republican in the Senate, and, even after he lost his seat there were still a lot of people who cared about what he had to say. That's one of the funny things about the Basket of Deplorables: when controversial public figures

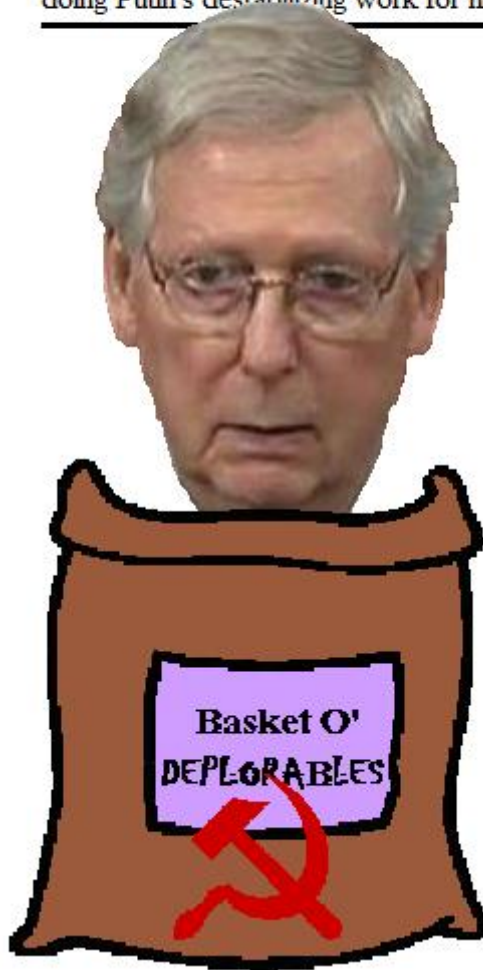
disappear into it, their followers gather round, putting their hands on it in the hope that the vibrations they feel will translate into words of wisdom from their heroes. Does it work? Who knows! The nonsense that comes out of this process is no more nonsensical than the nonsense that preceded it.

So. Once again, with four part harmony and feeling: the United States has more guns per capita than any other country in the world, and the highest rate of gun deaths (outside of war zones). The vast majority of shootings are not stopped by a good Samaritan with a gun; they are stopped by police. Guns in private hands are often stolen by criminals, used to commit suicide or accidentally used by toddlers to shoot the toes off their parents.

The fabric of the basket of deplorables is supposed to keep bad ideas from getting out; it may also be responsible for good ideas not being able to penetrate. Perhaps the weave needs a rethink...

I Like Yemeni Yurtl, But I Don't See It Trending On Twitter Any Time Soon

Modern-day McCarthyism is poison for American democracy. It is shameful to imply that policy disagreements make the other side unpatriotic. The people who push such unhinged smears are doing Putin's destabilizing work for him.



Spare a moment to commiserate with the unfairness of life for Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell.

He has refused to bring two bills to the floor of the Senate which would tighten election security, making it harder for Russia to interfere in the 2020 Presidential and Congressional races. He has done this on the not unreasonable assumption that, if the elections were actually fair, Trump's Republicans would lose their asses. It's just a political calculation.

But, his opponents have saddled him with the moniker "Moscow Mitch," and are claiming that he is a tool of strongman Vladimir Putin. Him! Mitch McConnell! Such a cold warrior that his heart is used by scientists to measure absolute zero!

It doesn't help that McConnell was instrumental in ensuring that Russian oligarch Oleg Deripaska avoided the re-imposition of sanctions on his businesses. Three months later, Deripaska's aluminum giant announced a \$200 million investment in McConnell's state of Kentucky.

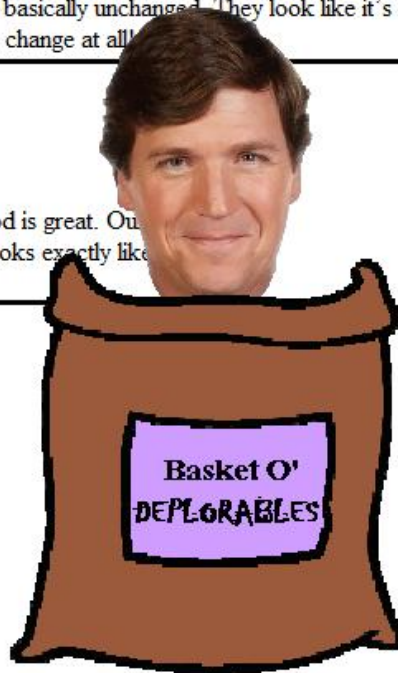
No, no, no, the Majority Leader argues, that had nothing to do with helping Russia! That was a simple business calculation! The fact that it did benefit a Russian oligarch was a complete coincidence! If a Canadian aluminum company planned on spending so much money in his state, he would have blocked sanctions on it as well! Really!

Mitch McConnell is not bad. He's just misunderstood.

I'm Not A Racist – I Just Say Racist Things...In Public...For Money...

That's a lot of change. It's happening all over the country. No nation, no society has ever changed this much, this fast... Before you call anyone bigoted, consider – and be honest – how would you feel if that happened in your neighborhood? It doesn't matter how nice the immigrants are. They probably are nice. Most immigrants are nice! That's not the point. The point is: This is more change than human beings are designed to digest. This pace of change makes societies volatile. Really volatile, just as ours has become volatile. And notice where this change is not happening: Any place our leaders live. They caused all of this with their reckless immigration policies, yet their own neighborhoods are basically unchanged. They look like it's 1960! No demographic change at all!

My neighborhood is great. Our neighborhood looks exactly like it did in 1955.



Tucker Carlson, ladies and gentlemen, a man who lives in a \$3.85 million house in suburban Basket of Deplorables, circa 65 years ago, complaining of all of the other people who live in million dollar houses, circa 60 years ago. But, those five years make all the difference in responsibility for destroying the social fabric of our civilization!

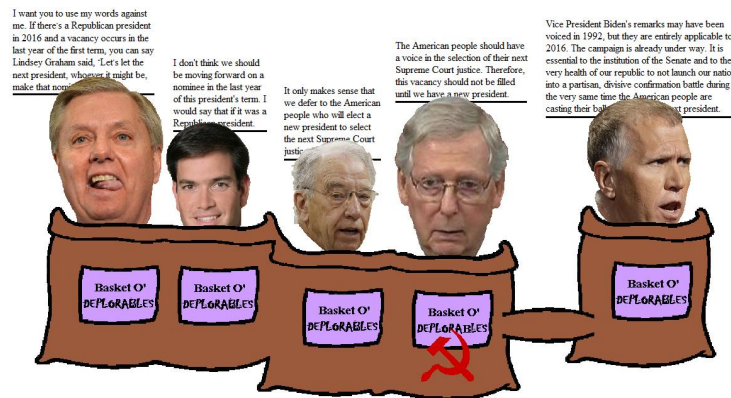
Umm...or something like that.

No society has ever changed this much, this fast? Chief Arvol Looking Horse might have an opinion on this subject, but, of course, nobody in the Basket of Deplorables will ask him to share it, so, umm, sorry I brought the whole subject up.

This is more change than human beings are designed to digest? See my aborted paragraphical point above. Or, I suspect the Kurds in Syria might disagree. Perhaps white people like Tucker Carlson just have immature digestive systems.

Hey, don't complain to me about racism – Tucker started it!

It's The Profiles In Cur Age



In 2016, The Republicans held up Democratic President Barack Obama's nomination for the Supreme Court for nine months, arguing that the people should decide who gets to make the choice of a Justice in an election year. In 2020, a Supreme Court position opened up two months before Republican Donald Trump was up for reelection. It's a no-brainer, right?

In the Basket of Deplorables, no brainer takes on a whole new meaning.

What about the honour of the Republicans who took a position in 2016 that they acted against in 2020?

"Honour doesn't help you overturn *Roe v Wade*," Senator Majority Leader Mitch McConnell pointed out.

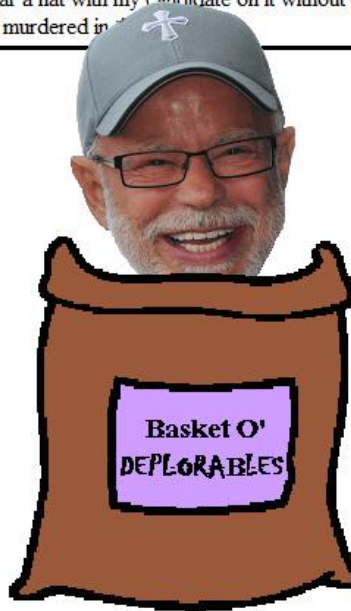
What about being honest with the American people? "Being honest with the American people doesn't help you overturn the Affordable Care Act," Acting Chair of the Intelligence Committee Marco Rubio stated.

What about principle? Senators Lindsey Graham, Chuck Grassley and Thom Tillis did spit takes with, respectively, toner ink, lighter fluid and molten lava. And, theirs was one of the more thoughtful responses from the Republican caucus.

Principle? It ain't nothing but a person who runs a school, now.

Praise The Lord And Pass The Propaganda

I'm going to say something I probably shouldn't say. What's coming next, if we keep losing, you're going to see the leaders of the church and the leaders of the gospel and the political conservative leaders that are powerful, you are going to see them suddenly die, suddenly killed - suddenly as they were driving, suddenly as they were in a boat, suddenly in an airplane - you're going to see it one after another... The evil in this country is so bad, if I was a Republican - which I have been my whole life - I couldn't wear a hat with my candidate on it without concern about being murdered in it.



Jim Bakker is still alive?

Okay, that was dismissive. What I should have asked was: Jim Bakker is still alive **and** out of jail?

I'm not making it any better, am I? Umm...Jim Bakker is still alive, out of jail **and** allowed to speak in public?

Yeah, yeah, Christian conservatives are not being murdered in the streets; in fact, they have a White House that is in a position to give them their biggest, most cherished prize: the death of *Roe v. Wade*. Imagine that head hanging over Don, Jr.'s mantle! Despite this, is anybody surprised by Bakker's overheated rhetoric? You don't get a gated mansion in the basket of deplorables by being part of the "reality-based" community.

But that's not what is really important, here. What is really important is: Jim Bakker is still alive, out of jail, allowed to speak in public **and** fleecing the gullible?

The Sad Tale Of A College Student Gone Ferrall



An email sent on Tuesday by Tom Ferrall, chairman of the Ohio Federation of College Republicans, bore the subject line "AOC is a domestic terrorist" and asked recipients to donate to his group.

What did recently elected Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (known by her friends...and others who are not so much, apparently, as AOC) do to deserve this label? Was she responsible for bombing a mosque? No? Okay. But, she walked into a synagogue and opened fire on worshippers in the middle of a holiday service, right? No? Not that, either? Okay, at least she set off a bomb in a government building, killing dozens of people, didn't she? Didn't she? C'mon! You gotta give me setting off a bomb in a government building, killing dozens!

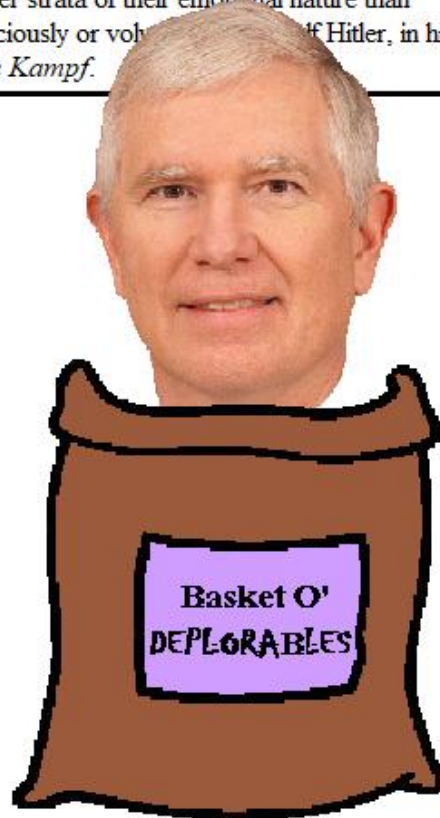
No? Then, how can you label her a domestic terror – oh. Because she disagrees with your politics.

The basket of deplorables is rife with rhetoric so overheated, you could use it to make a pot of coffee, with enough left over to warm a single bedroom apartment through two and a half days of moderately cool temperatures. Ferrall's magniloquence apparently falls somewhere between the two: hot enough to heat several samovars of coffee or the closet of a single bedroom apartment for an afternoon of moderately warm temperatures.

That's okay. He's young. He's in school. He'll learn.

Santayana Was A Pinko Socialist Bastard Intent On Undermining The Presidency Of A Duly Elected President!

America can either learn from history or be doomed to repeat it... For more than two years, socialist Democrats and their fake news media allies - CNN, MSNBC, the *New York Times*, *Washington Post* and countless others - have perpetrated the biggest political lie, con, scam and fraud in American history. If socialists in the fake news media had any honor, they would cleanse their souls and atone for their sins... In that vein, I quote from another socialist who mastered big-lie propaganda to a maximum and deadly effect. Quote: "In the big lie, there is always a certain force of credibility because the broad masses of a nation are always more easily corrupted in the deeper strata of their emotional nature than consciously or voluntarily." Adolf Hitler, in his book, *Mein Kampf*.



As the evidence that President Donald Trump withheld military aid for Ukraine in return for an investigation into the Bidens mounts, it becomes harder and harder to defend his actions. Unless you live in the basket of deplorables, whose motto is: "Faster, stronger, shamelessier."

In a single interview, Republican Representative Mo Brooks manages to pull off a reverse Godwin's Law with a double twist: perpetrating a big lie while accusing his opponents of using the big lie themselves. But you know what they say: if you can't argue a case on the merits, argue on the law. If you can't argue on the law, argue on the

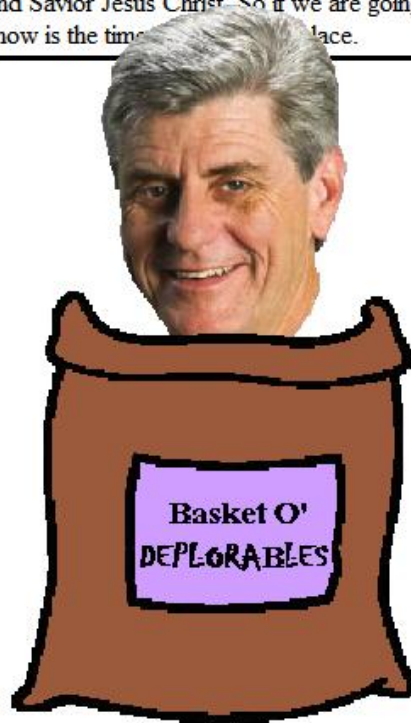
process. If you can't argue on the process, argue on the basis of the colourful butterflies in your head.

The twist? Although the Nazis were called the "National Socialist" party, they were really a far right Fascist party. Doublning down on the although: the Democrats are only a socialist party in the fever dreams of Republican residents of the basket of deplorables. Brooks is comparing something that wasn't true to something that doesn't exist: it's like comparing apples enriched with uranium to oranges that can phase shift between universes.

If that's hard for you to get your head around, you obviously don't live in the basket. If you could not only follow it, but enthusiastically embrace it, I have some land there I'd like to sell you...

Snowflakes In Hell

They don't know us very well, do they? They don't know that Christians have been persecuted throughout the ages. They don't know that if it takes crucifixion, we will stand in line before abandoning our faith and our belief in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. So if we are going to stand, now is the time to place.



Oh, no! American Christians are being paraded in the streets, stripped of their clothing and liberally whipped, hauling large wooden crucifixes on their backs until they come to a field where the crosses are erected and they are nailed to them and left to die of blood loss or dehydration or hungry vultures or some combination thereof. The horrors of the

persecution! How can anybody with a conscience look upon these poor, suffering souls and –

Oh, wait. American Christians are actually being forced to accept that gay people are human beings who deserve the same human rights as everybody else? Well, **it's practically the same thing as being crucified!**

Phil Bryant seems to have his Gospel confused. He's the governor of Mississippi. He's not the modern equivalent of the early Christians – he's Pontius Pilate. Except, the original Pilate didn't complain that he was the one that was being persecuted. Say what you will about the Romans, but they sure knew how to wear their privilege!

These Modern Bible Translations Really Cut To The Chase, Don't They?

A reminder that Catholics should not support or attend LGBTQ 'Pride Month' events held in June. They promote a culture and encourage activities that are contrary to Catholic faith and morals. They are especially harmful for children



You might have thought that a Catholic Bishop who, by his own admission, had ignored incidents of child sexual abuse when they occurred in his church, would be slow to

accuse other groups of being bad for children. To which I would reply: have you ever met the basket of deplorables?

It's unfortunate that there was no 11th commandment: "Thou shalt not project thine own fears and bad behaviours on socially disadvantaged groups." Who knows? Maybe God is absent from our day to day lives because he's busy dealing with such issues with his shrink. Too bad nobody has communicated that to his priests.

In any case, the Bible – you know, the book Thomas Tobin, the Bishop of Rhode Island claims to have based his entire life following – is pretty clear on this subject. "Why do you look at the finger in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the penis in your own eye?" Mark wrote. There's also a passage about not judging because...something something judged. Cut me some slack, okay? The New Testament wasn't a big part of Mister Shapiro's Hebrew class!

Treating Workers Like Human Beings Just Too Much Of A Hassett For This Administration

Our human capital stock is
ready to go back to work.



You know how when, in sitcoms, somebody says something embarrassing and then says, “Did I say that out loud?” everybody around them rolls their eyes in a “Yes, you did, you big goofy lug” kind of way and the audience laughs uproariously? Well, President Trump and the people around him have those moments all of the time. But they don’t ask, “Did I say that out loud?” And, nobody’s laughing.

White House economic adviser Kevin Hassett recently had a “Did I say that out loud?” moment. When he spoke about “human capital stock” he was talking about workers. You know, human beings. People with names, names like Ralph Malph and Shecky Podesta and Eliza Fortunato. Okay, maybe not Eliza Fortunato – that’s just silly. But, you get the point. “Capital stock” is people, with hopes and dreams and mortgages on homes in the suburbs, which pretty much killed their hopes and dreams, but they have to go on living anyway because it beats the alternative.

You know. People.

Hassett was just echoing the President’s rhetoric about putting the country back to work, of course. And, he wasn’t entirely wrong: a lot of people are having financial difficulty because the businesses that employed them have been closed for the lockdown, and would love to get back to work. But, trust an economist to express this idea in the most dehumanizing way possible.

There is a reason The Dismal Science has its own gated community in the Basket of Deplorables.

Trump Presidency Is For The Birds

You want to see a bird cemetery? Go under a windmill some time, you'll see the saddest - you've got every type of bird... You know, in California, you go to jail for five years if you kill a bald eagle. You go under a windmill, you see 'em all over the place. Not a good situation. But that's what they're counting on - **wind**. And, when the wind doesn't blow, you don't watch television that night. Your wife says, "What the hell did you get me into with this Green New Deal, Charlie?"



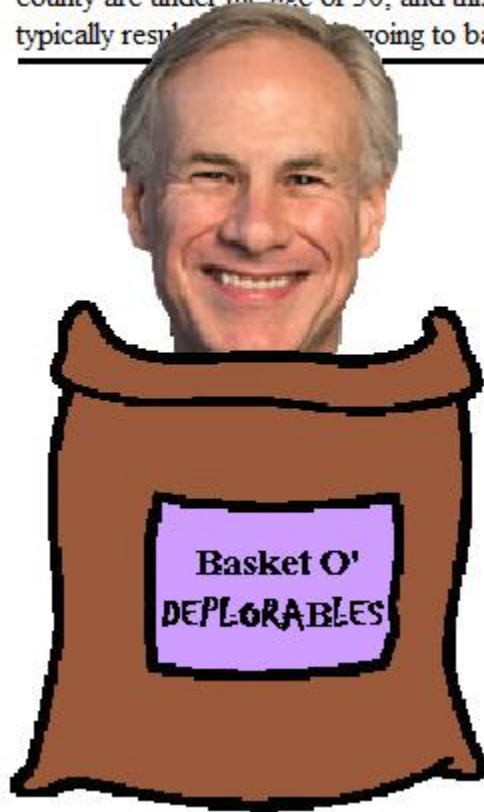
You want to see a politician melting down? Go to the White House some time. you'll see the saddest – you've got every type of Republican...those who believe a con man is doing a great job as President; those who know a con man is President, but are willing to overlook it because they are getting policies they want; those who know a con man is President and are willing to overlook it because they are getting policies they want, but who make fun of him behind his back and/or leak damaging material about him to the press; those who oppose the con man who is President on conservative principle.

Okay, maybe not that last one.

It should come as no surprise that the President whose election motto was “let them eat coal” doesn’t know that there are things called “batteries” that allow us to “store” energy. But, it is something of a surprise to find that he doesn’t know that Charlie’s wife is named “Guy.” As somebody who has shown hostility to gay rights, you would have thought he would choose his examples more carefully!

Why Do So Many People In The Basket Of Deplorables Smile?
Do They Know Something We Don't?
If They Do, How Grateful Should We Be?

There are certain counties where a majority of the people who are tested positive in that county are under the age of 30, and this typically results in them going to bars.



In the Basket of Deplorables, there is no reality that cannot be waved away with a flick of the rhetorical tongue. (A rhetorical tongue is one you can use with a knife to eat a steak.) Where you and I may see a spike in COVID-19 infections as a public health crisis that requires a political response, Texas Governor Greg Abbott sees it as an opportunity to practice his old manism and, shaking his fist at the sky, yell at young people to get off the lawn of bars. Or, something.

The funny thing about this (“funny” not so much in the sense of laughing out loud as in the sense of a nasty smell coming from the back of the fridge) is that until recently, people of any age were not allowed to congregate in bars. This has only been possible since the State of Texas lifted lockdown restrictions.

The State of Texas. You know, the State run by Greg Abbott?

Lifting health restrictions, then blaming people for getting sick is kind of like demanding people behind the wheel wear blindfolds, then blaming drivers for getting into more accidents.

You May Want To Rethink That Plan: Getting Out More Would Increase Your Risk Of Running Into People Like Fraser Anning

As always, left wing politicians and the media will rush to claim that the causes of today's shootings lie with gun laws or those who hold nationalist views, but this is all cliched nonsense. The real cause of bloodshed on New Zealand streets today is the immigration program which allowed Muslim fanatics to migrate to New Zealand in the first place.



In the criminal justice system, it is a well established fact that if you leave your car unlocked, you deserve to have it stolen. And, if you don't have anti-virus software, you deserve to have your computer hijacked by hackers and your data held for ransom. And, if you walk into a bar dressed provocatively...in clothes...you deserve to be –

No, wait, that's the criminal justice system in the basket of deplorables. If you spend enough time studying the people who live there, it's easy to get their rules confused with those in the real world.

I...I think I need to get out more.

Following the attack on two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand which left 50 people dead, Fraser Anning, the Queensland senator, said this. There is a certain seduction in his logic: white supremacists wouldn't be able to attack Muslims if there were none in the country. There also seems to be a big flaw in the logic. A really big flaw. And, it is...umm...well, you know...the flaw is...is...is...

Darn it! I **really** need to get out more!

Les Pages aux Folles: The Back Story

A Nayman family legend has it that I decided to devote my life to writing comedy/humour when I was eight years old. Most boys that age wanted to be hockey players or astronauts (or, so I have been told) – why comedy? Through my thirties and forties, it was important to me to understand why I developed the way I did (after a couple of decades filled with unanswerable questions, I decided to stop wondering and accept myself the way I was), so I gave this question considerable thought. Unfortunately, the best I could come up with was a cliché.

I grew up in an emotionally abusive household (as did many funny people). I realized early on in my life that laughing made me feel better; I figure my first impulse to write humour was to help ease myself through a tough childhood. I also suspect that I thought that if I could make my parents laugh, they might not fight so much, but that turned out not to be the case (intense therapy succeeded where my youthful ambitions failed, but the ambitions remained).

Honestly, if my early life had been any more of a cliché, I would have started this piece with: “It was a dark and stormy night...”

COMEDY HISTORY ASIDE: Years later, I was watching a terrific series called *The Green Room*. Comedian Eddie Izzard was telling the story of how he first met his idol, Richard Pryor. After a few minutes of small talk, they found that they had something in common: they both knew that they wanted to be stand-up comedians when they were four years old. You know how I thought I was precocious because I knew I wanted to be a humourist when I was eight? I was actually already half a lifetime behind the curve!

My original inspiration in my early teens was Art Buchwald. If he is remembered at all these days, it is for being the person who sued Paramount Pictures for stealing his original idea for what would become Eddie Murphy's *Coming to America*. And, winning. This case exposed the arcane Hollywood bookkeeping that allowed studios to claim films that had grossed a billion dollars never made a profit, and introduced the world to the term “monkey points.” But I remember him as the preeminent newspaper satirist who, in his prime, wrote creative and biting (and very funny) political commentary.

Not a bad role model if that's what you're into.

Between 1984 and 1987, I wrote 300 articles for a satirical newspaper column (enough for three books). I called the project *Les Pages aux Folles*, playing off the name of the then popular film *La Cage aux Folles*. I thought the title translated as “cage of crazies,” which would have made my version “page of crazies.” This tickled me. When the English version was released as *The Bird Cage*, I thought, Bird Pages? *Okay, I can make this work.*

Three years into the project, I was no closer to becoming the preeminent newspaper political satirist of the 1980s than when I had started. Years later, I would realize that one wasn’t given a newspaper humour column because one was actually, you know, funny (although some naturally are and others grow into it); they usually went to people who had proven their service to the newspaper in other departments. In defence of my naïveté: teenager.

I moved on to scripts and university, but the satirical bug never quite left me. Between 1987 and 2002, I kept coming back to the form, writing over 100 new articles (enough for a fourth collection). Then, a number of pieces of my life came together to drive me to the internet.

At university, I studied emerging technologies and the arts. My Masters thesis (from the New School for Social Research) was on the challenges interactivity posed for fiction writers. My PhD dissertation was on fiction writers who posted their work to the World Wide Web. I know, I know. Today, that’s a big **duh!** But, in 1999, when I wrote the bulk of the dissertation (I was awarded my PhD in 2000), it was still relatively – ahem – novel. ACADEMIC ASIDE: the problems I identified in 1999 have scaled up nicely, with few changes over the years. Was I prophetic? Naah – I was just paying attention.

When I returned to Toronto after three years living in Montreal (a residency requirement of McGill University, where I studied), I volunteered for a public interest web page developer called The Electronic Commons; it was championed by a woman named Liss Jeffrey. The project was run out of a building called Chelsea Mews, deep in the heart of the University of Toronto; that is where I met the woman who would become my Web Goddess, Gisela McKay.

As we got to know each other, Gisela pointed out something odd about my life that hadn’t occurred to me: I wrote fiction, and I had studied people who post fiction on the internet, but I hadn’t posted any of my own fiction on the internet. While I agreed that that was a bit strange, I demurred; although my Masters degree was done entirely online, I didn’t know the first thing about creating or maintaining a web page. Gisela, who, among her many talents, is a professional web developer, offered to design a page and walk me through how to keep it going. To ensure that I couldn’t refuse, she offered me free space on her server.

I couldn’t refuse.

But, what would I write? Reviving *Les Pages aux Folles* as an online project was the most logical way to proceed. When I started it as a print project, I aimed for each article to be around 700 words (in the mistaken belief that this was standard newspaper column length; depending upon the newspaper and the column, it could actually be anywhere from 400 to 600 words); this relative shortness turned out to be a good length for the internet, where long stories require a lot of scrolling and can give some readers eye fatigue. You don't want to give readers eye fatigue.

So, I immediately started posting fiction to the web? Slow down, speed racer. I took the summer of 2002 to build a stockpile of articles. This wasn't meant to supplant weekly writing (since much of the writing would be topical, it would be best to post pieces soon after they were written, something the internet easily facilitates); it was meant as a safeguard against weeks when I was unable to write an update, whether through life circumstances or lack of inspiration. The wisdom of this choice is most vividly illustrated by my experience in 2005, when I had to have triple bypass heart surgery: I prepared four weeks of updates from my stockpile and posted them a couple of days before going under the knife. (As it happened, although I was advised to give recovery at least a month, I was eager to get back to writing after about two and half weeks). My stockpile started with 40 articles; it has fluctuated between 10 and 50 (but mostly closer to 10) ever since.

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Les Pages aux Folles: The Back Story

A Nayman family legend has it that I decided to devote my life to writing comedy/humour when I was eight years old. Most boys that age wanted to be hockey players or astronauts (or, so I have been told) – why comedy? Through my thirties and forties, it was important to me to understand why I developed the way I did (after a couple of decades filled with unanswerable questions, I decided to stop wondering and accept myself the way I was), so I gave this question considerable thought. Unfortunately, the best I could come up with was a cliché.

I grew up in an emotionally abusive household (as did many funny people). I realized early on in my life that laughing made me feel better; I figure my first impulse to write humour was to help ease myself through a tough childhood. I also suspect that I thought that if I could make my parents laugh, they might not fight so much, but that turned out

not to be the case (intense therapy succeeded where my youthful ambitions failed, but the ambitions remained).

Honestly, if my early life had been any more of a cliché, I would have started this piece with: “It was a dark and stormy night...”

COMEDY HISTORY ASIDE: Years later, I was watching a terrific series called *The Green Room*. Comedian Eddie Izzard was telling the story of how he first met his idol, Richard Pryor. After a few minutes of small talk, they found that they had something in common: they both knew that they wanted to be stand-up comedians when they were four years old. You know how I thought I was precocious because I knew I wanted to be a humourist when I was eight? I was actually already half a lifetime behind the curve!

My original inspiration in my early teens was Art Buchwald. If he is remembered at all these days, it is for being the person who sued Paramount Pictures for stealing his original idea for what would become Eddie Murphy’s *Coming to America*. And, winning. This case exposed the arcane Hollywood bookkeeping that allowed studios to claim films that had grossed a billion dollars never made a profit, and introduced the world to the term “monkey points.” But I remember him as the preeminent newspaper satirist who, in his prime, wrote creative and biting (and very funny) political commentary.

Not a bad role model if that’s what you’re into.

Between 1984 and 1987, I wrote 300 articles for a satirical newspaper column (enough for three books). I called the project *Les Pages aux Folles*, playing off the name of the then popular film *La Cage aux Folles*. I thought the title translated as “cage of crazies,” which would have made my version “page of crazies.” This tickled me. When the English version was released as *The Bird Cage*, I thought, Bird Pages? Okay, I can make this work.

Three years into the project, I was no closer to becoming the preeminent newspaper political satirist of the 1980s than when I had started. Years later, I would realize that one wasn’t given a newspaper humour column because one was actually, you know, funny (although some naturally are and others grow into it); they usually went to people who had proven their service to the newspaper in other departments. In defense of my naivete: teenager.

I moved on to scripts and university, but the satirical bug never quite left me. Between 1987 and 2002, I kept coming back to the form, writing over 100 new articles (enough for a fourth collection). Then, a number of pieces of my life came together to drive me to the internet.

At university, I studied emerging technologies and the arts. My Masters thesis (from the New School for Social Research) was on the challenges interactivity posed for fiction writers. My PhD dissertation was on fiction writers who posted their work to the World Wide Web. I know, I know. Today, that’s a big duh! But, in 1999, when I wrote the bulk

of the dissertation (I was awarded my PhD in 2000), it was still relatively – ahem – novel. ACADEMIC ASIDE: the problems I identified in 1999 have scaled up nicely, with few changes over the years. Was I prophetic? Naah – I was just paying attention.

When I returned to Toronto after three years living in Montreal (a residency requirement of McGill University, where I studied), I volunteered for a public interest web page developer called The Electronic Commons; it was championed by a woman named Liss Jeffrey. The project was run out of a building called Chelsea Mews, deep in the heart of the University of Toronto; that is where I met the woman who would become my Web Goddess, Gisela McKay.

As we got to know each other, Gisela pointed out something odd about my life that hadn't occurred to me: I wrote fiction, and I had studied people who post fiction on the internet, but I hadn't posted any of my own fiction on the internet. While I agreed that that was a bit strange, I demurred; although my Masters degree was done entirely online, I didn't know the first thing about creating or maintaining a web page. Gisela, who, among her many talents, is a professional web developer, offered to design a page and walk me through how to keep it going. To ensure that I couldn't refuse, she offered me free space on her server.

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