

9/30/06

What's Your Opinion?

by
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Recently I interviewed several couples above the age of 60 concerning the following subjects:

1. Protecting our Southern borders
2. Handling problem of illegal immigrants currently in USA
3. National I.D. card and/or Photo ID for all Americans

Those I interviewed included Republican, Democrat and Independent registered voters so I wouldn't be accused of stacking the deck in favor of one ideology over another. Those who read my articles know where I personally stand on these issues and that I honestly can't understand why everyone else doesn't think the same way. I realize I grew up during a time when war was a common commodity so much so that those who participated in the big one... World War II... are even referred to as "The Greatest Generation" for their sacrifice and patriotic spirit in fighting for their country. Pre-WWII history in this country wasn't war-free either with the Civil War, Spanish-American War and WWI still fresh in our history books and memories.

I say all this to acknowledge that a majority of us over 60 might be viewed as thinking ourselves as believing war is necessary evil to end fascism, despotism and tyranny throughout the world. We see nothing strange about war and even though we don't like it we realize it is a part of life as we know it. We also feel, for the most part, that those who champion endless talking and negotiation with the enemy are being Don Quixotic in their attitude and will accomplish nothing but allowing the enemy time to regroup and re-arm.

With all that in mind let's look at what my subjects had to say about the three issues listed above.

1. To a person it was felt that some kind of border strengthening was necessary but few could agree on what type. They were not against the idea of a fence or wall but most felt it would not be able to keep illegals from climbing over or tunneling under it. A couple of them felt, as I do, that if the fence/wall was a state of the art structure, multi-layered and divided with a open expanse of land running down the middle of it for parole vehicles, sensitive motion sensing devices, remote cameras, razor wire on top and deep concrete foundations on the bottom... and manned every so far with uniformed border patrols... it would probably stop at least 95% of all illegals from crossing as freely as they do now.

2. **No one felt that those illegals currently in the USA should be given a pass to go to the head of the line for US Citizenship. It would be unfair to the thousands who came in legally and have been observing the required waiting period and fulfilling the other requirements before applying for citizenship, including learning our native language... English. No one could fathom how the United States could afford or even logistically implement a plan for forced expulsion and/or deportation of every illegal already here. One person suggested a plan I had not considered and sounds workable. The plan would call for heavy fines on those companies found to be hiring illegals with incrementally higher fines for each reoccurrence of the crime. This plan would also drastically limit the amount of money that could be wired out of the country legally and anyone found sending more than the maximum limit would be arrested and fined and deported if illegal. If those who come here to work so they can send the money home are forbidden from doing so... possibly they would not have the incentive to come in the first place.**
3. **None of those interviewed could find a reason why anyone, other than someone doing something illegal, would object to a National I.D. card with photo and other identifying methods such as, fingerprints, DNA database, Radio Frequency I.D. locators. No one felt it would affect his or her life negatively, in any way, by having to have one. One comment I received, "People are going to have to realize we live in a different world than we did 20- 30 years ago, or even 10 years ago. We must adapt to other ways if we expect to stay as secure as we've been in the past."**

If any of you folk out there would like to participate in the same survey, please go to our website www.SeniorPerspective.org and let us hear from you.

One more thing before I close... have you heard from those out there who are very concerned about what our leaders are calling the terrorists these days. Some of the names I hear and read in the news are "Islamic fanatics," "Islamic Fundamentalists," "Islamic Fascists," and "Islamic Jihadists." Personally, I would say they all apply but apparently some feel it is politically incorrect to call them "Islamic Fascists" because it would be a deliberate attempt to make us think of our enemy as being in the same company as Hitler, Mussolini, Stalin, Po Pot, or Idi Amin... oh, heaven forbid we should call them something that would make us think they are as bad as any of those other mass murderers of our past.

It's frustrating and sad to think that we have God fearing, patriotic Americans who are more concerned about what we call our enemies than they are about installing protections and taking

actions against our enemies. My daddy and I used to walk in the woods when I was but a young thing and as we would come upon a snake in the path my daddy would say, "Stop where you are Tommy, that's a poisonous snake up there." I would keep walking toward it while asking him, "Is it a rattler or a copperhead daddy?" He would say, "It doesn't matter what we call it Tommy... if it bites you, you're dead." With that admonition I would stop in my tracks while he would dispatch the danger in front of me.

Folks, it doesn't matter what we call those evil snakes in our paths out there. They are real... their threat to our country is real... their threat to our lives is real... Please, let's stop trying to treat them as anything but the poisonous vipers they are. They want to kill us! What say we kill them first... period!

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