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A New Republican

by
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You know public announcements are something we hesitate to make sometimes out of fear they will not be received as we hoped for, or come back to bite us when we least expect it. I remember one important announcement I made over 35 years ago. I was teaching in the public schools of Virginia prior to integration being the law of the land and white teachers were participating in a pilot program to see how we could get along with black students and vice versa. There were 16 of us Caucasians among 1,600+ Jr. High and High School students in the ghetto section of Newport News, VA and we were not being well received by the student body. Many of our black counterparts were compassionate and empathetic to our plight, yet not totally sympathetic because they were anxious to see how we would handle the burden they had been bearing for many years... a minority amongst a majority who didn't understand us or really care for us.

Anyhow, back to the announcement I made. After six months of dirty looks, unspoken words of hate, spoken words of derision and racist jokes, and a complete inability to discipline any child without repercussions with parents and principal, I decided that in order for me to communicate with these kids I would have to have a total lobotomy. It was time for me to hang it up and admit that my naïve eyes were bigger than my reality stomach... I just wasn't cutting it as a teacher, except in the elementary school where those students were excited about learning how to play instruments they had never even held in their hands before.

My final day came and I gathered all the classes together in the band room and announced that because of their indifference and outright rudeness I was leaving the teaching field and they were the losers because they were running me off and would never be made privy to the wondrous nuggets of knowledge I had ready for them. Immediately after I finished speaking there was a large pregnant pause... total silence... which made me smile inwardly thinking they had been thoroughly shamed at their actions. Then, as if choreographed, they all rose as one and began clapping and whistling and rapping a sing-song, "***We did it, we did it... he's outta here, we did it!!!!***" So much for shame and remorse on their part.

Well, for all you guys and gals out there I've got another announcement to make today. After 44 years I have finally seen the light and realized it was futile for me to continue deceiving myself with the belief that the National Democratic Party is going to change back into the once proud party it was when I first registered as a member. It is evident that many in that party are having the same thoughts as I but are hoping against hope as I was that the miscreant miniscule minority making all the noise will leave and form their own party but, alas, that will not happen. Democrats are imploding inwardly because of a lack of

leadership and the split is widening ever greater between those who are trying to hang on to the once cherished ideals of the American public, and those in this nation who are only out for themselves and their fear and hate enslaved constituency.

Recent press releases by rational thinking United States Democratic Congressmen and Senators have demonstrated very plainly their desire to distance themselves from the illogical, incoherent and hate filled rhetoric spewing from the mouth of their party's national leader, Howard Dean. By the way, you can recognize those who agree with him... everything that comes out of their mouth is negative and repetitively vaporous. He and his cohorts are constantly condemning anything and everything President Bush and/or the Republican party says or does... ever demanding change for change's sake and action for action's sake... yet never offering a cohesive, workable plan of their own. They have no plan which is why we've never heard one. The once revered party is a sham, a farce and a disgrace to those great men who once represented it in our nation's capitol.

So... knowing in my heart nothing will change with the Party, the change must come with me. As of two weeks ago yours truly is a bona fide, official, right of center, registered Republican. I didn't join the Republican Party because I believe in everything they do or say, but to become non-party affiliated would mean I would have no one for which to vote in the Primary elections. Too much to give up I felt. I must admit it feels rather odd to be even thinking of myself as a Republican after so many years in the Democrat's camp, but what's a man to do?

WV, FL, TX, and many other states are full of Democrat legislators who do not believe in the liberal, socialistic rhetoric of the National Party and it would definitely be a step in the right direction to see them switch over to Republican and see just how many of those fear and hate mongers would be left behind. Those scrambling to hide in the shadows would probably be unable to come up with a quorum for any of their meetings.

Well, you've heard my announcement. I know there are those who will stand up and chant, "***We did it! We did it! He's finally gone, we did it!***" So be it... but know this, I am free of a burden too long borne and I feel clean for the first time in many years. Have a great day and Merry Christmas!

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