

Leftism's Glaring Cowardice

In 1964, during Democrat Lyndon Baines Johnson's official oversight as the 36th President of the United States, the "Free Speech Movement" was formed to **defy** his administration's **ban** of on-campus protesting over the Vietnam War. Their goal was consistent with that of any *university*.¹ Astonishingly however, the Wikipedia article on this topic, which was revised as recently as this month (Dec. 1) states, "*To this day, the Movement's legacy **continues to shape** American political dialogue both on college campuses **and in broader society.**"*² Yet ironically, Leftists³ today are seemingly clueless to the contradiction of their stance in the face of that Movement back in the 60's to which they claim inspiration.

Indeed left-of-center ideology today is thoroughly pervaded with a spirit of both censorship and the suppression of honest debate⁴ in matters of substance, each of which fundamentally undermines freedom of speech that is protected in the *First Amendment* of our U.S. Constitution.⁵ This ploy seeks, apparently, to buffer Leftists from scrutiny by an informed public as applied in the following ways:

- In terms of **posture**, the Left's **chronic refusal to engage** in dialogue with Conservatives destroys even the possibility of reaching a common *understanding* together. So much darker, then, is the prospect of reaching mutually acceptable *solutions*. Nonetheless, Nancy Pelosi, Chuck Schumer, and Kamala Harris, to name a few, insist on unchecked grandstanding as opposed to conversing.
- **Censorship of critical facts** has marked the **ongoing ploy** of all news networks, **except Fox**, over this recent Presidential election campaign. Not only did they forbid broadcasting the hundred-plus-nights of rampage when police were constrained from both halting the damage and *protecting* lives; they also refused to assign the blame to the refusal of Democrat Mayors to act.⁶
- In contradiction to scientific methodology⁷ concerning Covid19, both Google and Facebook **censor viewpoints** that lie outside the prevailing Leftist vision, despite being advanced by renowned first-rank scientists who have advanced degrees in the very same relevant medical fields.⁸
- **Leftism⁹ has aided the obscurity in Joe Biden's pre-election schemes** both in terms of his "agenda" and his financial entanglements with China. Only **after** his win seemed sure, did the press report what they earlier mockingly dismissed; that Hunter Biden is under FBI investigation.

These factors each betray Leftism's deep insecurity about exposing their views to public scrutiny. Indeed, apart from such ploys there is little prospect that they *could* remotely prevail in an honest vote. I for one gladly invite challenges to my own views. How pathetic it is then that they fear to do the same.

Rev. Gary Jensen © December 11, 2020
Holy Lutheran Church (NALC), Berlin, PA, USA

¹ "University" can be defined by dividing the word into its components: unity and diversity. The purpose of Universities is to reconcile them.

² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Free_Speech_Movement. Boldface mine.

³ I use this term in the broad sense of belonging anywhere on the left side of the ideological spectrum in contrast to conservative or "the Right."

⁴ Dr. John M. Ellis' book, *The Breakdown of Higher Education: How it Happened, The Damage it Does, & What Can be Done*. (Encounter, 2020), pp. 38f. One of his central theses is that, beginning in the sixties there has been a profound shift in educational goals on university campuses, from *free academic inquiry* (irrespective of the ramifications the follow from them) on the one hand, and *political activism* on the other. I agree with his contention that the two goals are intellectually irreconcilable.

⁵ "*Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.*"

⁶ See my Oct. 24 blog, "Rioting Gone Wild: But Why No Longer?" at www.offensivechristianity.blogspot.com

⁷ See my November 10, 2020 blog, "Leftism's Claim to be Champions of Science is a Gigantic Fraud," (all six points). Ibid.

⁸ <https://www.tabletmag.com/sections/science/articles/coronavirus-google-censorship-danger>