

When Refusing to Give an Answer is an Admission of Guilt

"A rebuke goes deeper into a man of understanding than a hundred blows into a fool." (Proverbs 17:10)

When Jesus famously stood *silent* at his trial (Mt. 27:12-13, Mark 15:5, and Luke 23:9), the two parties present included not only himself as the passive and sinless¹ Son of God, but also his naive and impertinent antagonists. Jesus' purpose there was not to challenge their verdict or rail against their conduct; but instead to, through their verdict, bear the sins of the entire world on the very cross that was being preparing for him. It is this distinction that sets Jesus apart from every person in our current philosophical and political climate who, for whatever reason, evades answering their critics. While it is true that Jesus himself didn't answer the crowds, the reason was because he was accountable instead to the purposes of His Father as represented in the *covenantal*² love that Yahweh expresses (Isaiah 43:25).³ By stark contrast, the present Democrat Party exudes utter self-centered (humanistic) abandon.

According to our U.S. Constitution, any view that the authority of elected and appointed Officials permits ruling by their *private* insights and whims is **entirely alien to the purposes of our founders**. Thomas Jefferson's *Declaration of Independence* states, "**All men are created equal...and are endowed by their Creator with certain *inalienable rights*...[In order to] *secure these rights, governments [derive] their just powers from the consent of the governed.*" In addition, the *Preamble to our Constitution* begins, "**We the people of the United States...do ordain to establish a more perfect Union...**" Also, "*four score and seven years*" later, Abraham Lincoln closed his *Gettysburg Address* with these words; "*this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that the government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.*"⁴ For these reasons, it is **impossible** to deny that Democrats are trashing one profoundly fundamental aspect of our Constitutional form of government.**

I wish to be clear that this transgression, as grave as I argue it to be, is not limited to technical disputes over methods of governance. A chronic refusal to answer critics which is rooted in a pretense of claiming "superiority" over all challengers, contradicts the principles of rational deliberation in general.⁵ This is especially so when certain indicators are in place, including firstly verified and specific factual evidence that contradicts the assertions of the witness in question; secondly, when there is a refusal by the same witness to both inform him/herself of the relevant facts and address them; and thirdly, when the extent of the ramifications which follow from the case in question rises to the degree that it threatens the security of society at any level. In summary, it is vital to the governance of our civilization that truth prevail only after facing rigorous scrutiny. If it should be the case that the facts are indeed on one's side, then it is strongly in their favor that every aspect of their case be brought out into the open. On the other hand, refusal to come clean concerning the facts of the case becomes a tacit admission that the truth is damning to their asserted claims.

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¹ 1 Peter 2:22-24.

² A covenant is a close equivalent notion of a contract. The former, was considered absolutely inviolable. Yahweh, the God of the Bible, himself initiated covenants with his people Israel (Exodus 19:5).

³ This Passage says, "*I, I am He who blots out your transgressions for my own sake.*" Notice first the double "I's," which makes them emphatic. Notice secondly that the boldface portion emphasizes that God considers that His own reputation is at stake.

⁴ Constitutional documents can be accessed by searching under the theme, the United States Constitution. ** Non-statutory documents are drawn from Diane Ravitch, ed. *The American Reader*. (Harper Perennial, 1990). All boldface is my *doing* for the purpose of highlighting the priority of the concept that governmental officials are accountable to the voters, and not vice-versa.

⁵ Dr. John Ellis (*The Breakdown of Higher Education: How it Happened, The Damage it Does, & What Can be Done*. (Encounter, 2020.)) argues persuasively in my view, that the prevailing dominant "educational" strategy on university campuses today, *political activism*, is incompatible with classical intellectual inquiry, which seeks to assemble all the relevant evidence and freely debate over its ramifications (p. 39).