

Confession of a liberal

by Jeremy Sloan
Collegian Staff

I have a horrible confession to make. Yes, I am a liberal. In fact, I am a member of a highly secret world-wide organization which will have me killed when they realize that I have exposed them.

We exist for the sole purpose of turning the youth of the world against Christ and capitalism and toward godless tofu-slurping new-age Marxist homosexuality. Yes, it's true. We are the descendants of the commie pinko fags.

In the basement of a small farmhouse in Girard, Pierre listens at the collar door for the secret knock and gives the sign: "LaRouche." He then waits for the countersign: "Leary." When he thinks that it's safe, Pierre lets us into our Erie headquarters.

Audio-visual equipment and a battle map of the Bible belt fill the dark room. Sven gives us our weekly instructions from the liberal elitists and sends out encrypted messages over shortwave radio to our deep cover propaganda agents in the

Academic Building of Behrend.

We then eat a meal of bean sprouts and sing socialist hymns. The meeting ends with a ritual burning of the American flag; we wander off in twos and threes to sodomize one another.

What scares me is that somebody out there just said, "Aha! I knew it!" Um, guys, there's no conspiracy.

In fact, I've found that there's very little organization at all among left-wing groups. I have a hard time believing that they could organize a collective picnic, much less the subversion of the American people.

The feminist group I know of can't decide whether to spell 'women' with a 'y' or an 'i.' The pro-beinp individuals on internet groups like alt.drugs hold heated debates over questions like: "Can William Buckley be trusted?" and "Can you fill a bong with vegetable oil?"

I understand that on campus, Trigon's last subversive plot was to print up tee shirts and sell them. (By the way, ask a member of Trigon about having posters ripped down...)

As strange as I feel saying this,

John Rossomando is right about a few things in his column last week. He is right to say that political correctness is wrong. He is also right to criticize groups that use vandalism, intimidation, and violence against their opposition.

However, he conveniently overlooks his own use of the word 'radical' and fails to give us a realistic portrait of left-wing groups.

He also takes us on a ride down the slippery slope by presenting good premises and expanding them, without any explanation or logic, into a Marxist conspiracy theory.

To quote, "Confucious once said, 'When words lose their meaning, men lose their freedom.'" True. But what about the word 'radical'? Radical groups, by definition, advocate "sweeping changes in laws and methods of government." (Merriam-Webster). They are to the left-wing what groups such as the KKK are to the political right.

To categorize all liberals by the actions of radical groups is tantamount to calling every Republican a racist. I could have

dug up every human rights violation supported by the Reagan administration, e.g. The New Yorker Dec. 3, 1994. But that would have been just as unrealistic. Many liberal groups simply do not fit the Rossomando stereotype, just as many conservative groups do not fit their own common stereotypes.

Let me point a flashing neon sign toward the American Civil Liberties Union. This group vigorously defends the right to free speech for groups which have very little popular support and which may even oppose the First Amendment itself, e.g. the American Neo-Nazi party.

I agree wholeheartedly that free speech is an intrinsic part of our society. I also agree that 'political correctness' implies an erosion of the right to free speech, in much the same way that laws which discriminate against homosexuals imply an erosion of the separation of church and state.

But how does political correctness translate into Marxism??? Not a word of last week's column explains this mysterious and arcane link.

"Political correctness is something right out of the Marxist playbook."

Um, what exactly IS the Marxist playbook? Can I get a copy? It sounds fascinating. Do the heads of universities which advocate PC consult their Marxist playbooks first? Seriously though, argument by blind assertion does little but waste ink.

Maybe every controversial group on campus (except for the Conservative Alliance) has been ripping down its own signs. Maybe the burning of the library at Alexandria was accidental.

Maybe there is a link between Marxism and political correctness. But John Rossomando hasn't shown us the connection. Maybe there is a world-wide conspiracy of liberals. But John Rossomando hasn't given us any compelling reason to believe so.

I say we shouldn't suppress free speech. But could we please save the conspiracy theories for Oliver Stone?

The Goober System

by Dave Barry
Syndicated Columnist

I see by the newspapers that solid progress is being made by the failed Clinton administration, which has finally moved beyond the Bumbling Around Cluelessly Phase and is now deep into the Big Incomprehensible Scandal Phase.

This is good. Under our system of government (called, technically, "The Goober System"), the primary function of the executive branch, aside from frowning sincerely down from helicopters at natural disasters, is to get involved in vast, festering legal masses that affect the legislative process in a manner very similar to what happens when you attempt to flush a dead moose down a commode: Everything gets stopped up. Which is exactly what we want. As the great statesperson John or Samuel Adams once said, "A government engaged in the legislative process is a government that can, at any moment, without warning, decide that it needs to spend \$14.3 million on a Bureau of Catfish Safety."

So we need big executive-brain scandals. That's why there's a top-secret, high tech, self-activating device in the White House attic called the Stupid Ray. I'm sure you have

long suspected that there was such a device. You have noticed that we keep sending all these brilliant people to the White House -- dynamic leaders with their 14-point programs and their Bold Visions for America and their dozens of whip-smart National-Honor-Society Phi-Beta-Kappa Rhodes-Scholar aides and lawyers, and the instant they grab hold of the controls of the Ship of State, they become Jerry Lewis starring in "The Nutty Administration."

Take Richard M. "Dick" Nixon. Here is a man with an IQ of 384, a man who every six weeks produces a hard-cover book explaining how we can solve every single problem in the entire world, and look what happened when he got into the White House:

NIXON (to his aides): ... and our first priority must be the implementation of the New Federalism, with the concomitant amalgamation of the structural parameters of the ...

STUPID RAY: Hummmmm
NIXON: ... I know! Let's install a tape recorder in here, then discuss a criminal conspiracy!

AIDES: Great idea, sir!
HENRY KISSINGER: Then let's screw in a light bulb!

And it wasn't just Nixon. Jimmy Carter was a nuclear engineer. Do you think a nuclear

engineer with an unimpaired brain is going to tell reporters that he was being chased by a GIANT SWIMMING RABBIT? No, that was the Stupid Ray, which also caused the massive incomprehensible Iran-Contra scandal that paralyzed both the Bush and Reagan administrations (although for some reason the ray appeared to have no effect whatsoever on President Reagan



himself).

And now we have the Clinton administration, loaded with brains, flailing around like a blindfolded mud wrestler, getting itself deeper and deeper into this Whitewater Development scandal, the scope to which has now been expanded to the point where, any day now, there is going to be a Texas School Book Depository

angle.

We here in the print medium are working overtime to keep you abreast of this scandal by cranking out long, fact-filled stories. Each of these is carefully reviewed prior to publication by a team of brilliant theoretical physicists headed by Stephen Hawking; if these people have even the faintest clue as to what the story says, we rewrite it to make it more incomprehensible for you, the average citizen.

This is easy for us, because even WE don't understand this scandal. Some days, when we're running a little short, we stick chunks of old Watergate articles in our Whitewater stories to bulk them out. All we know for sure about Whitewater is, it has something to do with -- surprise! -- a failed savings-and-loan. EVERYTHING has to do with a failed savings-and-loan. Hundreds of years from now, historians will look back on the ravaged remains of our society and wonder how come we never used nuclear weapons on the savings-and-loan industry when we had the chance.

Here's what I want to know: Did YOU, personally, ever have any money in a failed savings-and-loan? No, right? Neither did I. Neither did anybody I know. I bet neither did anybody you know. So where the hell are all these failed savings-and-loans

coming from? Who put all these billions of dollars into them that we taxpayers are always putting back? Space aliens? Are we bailing out Martians here?

This is only one of the many Whitewater questions now under investigation. And although of course it would be wrong to pass any judgment before all the facts are known, we can safely assume that everybody involved is guilty. The Republicans cannot BELIEVE their good luck, but they are trying to be cool about it. As Senate Minority Leader "Bob" Dole (R-Mister MeanyPants) put it in a recent speech, "We cannot allow work on critical national issues to be halted by a shortsighted partisan obsession with Whitewater Whitewater Whitewater Whitewater neener neener neener ha ha ha."

Speaking of issues: There are some other ones, such as the budget deficit, and the fact that you apparently can write "RUSSIAN AGENT" on your Central Intelligence Agency employment application and still get a high-level job, and as concerned citizens we SHOULD be thinking about these things, and demanding better from our leaders, but every time we try to

Hummmmmmm