

The Root of Conservative Morality

In February, I mentioned that to effectively combat the left, we needed to take a look at conservative behavior to understand why their tactics are so effective,

We've all witnessed a conservative and a liberal talking about an issue. It doesn't matter if it is in Congress, at a local meeting, or at a backyard barbeque. What matters is how this discussion often plays out.

The conservative is very knowledgeable about the topic he is debating. He starts off poised and confident that he will prevail because his argument is sound and just. Within moments, Lefty throws the argument right back in his face by posing a question of his own. The conservative, being a nice guy, politely goes along and answers. And at that point he is trapped and now on the defensive; caught having to respond to Lefty's accusations one after another. The conservative entered as a lion but leaves as a lamb; his confidence shaken; wondering what went wrong.

If asked why he didn't maintain his poise and demand that Lefty stick to the points of the discussion, he's likely to say, "I really don't know, I guess I don't like to argue that way." What he's really saying is that his conservative Christian upbringing had dictated his behavior and responses, and even though he knew better, he felt guilty answering any other way.

Like most conservatives who are raised with traditional American values, we had been taught to be polite and respectful of others; any other response is considered pushy and confrontational. Not so with Lefty. Liberals do not share our morality. They have no moral compulsion to be direct, truthful, or to answer any question asked of them. Their tactics include making unfounded accusations, generalizations, tainted facts, and disrespectful in-your-face conduct.

If the conservative wants to discuss reforming the welfare system, the liberal changes the subject by asking, "Have you no regard for the poor?" If the conservative talks about problems with schools in the inner cities, he's asked why he's such a bigot. If he brings up second amendment rights, the liberal tries to paint him as a gun nut and accuses him of not caring about the slaughter of innocent children in schools.

In each case, the liberal *modus operandi* requires changing the subject, and the conservative, not wanting to be considered rude, gets sucked in and goes right along by answering each new question, where he soon finds himself sputtering and defending an untenable position. And once a liberal gets an opponent into a defensive position, he pounds the conservative into dust.

But to understand why this happens, one needs to look at Christian ethics and the methodology that flows from it. For centuries, most Americans believed in the Almighty and that God's law formed the basis of our ethics. We are instructed to treat all people by the standards of biblical law; the Golden Rule; love our enemies as well as our neighbors; and don't cheat, lie, and steal, not even from your worst enemy. This tendency by conservatives to avoid controversy and confrontation makes the average conservative very vulnerable, a victim of his own decency.

This was the basis of most behavior until the beginning of the twentieth century when humanism, i.e., the rejection of religious dogma as the basis of morality and decision-making, made its entry on the American scene. When they began calling for a new morality, President Teddy Roosevelt was reminding Americans that what the humanists failed to consider is that, "there is no such thing as a new morality. There is only one morality. All else is immorality."

He warned society that, "All these sham reformers, in the name of a new morality, preached the same old vice and self-indulgence which first rotted out the moral fiber and then the external greatness of Greece and Rome." One hundred years later, these reformers who now call themselves Progressives, preach the tenets of Marxism, even though they deny it. As we saw last month in *Agenda: Grounding America Down*, their goal has been to rot out the moral fiber and the greatness of our nation.

How then is the conservative supposed to respond to the tactics of the left? Next month, we'll begin to answer that as we look at how the Secular Progressives have used humanism to nudge God out of our conversations in their quest to change national behavior and dominate American politics.