The "Neighborhood Socialist" Defeating the Left, one petty tyrant at a time.

Joe Herring Omaha Conservative Examiner December 12, 2011

Much of politics can be tallied into one of two columns; distressing or infuriating. Since the ascension of Barack Obama to the pinnacle of American leadership, we have been subjected to far more of the latter. To those of you who follow the issues carefully, the sins of Obama are clear and legion. To the casual observer however, his intentions are not as menacing, in fact many view them as beneficial.

Goebbels, the "Minister of Propaganda" for Hitler's Third Reich, knew that a lie became more believable the larger and more incongruous it grew. Who could believe a national leader (Hitler) in a Christian country (Germany) could be so evil as to exterminate millions (6 million Jews and gypsies) for the sake of racial politics? It was this very dissonance that allowed the horror to occur, often in plain sight, and it is this same dissonance that enables the self-avowed enemies of our Constitution today, to ignore and destroy the document before our eyes.

For the last three years, conservatives have been sounding the alarm over the stated aims of the newly resurgent left. The election of one of their own, Obama, caused the radical fringe of left wing politics to involuntarily belch forth every wish-list item their red little hearts have been scheming to enact for the last four decades. Millions of little Stalinists across the nation orgiastically ejaculated their true feelings for all to see. Feelings about their nation, (they hate it) feelings about religion, (don't let ME see you practice it) and feelings about their fellow citizens, (stupid fools, clinging to God and guns.)

The ugliness of their core beliefs were paraded before a horrified nation, who for the first time in decades saw the contemporary shadow that was cast by the socialists of eras past. The new intelligentsia, emboldened by the election of their ideological fellow traveler to the Presidency, began the wholesale recycling of long discredited, yet still potently dangerous ideas.

The last line alone would be sufficient to have me vilified in academic circles, where there is no such thing as a dangerous idea. To the socialist, the only dangerous idea is one that suggests liberty is a gift from God, and therefore not within the purview or curtailment of their pinched little personalities. These are people who believe they really do know more than you, know better than you, and are better able to direct your life for you.

Defeated all over the world, socialists and communists did not disappear, they simply went underground, agitating and influencing on smaller scales, locally and regionally, where their statist

proclivities would prove just as pernicious, but not nearly as obvious. Anti-Constitutional initiatives and programs became the norm with this shift, but these were now presented in City Council meetings, Township and Parish halls and most distressingly, in the chambers of School Boards.

It is easy to spot the socialists in Washington; their initiatives are vast, so consequently their encroachments on freedom are more easily seen. The more dangerous arena, is the one in your own backyard, where your well-meaning neighbor suggests a community beautification project that soon morphs into a slate of city-enforced "green" codes that restrict your personal rights to your own property.

Of course, why even have codes unless you have a means of identifying violations, so the City hires a few folks to troll the neighborhoods searching for infractions. We all want beautiful neighborhoods, right? Good for property values, keeps crime down, etc. But wait, now the guy that checks for code infractions is running for City Council, and he just had your neighbor's car impounded because it was on the street too long? Or was it? After all, your neighbor is also the campaign treasurer for the current Councilman, isn't he?

As the petty exercise of power becomes more and more open, others of similar nature begin to gravitate to the side of the socialist, seeing in him/her an outlet for their own fantasies of control. Of course, they will espouse the noblest of intentions as they force their neighbors to follow their agenda, because, after all, "...it's for the children / neighborhood / community / greater good / etc. You aren't mean-spirited, are you?"

I'm often asked "What can I do?" by people who has heard me speak or read my work. I used to struggle with that question, but I don't any longer. Our opposition can be safely divided into two categories, only one of which you can help; that being the well-meaning neighbor who wanted the beautification project, but didn't realize that involving government is like dancing with the devil. Educate him, warn him and help him to understand that nothing can be taken from government without first establishing the lines which said government shall not cross.

The second category? You cannot help these people. They are the true believers, not in freedom, but in themselves and their collective sense of superiority. These individuals would go as far down the totalitarian path as their power will take them, even on the smallest, most petty scale. It is a defect of character to approach life as they do, but as they will tell you, we don't "label" people like that anymore. I'm here to tell you, we better start.

The fate of this nation lies in the dwindling space between some men's desire to be "let alone" and other men's "willingness to be kept." The socialist uses the latter to harass the former, shaking them down again and again until all are "kept," dependent on the socialist, compliant with the socialist.

Our system is based upon a man's willingness to trade bits of his freedom (work) in return for something he values higher, (wages). The socialist isn't satisfied with this arrangement, as it presents insufficient

control to satisfy his appetites. The socialist wants all of you, from cradle to grave. I am loathe to paint a bleak picture, but it is essential to explain to all who will listen; the only way to make certain the petty socialist doesn't take your freedom, is to make certain he is never given the opportunity.