

Re: Somehow No One Seems To Think

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- *From:* Howard Kveck <YOURhoward@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 03 Apr 2008 00:09:26 -0700
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In article <d2f8c926-fb69-4171-a531-a387e02ad1d7@xx>, Bill C <tritonrider@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

On Apr 1, 9:40 am, Bill C <tritonri...@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

I saw it here, and have heard, and read the stories, both from vets and the folks treating them from large areas of the country. There's been plenty written on it. I don't think there was much in military towns Howard. I have heard stories of troops, and their supporters, also attacking "those little pinko commie faggots" over peaceful protests too. I'm sure you'd say THAT happened.

Bill C- Hide quoted text -

- Show quoted text -

I wanted to add some more perspective, to try and get past the he/she said thing.

The situation here wasn't one dimensional by any means. This was a fairly conservative bluecollar farming community. Umass was an "agricultural" college, Amherst College had been rich white, mostly conservative, Smith and Mt. Holyoke produced some "freethinkers" but that all blew up on the campuses here in the 60s as they all went massively left with Amherst taking longer. Hampshire college came on the scene with it's planned radicalism in '70.

There was a huge clash of cultures between the "progressive" students and professors, and the basically blue collar, farm, mostly immigrant, old world mentality here. They hated each other. This went on through all my school years, but faded as the area became gentrified, elitist, and othe most liberal spot in America. The last bastion of the fight is the town nickname, and that's over too, according to the local paper. We're now Noho. There're still a bunch of older folks, and my generation with lots of resentment towards being overrun and called every name in the book, and treated like third class citizens. First class were the wealthy, the academic, and the activist. Second class were the poor, whom they could patronize, and pat themselves on the back about helping, but not actually interacting with as people, and

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then there were the blue collar, farmers, etc...folks who were ignorant backwards, knuckle dragging scum, who needed to be re-educated.

The cops for the most part were in the latter category too, so there were real problems between them and the college folks, students, and hippies here. 99% of those the cops were dead wrong in IMO. My partner Ed and his friends were frequent targets despite wanting to do nothing but party, and play music. He's enough older so he got to take the brunt of reaction, where I only got to watch it happen. He wouldn't hurt a fly, but that hatred for the cops is still there today.

The difference is that while he hasn't changed much, politically, even he thinks they've gone way overboard here.

This is where I'm coming from on this stuff, and why Howard. I hung around, a little bit with some of the academic folks because we were in some of the same classes, but was never invited to one of their houses. Most of my friends were kids from the handful of local subsidised housing projects because the elementary school I went to was, basically, in the middle of them. Lots of them didn't make it through the drugs, alcohol, crime, and violence. Being treated as shit, hopeless, and helpless had a pretty nasty effect on lots of them, and their attitude towards society. Same for the blue collar kids.

I could give you more of it, but it's redundant. You know the fucked up family shit I dealt with and how I ended up being raised by my grandparents who were exactly what the activists screamed was wrong with America. Still not sure how decent, hard working, poor people got to be the enemy, but they were. Usually shit to do with not being properly educated and not understanding the plight of the people. My grandmother used to tell them she was the people and her formal education ended at 13 when her mother sent her from Wilkes-Barre Pa. into NY city to be a domestic and send money home because they weren't making it on the pay from the coal mines. Hunting and fishing were critical to feeding the family then. My Uncle got to finish school because he was a football star until he blew his knee out his senior year. He was supposed to be the first to go to college, instead he went to Korea and became a DAV.

The values they held to, and taught me, of belief in the country, hard work, no-handouts, you get what you earn, no-excuse, no-whining, hunting, fishing, support the military were the worst possible things you could believe in when I was growing up here according to the elites. We were just too stupid to know all that was wrong, and needed to be properly educated.

Yeah, I've got a big chip on my shoulder, well earned I'd say.

Bill C

Yeah, this goes a long way toward explaining many things. Not necessarily the way you might think, however. News flash, Bill: school kids can be assholes and shun people for many reasons. Particularly outspoken people who have obvious chips on their shoulders.

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Second: "decent, hard working, poor people" were *not* the enemy. No one was hating on your grandparents. This part of your base of knowledge is fantastically flawed. And the suggestion of "re-education camps" that's implied by "We were just too stupid to know all that was wrong, and needed to be properly educated" fits right in with that.

Sorry, Bill, but you've grown up distrusting (and "hating" would not be an uncharitable characterization of it) a huge portion of the population and believing that they bear you ill will and want to see you and your "kind" done away with. It colors everything you write in threads like this. I've tried to have reasonable discussions with you and be friendly but you can't let up with the strawman building and attacks on my politics (as perceived by you, which seems to have little to do with my reality). Think about it for a while. It's spring – go for some bike rides.

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tanx,
Howard

Whatever happened to
Leon Trotsky?
He got an icepick
That made his ears burn.

remove YOUR SHOES to reply, ok?

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