

Unselfish.Org Newsletter

Dedicated to eliminating social problems and bringing about world peace by educating people about the benefits of putting others first, loving your neighbor, doing unto others as you would have them do unto you, and being unselfish rather than pro-choice in decisions affecting other people and society.



<http://www.unselfish.org> • #1 - June, 2008

Why are Big Cities Blue?

New Newsletter

As we get more and more people and groups asking to be put on the Unselfish.org mailing list to receive information including how social problems are interconnected and spread through society, we have found it increasingly difficult to send individual letters to each of you. Hence, we are taking the easy way out and have decided to communicate via this simple newsletter format. Your input and questions are still very much solicited. These newsletters will probably not be issued on a regular basis but we will try to put PDF versions on the Web site at www.Unselfish.org.

Is Selfishness Killing America? #5

Our latest effort (June, 2008) is again called "Is Selfishness Killing America?" This is the fifth document or book by that name and was intended to meet two goals.

First, it combines much of our recent research into a single document. In addition to the basic information on desensitization and how social problems are interconnected, we have included material on Cafeteria Morals, Diversity and Differences, a look from the Christian view, and how all of this goes well beyond social problems.

Second, in deference to modern technology, we intentionally kept this document simple so it could be converted to a small PDF file for ease of electronic distribution on the internet. While it admittedly will win no awards for fancy design, it does include a simplified version of much of our research and is only 52K in size as a PDF file. As a result, it will download quickly or attach to an e-mail very nicely.

The PDF version (Iska08.pdf) is available on the home page and PDF page of the Unselfish.org Web site. All of the material on the Unselfish.org Website is yours to use in your own material and writing without cost or obligation, although sending us a copy would be nice.

Featured Quotation

"Also, have you noticed what issue never seems to surface in the presidential campaign and the media coverage of it? Yep, America's deep moral crisis."

— Peter LaBarbera
Americans for Truth

Featured Quotation

The featured quotation for this issue comes from Peter LaBarbera of Americans for Truth and was passed on to me by a friend. I felt that it was very appropriate so I included it.

If we look to our political and religious leaders for guidance in this time of crisis and problems, we are disappointed. I cannot remember the last time a political leader or a candidate talked about right and wrong or a criterion for right and wrong. Worse yet, it has been decades since I heard a fire and brimstone sermon or homily in a church. Catholic confessionals have become an endangered species because our religious leaders do not want to talk about right and wrong. Are our political and religious leaders afraid to offend those who cast a vote or put money in the collection basket, or have they simply become desensitized to selfishness, permissiveness and the pro-choice attitude like most Americans?

Our political and religious leaders have unfortunately become experts at using Cafeteria Morals and modify their criterion for right and wrong to get the answer they want. (See page 9 and 10 in the "Is Selfishness Killing America?") If they want a "yes, you can do that" answer, they use the permissive and pro-choice criterion, but if they want a "no you can not do that" answer they use the unselfish and pro-society criterion.

Equally disturbing are those hard working and dedicated people who work in the areas of abortion, traditional marriage, drugs, family and other worthwhile causes but do not go beyond their chosen area to deal with how all of these problems are manifestations of the selfishness, permissiveness and pro-choice attitude in our society. For these respected people, let me offer my parable of the flooded basement:

The master of the house suddenly awoke one morning to find his basement flooded with water. He immediately called his two stewards and told them to get their staffs and do something about the basement. The first steward gathered his men and started a bucket brigade to take water out of the basement. While they were successful in removing substantial quantities of water, more water kept pouring in.

Meanwhile, the second steward had gathered his men. They searched and discovered that the cause of the problem was a broken water pipe. The second steward and his crew were busy digging up the water pipe so they could repair it.

Which of the two stewards did the better job for his master?

Why are Big Cities Blue?

Our research continues on with obtaining more information on how selfishness, permissiveness and the pro-choice attitude spreads through our society and affects people. What with the presidential campaign in the news, one of our current areas of study is how selfishness, permissiveness and the pro-choice attitude impacts cities, suburbs and rural areas.

To begin with, the political color scheme used in the United States is backwards. In most of the world, red (traditionally the color of Communism) is used to designate a socialist or communist area while blue is used to designate a conservative area. Here in the United States, our political reporters have done just the opposite and use blue to designate areas with liberal voters and red to designate areas with conservative voters.

Much of what we are finding is not only logical but also follows statistics. An appropriate example is that the State of Utah is not only substantially conservative but also has the highest fertility rate of any state and a high rate of church attendance. Much of this is due to the influence of the Mormon Church. We already knew that a higher fertility rate and high church attendance are typical of conservative areas. During the 2004 presidential election, states that voted for President George Bush had an average of an 11% higher fertility rate than states that voted for Senator John Kerry.

Latest demographics show that in big cities, the split is typically 60% liberal to 40% conservative while in rural areas are split just the opposite with 60% conserva-

tives and 40% liberals. Smaller cities tend to go 50/50 while suburban areas are somewhere around 53% conservative to 47% liberal. We would like to know why.

A trusted family member who has been involved in some of this research has suggested that one reason may be that big city people are more competitive because they fight each other for jobs and seats on the subway. In contrast, rural people have more of a tendency to work together for common goals.

Another suggestion is that married people and families with kids are more likely to move out of the cities and into suburban and rural areas. This leaves a higher percentage of single people and those without children in the cities, both groups that statistically are more liberal.

Any suggestions or comments you might have would be welcome.

Answers to questions like these will help us a great deal in figuring how selfishness, permissiveness and the pro-choice attitude spreads through out society. We already know that people who are selfish, permissive and pro-choice in one area are statistically more likely to be selfish, permissive and pro-choice in other areas. This is why our social problems are interconnected and why eliminating the selfish, permissive and pro-choice attitude will in turn eliminate much of our social problems.

Points on the Line from Right to Left

Another area of study is in trying to determine the relative location of actions and decisions on the line from right to left (see page 15 of "Is Selfishness Killing America?" 2008). Unless you have a halo and are a saint, all of us believe in Cafeteria Morals to a greater or lesser extent. All or virtually all of our actions or decisions that impact other people can be shown on a line from right to left. Our personal position on that line is determined when we finally decide to be pro-society instead of pro-choice.

The actions and decisions shown on page 15 are estimated but probably reasonably accurate. If you can provide statistics or suggestions for other actions or decisions on this line it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your interest and support.

— Larry Plachno

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