

LEFT ELITISM DIDN'T START WITH OBAMA

By Don Feder

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I grew up in a small town in upstate New York, much like those in Pennsylvania that Barack Obama dumped on at a Democratic fund-raiser in San Francisco.

How well I recall the happy days of my youth – the evenings spent singing hymns and cleaning our guns at Klan rallies.

At the closed-door fundraiser (*San Francisco Democrats off on a spree. Damned from here to eternity. God have mercy on such as thee... .*), the Senator let the mask of amiability slip to reveal the face of a sneering elitist.

When asked why he wasn't doing better among Pennsylvania voters in the sticks, Obama explained to the brie-and-Chablis crowd that the rubes are agitated over lost jobs, and "So, it's not surprising then that they get bitter, they cling to guns or religion or antipathy to people who aren't like them or anti-immigrant sentiment or anti-trade sentiment as a way to explain their frustration."

Obama doesn't much care for the churches Christians in the hinterlands flock to. Give him that old-time religion of his spiritual mentor, the Rev. Jeremiah ("God d--- America!) Wright – anti-Americanism, anti-Zionism and Afro-centrist theology.

Leftist snob that he is, Barack sees small-town America as an ugly, benighted place -- a snake-pit of racism ("antipathy to people who aren't like them") and xenophobia, populated by God-intoxicated gun-nuts – AKA: "typical white persons."

Hillary castigated her rival and improbably offered herself as a tribune of the people. “I don’t think it helps to divide our country into one America that is enlightened and one that is not,” the New York Yankees fan solemnly intoned. “If you want to be president of all Americans, you need to respect all Americans.” (This from a candidate who, as First Lady, ordered White House aides not to make eye-contact with her as they passed her august presence, lest she be sullied by their plebian gaze.)

To Hillary’s elitism charge, Obama hotly replied that he was only speaking the truth: Americans who don’t attend San Fran soirees really are bitter, and he sympathizes with them— damn it all!

They’re bitter because they’re losing jobs, Obama insists. They’re bitter because mortgages are being foreclosed (as if this has never happened before). They’re bitter because we’re not talking to the whack-jobs who run Iran and Syria. They’re bitter because undocumented Mexicans are coming here to partake of the American dream. And they’re bitter because we have yet to achieve socialized medicine – and Republicans are blocking the way to the Big Rock Candy Mountain.

Obama is a dazzling reflection of his party’s disdain for the hoi-polloi. Since the Sixties, elitism has been the Democrats’ cultural mark of Cain. In a generation, the party of Jefferson, Jackson and Truman morphed into the party of McGovern, Dukakis and Gore.

In 2004, Howard Dean, then a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, said Southerners should stop basing their votes on “race, guns, God and gays” – and should instead support his party for its knee-jerk isolationism, its intransigent opposition to armed self-defense, its eagerness to sacrifice the economic opportunities of the white working class to expiate racial guilt

(otherwise known as affirmative action) and its tender regard for the rights of the trans-gendered.

In 1992, when some voters wondered why Ms. Rodham kept her maiden name until her husband ran for governor the second time, Hillary rebuked them thusly: “I suppose I could have stayed home and baked cookies and had teas, but what I decided to do was fulfill my profession which I entered before my husband was in public life.” In other words, full-time moms and homemakers (those who don’t consign their only child to a nanny paid for by Arkansas taxpayers) are Stepford Wives – automatons in aprons who spend their days waltzing around spotless homes, feather-dusters in hand, doling out cookies and caffeinated beverages to other brainless breeders.

When Bill and Hill first infested the White House, a Secret Service agent overheard Chelsea Clinton refer to those pledged to take a bullet to defend the First Family as “our personal, trained pigs.” When the agent sought to rebuke her, Chelsea told him “That’s what my parents call you” (as related by Gary Aldrich in “Unlimited Access”). Ah, that Clinton common touch.

Two years after losing the presidency, the Democrats’ last great pretender – John Forbes-500 Kerry – told an audience: “Education, if you make the most of it, you study hard, you do your homework and you make an effort to be smart, you can do well. And, if you don’t, you get stuck in Iraq.” So, work hard kids – or you could be a loser who ends up fighting for his country in Iraq. Who says the Democrats don’t love our military?

All elitists aren’t confined to the party of Barack Obama and Chelsea’s mama. Addressing the National Council of La Raza (an Hispanic group based on racial-identity politics), RINO Senator Lindsay Graham promised to keep pushing amnesty for illegal aliens, and if Middle Americans didn’t like it “We’re going to tell

the bigots to shut up.” FYI, those bigots include 89% of the American people who, according to a 2006 *Time* magazine poll, think illegal immigration is a serious problem.

Speaking at a fundraiser for Senator Clinton, Elton John told the audience, “I never cease to be amazed at the misogynistic attitude of some people in the country. And I say to hell with them.” But, of course, anyone who doesn’t worship at the feet of America’s Evita must be a woman-hating Neanderthal. When it comes to stereotyping average Americans, you just can’t beat a Democratic fundraiser.

Earlier this year, Michelle Obama told a campaign rally, “For the first time in my adult life, I am really proud of my country, because hope is making a comeback,” i.e. my husband appears to be headed to the White House. She wasn’t proud of her country when we won the Cold War. She wasn’t proud of America when we deposed the terrorist Taliban and the Butcher of Baghdad. She wasn’t proud of her country when it led the world in charitable giving or pioneered the Internet revolution. Nope, it wasn’t until her hubby’s campaign gained traction – proving that some typical white persons were capable of overcoming their innate prejudice -- that Michelle Obama found something to like about America.

Main Street Americans are patriots – without reservation or equivocation. Leftists think the American saga consists of slavery, sweatshops, Wounded Knee and water-boarding. According to a recent Rasmussen poll, while 66% of conservatives think America is basically fair and decent, only 49% of liberals view their country positively, compared to the 36% who see America as unfair and discriminatory. Since a nation is a reflection of its people, 36% of liberals agree with Obama that the boonies are inhabited by those who have “antipathy to people who aren’t like them.”

Like his tirade in San Francisco, Obama's voting record demonstrates his utter contempt for Middle America. In 2007, the *National Journal* rated him the most liberal member of the United States Senate, beating out Ted Kennedy, Barbara Boxer and Patrick Leahy for the honor.

Obama consistently voted for massive tax hikes and more regulation – FYI, policies that destroy jobs in small-town America.

He's supported banning the manufacture and sale of handguns, to keep trigger-happy clodhoppers from exercising their Second Amendment rights.

He favors repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act, criticized the Supreme Court's decision upholding a ban on partial birth abortions and thinks drivers licenses for illegal aliens is cool. Because he's enlightened and compassionate, he's convinced the rubes are a gun-toting, fundamentalist lynch mob waiting to happen.

The left's disdain for ordinary Americans colors its entire agenda. Because we're too stupid to know how to spend our income, taxes should be confiscatory. Since we're too improvident to plan for our retirement, Social Security must remain sacrosanct.

Because we'll pass our bigotry on to the next generation, government needs to indoctrinate our children – with multiculturalism, skepticism and an appreciation for alternative lifestyles.

Due to our violent nature, we can't be trusted with guns. So government should make it progressively harder for citizens to own them.

Because we won't vote *responsibly* (for "progressive" politicians), increasingly, political power should be vested in the courts, which are insulated from the will of the people.

We are two nations divided by a cultural/ideological chasm the width of the Grand Canyon. One resides in San Francisco, Grosse Pointe, Manhattan's Upper East Side and Chevy Chase. The other lives in towns two hours off the Interstate.

One thinks guns are more dangerous than criminals. The other thinks gun-control means a good grip and a steady aim. One believes in capital punishment. The other looks at a serial killer and asks where we, as a society, went wrong.

One feels for illegal aliens denied amnesty. The other feels for the black teens in Newark murdered by illegals last year.

One thinks abortion is a constitutional right. The other thinks it's an abomination.

One thinks Islamism is a menace. The other thinks it might just have a point.

One thinks parents should raise their children. The other thinks the proverbial Village -- au pairs, Guatemalan housemaids and daycare workers-- should shoulder the burden.

One believes society should support marriage. The other thinks it's passé -- except for gays.

One believes in moral absolutes. The other believes in relativism. One believes in free will and personal responsibility. The other believes in Sigmund Freud, Dr Spock and Oprah.

One believes in God. The other believes in government.

It's hard to warm to a candidate who thinks you're a malicious moron who takes solace in a .45 and a type of Shiite Christianity.

That's why the left lost 7 of the last 10 presidential elections, even with the establishment media cheering it on and savaging the other side.

Bush wasn't much of a campaigner. He lacked the eloquence of Reagan and the charm of Bill Clinton. But when voters compared him to Al (I'm-smarter-than-you-and-I-know-it) Gore and John (he's-just-a-gigolo) Kerry, W didn't look half bad. Whatever his faults, they knew he didn't consider the common man beneath him.

Most U.S. presidents came from small towns or rural communities – including John Adams, Abraham Lincoln, Calvin Coolidge and Ronald Reagan – as did many inventors and entrepreneurs. Thomas Edison hailed from Port Huron, Michigan. Henry Ford was raised on a farm in a rural town west of Detroit. John D. Rockefeller grew up in Owego, New York.

The Americans who are doing the fighting and dying in Iraq are disproportionately from Main Street America, a reservoir of patriotism. And they don't trust you? – fancy that, Senator.

*An earlier version of this commentary appeared on
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