

Criminals in the Midst

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Was that supposed to have been *mist* and not midst? Remember that heartbreaking movie years ago about innocent and endangered gorillas getting killed for a little material gain? This is a blog, and that means a part of me is suffering, ticked, amused, and/or confused. Famous English author Douglas Adams liked to say "I'd rather be happy--than right, any day!" Unfortunately, his premise - that "right" is a recognizable item - maybe ain't so easy to see?

Who are *my* criminals in our midst? Well, they're not like you and me. But, there's something about them which we all share. And when caught, the guilty seek to remind us of this *vulnerability*. During the parade of our human condition, they or their lawyers explain, some guilt must fall, meaning upon us all - everyone. Somehow due to their vulnerability, guilt pours down only on these...only on them. And so, our pity is due. Of course it is.

My current event cases? Ariel Castro and Anthony Weiner. Total strangers to me (and I will never meet them). Both men stuck a big toe into the beautiful pristine lake of sexual purity. In time they polluted it. Years later they've ended up drowning by drinking sludge-filled martinis of their own making--drawn while wading near the shoreline. Oh, they also built impressive, decorative waterfalls that efficiently recycle the (now years later) filthy lake water.

One man strategized well, the other remodeled well, both in order to cover their trails; you've read about it. Each now has his hand out for just a pinch of redemption. Pinch? You've got give them that! After all, they're only men, *vulnerable*...just like you and me.

Castro wanted us to know that he'd been sexually misused many years ago as a child. True, no doubt. But I say (hopefully, standing in the forefront of all humanity), "Mr. Castro, those people are not on trial, YOU are!" The facts of his previous years: the hands, the lips, the penis, and the rear-ends, are not the accused. You may accuse them now, all you want. But, the nation of America accuses you. Simply you, alone, for your choices, your behavior. I'll keep my pity for the more deserving.

Sadly, this man will remain alive at taxpayers' expense. Money taken away from innocent, deserving, law-abiding souls, who'll just get less. If it were only him...the only sexual abuser in a prison cell in all of our 50 states, that'd be different. Yet, we live in a country where criminals drink down their sludge-filled martinis and forcefully pour it down the throats of the prisoners they hold in the mini-hell basements they've chosen to construct and maintain.

On to Mr. Weiner. An imaginative man. Imaginative people succeed, especially in politics. I don't get the media focus of his doings. He's a man sipping that gawdawful martini and letting us know he's had a heck-of-a-time! Even his wife is hangin' in there with her imaginative and very busy man.

My problem veers away from the so-called sexting activities. The man lied. He didn't have to. Sip, sip, sip. Presidents Nixon and Clinton lied. Didn't have to - chose too. Thought it a good choice. He went under that oh-so-attractive waterfall of lust, lies, liability and legalities. He and Anthony Weiner wanted us to know--to believe--that he was/is better than all that! "Mere accusations folks, really!"

They both went on TV, determined to deceive the gullible, trusting, suspicious especially and the young and impressionable - mainly those who can vote. Weiner took the chance to redeem himself, with his wife adding a little seasoning to help us swallow his sludge. If they want to have this wobbly marriage - they should please go away somewhere and take it out of our view. Don't call it "good." Just look the word up in the dictionary.

I'm most annoyed that he's thought of himself as worthy of holding public office - again. Why would I vote into office someone who previously planned to deceive me over and over again? Are we Americans so down to the bottom of the moral barrel?

Now, I'm all for hiring a bad man to do a good job - when the world's at stake. But, please, out of all the New Yorkers available, must we entertain on the privileged stage of hiring those to rule over us--him? If he's so comfortable in embellishment and trickery (while spending taxpayers' dollars) why re-hire the guy? Why?

But this is America. In our desire to live "happy" and maybe, perhaps, "right." We force one man to live, and not be put to a timely death. And another man to be given the opportunity to once more deface a public office.

Here's how it goes. Kidnapper and rapist Castro is in prison. Who of you out there, if asked, would provide a meal for him or a cup of water? How many of you have compassion toward the *determined compassionless*, who would've imprisoned you and horrified your life unendingly? I would pass by his cell and toss him some rope. "Tie the knot right!" Case closed.

Weiner? Oh, how I wish he be asked point blank, on TV, "Mr. Weiner, can we trust you to honestly fulfill your office, putting the public's interest ahead of your own...oh, and your martial vows, too?" Case closed.

Who are the criminals in our midst? Sadly, we don't have to look far to find them; they'll be on the news tomorrow. Old faces and new.