

Not Quite Right News from Mark Golden

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Color Blind Citizens Sue Over Red, White & Blue

Boulder, Colorado

A Colorado-based support group of the color blind filed suit against their state and the federal government citing “holiday discrimination by displaying the American flag and miscellaneous accoutrements.” More specifically, for using the standard patriotic red-white-and-blue color scheme on July 4th and other events. The complaint which drove these spectrum-challenged individuals to court is that they are a “minority which has been passed over for some 238 years and counting, beginning in 1776.” Seeing themselves as legally empowered by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), they want the addition of a “colorblind-correct” color-scheme used in future Independence Day celebrations.

The suit seeks damages for lifelong emotional distress, described as “feelings of inadequacy caused by patriotic disorientation.” Annually, in the days prior to July 4th, some plaintiffs admit to having “visions of a jolly, good-natured, King George, and feeling sympathetic to the military loss of the British forces.” The court brief poses the question, “Who wants any of our own citizens weeping for those red-coated losers of the Revolutionary War?” Besides, when you do the math, as too many Americans have, we’d be taxed woefully less today if only the Colonists would’ve shut up and stayed under Britain’s sovereignty.

When Independence Day approaches, red-faced, frustrated members of the support group (who are primarily white) say that they feel “blue.” Many forego their daily habit of drinking cups of coffee and publicly drink tea in silent protest! Homemade crumpets are all a flurry at support meetings. One grumbling plaintiff said that when seeing Old Glory they feel like they are in “a foreign country and expected to celebrate that nation’s holiday, which is quite similar to our own.” Their hope is that they might join in America’s festivities as fully as normal-sighted citizens do.

The lawsuit seeks a symbolic monetary sum of \$1,776,000 which would be donated to charity.

Finally, the group wants to legally institute a 50/50 split of traditional and colorblind-correct: flags, bunting, fireworks, Uncle Sam costumes, balloons and underwear. This pigmented proposal penetrates to the heart of the predicament of perpetuating partial or challenged patriots. Normal-sighted Americans might want to readily comply with such admirable motives and purely nationalistic desires, but there are obvious complications. One being that the hue-corrected red-white-and-blue color scheme would be black, yellow and orange—the same as the island nation of Papua New Guinea!

In the days to come, we will see what the courts decide concerning this colorful case.