

IMMORALITIES AND THE AMERICAN SOUL: DARK JOURNEYS ON THE MIND TRAIN OF HISTORY

Dr Clarabel Finch-Puig

Awhile back, when concepts such as "duty" and "honor" still carried weight, men (and I am purposely using the term here in its gender-specific sense) would act accordingly. Now, however, we see the fruits of a relentless drive towards "fulfillment" and an egalitarian lunacy that would shock many of its earliest proponents. Like the Madianites we may yet find that our "golden tablets" have a curse upon them, one we will not render void unless we are willing to recapture, dare it be said: **traditional values**.

Many, such as myself, who have made the tortuous journey from the radical left of the political spectrum to what is variously described as right-wing or conservative (a term I much prefer), have had to endure the spectacle (and here I use the term in its commonplace, as opposed to any "Situationist" connotations) of a nation devouring itself in a self-immolating fire of disrespect and valueless rambling.

The situation of today's universities begs the question: can there be a remedy when the cure is taboo? The stranglehold of political correctness which has taken over the contemporary national conversation remains the single most disastrous influence since the Pill. I personally know of scholars whose work has been shunned, simply because they made the grave error of questioning, say, whether women weren't better off in the days when pre-marital sex had serious consequences. And while Dr Lars Kefauver's assertion that lynching had positive benefits to the black community may have been somewhat poorly framed, are we to deny ourselves his counsel simply because he may have "stepped on someone's toes"? Like the ocelot in the fable, we could be guilty of preening our coats too primly.

As I have argued in *Corrections: A Solutions-based Morality*, the time for the end of "grievance culture" is well at hand. Already, positive steps have been taken in encouraging increased moral behavior. Worrying as it may be, the trend towards prison-time for our young people may, in time, yield positive benefits. Certainly it is better to have the young involved in practical work, with a roof over their heads, as opposed to homelessness, drug abuse, single parenthood and crime. Clearly we cannot legislate all our problems away, but for those we can, the tough love of the penal system may be the best possible tonic.

Beyond this, though, the need for upright individuals to make the case for morality is our best hope for a brighter future. Already, scholars are making inroads in the public discourse, and through further argument, the sea change can be brought about. But it behooves us to remind ourselves of the old Marine slogan: *semper fi*. We must remain ever vigilant, and temper ourselves to the "task at hand". Strong men and decent women, coming together in a community of shared values, shunning that which is immoral and laying waste to the lazy brain-reducing "entertainments" we see all around us - this is the road ahead. We must restore the elites to a moral universe that demands respect and confers dignity or punishment, where so earned.

Dr Finch-Puig is Director of the institute for Women's' Studies at the University of Bink. She is the author of several works, including Up from Down: Egalitarianism and Crime and the groundbreaking Conferring Blame: The Case for Regressive Taxation. She has recently joined discussionForum as a distinguished scholar.