

On the subject of...

Party Crashers

by Viki Eggers Mason



THE TRUTH IN BLACK AND WHITE

The Aberdeen Advocate

Ten years ago, if you had told me I would be complaining that I didn't have sufficient time to spend scrutinizing old census records, I would have laughed in your face. If you had told me 10 years ago that I would be making such complaints from my desk in Aberdeen, Mississippi, I would have advised you not to quit your day job to become a psychic. My life has taken some odd turns, because here I sit on a Sunday morning in Aberdeen wishing I had more time to devote to researching my family tree. You cannot become a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution without proof positive of your patriot past and, while I have a revolutionary or two in the branches of the aforementioned tree, I just can't find the time to properly pedigree them. Sigh. I mean to tell you a little about them anyway - if it's not all true, it ought to be.

My mother was born to Millie Babcock and George Washing-

ton Jenkins. Millie and George met and married near Sheridan, Wyoming, back in 1920. Her family originally came to Wyoming Territory with her grandmother, widowed matriarch Doctor Delilah Babcock, who loaded her young sons into a wagon somewhere in Iowa and came West. G.W.'s family had a slower and much longer migration beginning in the country of Wales in about 1600, lingering for some time in Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut and eventually Pennsylvania where John Jenkins, my (probably) distant uncle the surveyor, seems to have assisted one General George Washington in mapping and settling the western wilderness, part of which was a region in Pennsylvania interestingly named Wyoming.

Colonel John Jenkins is prominently featured in the history of Pennsylvania. The

History of Luzerne County Pennsylvania tells us when word of Independence spread to the frontier, Jenkins was an eager advocate.

"Col. John Jenkins was the son of John Jenkins, a magistrate and surveyor. Responsive to the first whisper of independence, the people of the valley assembled in town meeting to proclaim their hearty approval of the movement. The presiding officer at that meeting was Col. Jenkins; he was moderator, and in common with the other patriots assembled, devoted their lives and their sacred honor to the great cause of their fellow-man. Of that meeting and its resolves in behalf of liberty, Hon. Charles Miner has well said: "I would rather have those patriotic votes to show, as the work of

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Go Ahead, Call Me a Racist!

By Contributing Editor Don Rowe

Recently, El Presidente Jorge Booooooosh and his chief lacayo, the deshonroso Senador Trent Lott, tried their best to twist enough arms to pass the new and improved Shamnesty Bill, also known as the comprehensive amnesty-guest worker bill or the Bush-McCain-Kennedy bill. Earlier this month, cloture (closing debate and causing an immediate vote to be taken) was defeated by a vote of 45-50 on S. 1348 and, as a result, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid was forced to pull this horrendous bill from the Senate

But to the dismay and outrage of many Republican conservatives and "Blue Dog" De-

mocrats, our ill-advised El Presidente, with strong-arm help from Senadors Lott and Mitch McConnell (R-KY), convinced enough Senadors to change their original "No" votes last week in order to reinvigorate the Bush-McCain-Kennedy "comprehensive" immigration reform bill (now known as S. 1369).

Thankfully, saner minds have (for now) prevailed, for in a stinging rebuke to El Presidente and our turncoat Senador Lott last Thursday, the Senate fell 14 votes short of the 60 (46-53) needed to limit debate and clear the way for final passage of Senate

Bill 1369. In other words, the bill is dead in the water (as is Senador Lott's career).

Based on the preceding paragraphs above, it should be readily apparent which side of the immigration fence I'm on, so it's not surprising that amnesty supporters, liberal demagogues and mainstream media types would immediately brand me a "racist," an "anti-immigrant," a "cynical nativist," an "anti-Hispanic," a "xenophobe" and/or an "anti-Latino." But instead of conducting an honest and open debate with the bill's opponents on the issues, they resort to insulting name-calling

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Party Crashers

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my ancestor than the proudest patent of nobility ever granted by a king." (Quite naturally, I want to claim THIS John Jenkins for my own and intend to do so until I have the time to prove myself wrong.)

Eventually, the Jenkins found their way westward to settle in Nebraska where my grandfather was born and the rest, as they say, is history.

As did many families of post-World War II America, ours scattered to the four corners of the country and, as a consequence, I didn't know the first thing about my family history until a few years ago when I realized the historic treasures one can find on the internet. Since then, I've learned that my blood is the blood of Scottish kings, French peasants and a handful of Welch and Irish immigrants who came to America to find the good life and, for the most part, plucked it from the fertile soil which always led westward to Oregon where I was born in the middle of the last century. (Wow! That makes me feel really old!)

It is the spirit of independence passed down to each of us from generations past which makes America great. They were independent souls who struck out from the shores of Ireland, Italy and Germany bound for this strange new land. They came to work the land, bake the bread, make the cabinets and the harnesses and they asked only for opportunity. It was given in great measure and, because success is the firstborn child of opportunity, ours became a nation of wealth and plenty.

As it is with all things, we pay a price for our good fortune. In order for our society



to survive, we must each abide by the rules.

We elect lawmakers to set the structure of our democracy. We appoint judges to mediate when the laws and the people come into conflict. We are a nation of rules and regulations. (We probably have far too many of both, but I suspect they are necessary evils.) When we stray from the rules or break the law, we must pay the consequences. If we commit serious crimes or demonstrate a pattern of disregard for the law, we go away to prison. In making the decision to live outside the rules, we turn our backs on society. When we break the law we relinquish the rights and privileges afforded us by the Constitution.

It is no small wonder that others still want to share in the liberty our forefathers struggled to build and fought to defend. I'm not surprised that people who live in poverty and misery in other countries still ache to come to America where hope springs eternal. What puzzles me is the number of Americans who seem willing to share our legacy with others who are obviously unwilling to submit to the rule of law.

In the days of John Jenkins, America could afford to throw open the gates. We had an entire continent to tame. The more the merrier! Come on in and bring a friend! Now, after all these years of sacrifice and hard work by people who won a lifestyle by following the rules, we have an obligation to protect the legacy they left us. We already have plenty of our own criminals in these United States. We are already awash in men and women who disrespect our flag and our value system. (Shamefully, some of the worst offenders were actually BORN here!) We have far too many problems of our own to lay down the red carpet for anybody so obviously unwilling to obey the first itty-bitty rule – the one which requires lawful entry into this country.

For weeks now the debate over amnesty for illegal aliens has raged in Washington, D.C., while I've been scratching my head in

bewilderment. How on earth can these men we've elected to represent us consider this folly for even the briefest moment? Particularly now, as our nation prepares to celebrate its 231st birthday. That they would seriously entertain this amnesty plan at all serves to desecrate the graves of all who fought and died to acquire and preserve our independence!

It's one thing to welcome a new family to the neighborhood. It's quite another thing to let them hijack your house, your car and your bank account. These people are guilty of breaking and entering! These are party crashers of the worst kind. They are guilty of stealing the benefits of citizenship and our elected leaders are about to give them a "get out of jail free" card? Color me cranky!



Post Script:

As I type this on a sunny Thursday morning, I'm proud to report that the Senate of the United States seems to have heard the cries of outrage coming from American citizens and, just moments ago, voted to effectively kill Senate Bill 1369! Yay! The process works, after all!

Since it appears that the immediate crisis has passed, my first temptation was to toss this edition of the Advocate in the trash heap and start again. Then I had a second thought.

This edition of the Aberdeen Advocate is dedicated to the concepts of citizenship, patriotism and policy. Whether or not we face an immigration crisis on the Senate floor in Washington, D.C., our country is still besieged with illegal aliens and a border so porous it might as well not exist. The immigration crisis lives on and we must remain vigilant in our efforts to stem the flow of lawbreakers into our nation. I'll paraphrase a line from the Great Communicator, Ronald Reagan, "Mister Bush, build us a wall!" VEM

Becka's Burger Shack

We're on vacation the week of July 4th! See you next week!



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Go Ahead, Call Me a Racist

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because they know they can't defend their position and they realize the vast majority of patriotic Americans are opposed to granting immediate citizenship to 10-13 million illegal aliens.

Elitists such as El Presidente Jorge Booooooosh, Ted Kennedy and Trent Lott also like to point out that because immigration is such a complex problem, ordinary citizens like you and me are too stupid to understand the issue so we should "trust" them to deal with the problem. Booooooosh also claims that we "nit-picked" the bill and "tried to scare fellow Americans with empty political rhetoric."

Looking for like-minded "stupid idiots" on the Internet who also oppose this so-called "grand compromise," I recently ran across a blog entitled, "Go ahead, call me a racist," written by someone named "Haystack" on Redstate.com. I don't know who "Haystack" is, but I agree wholeheartedly with each and every one of the following points he makes:

- I am a racist because I believe that the path to citizenship in my country has to be earned, complete with civic and social responsibilities that define the concepts of being a good American citizen – concepts which include a respect for *our* borders, language and culture.
- I am a racist because I believe the long lines my immigrant grandparents and relatives waited in as specified by the laws of the United States helped protect our country by documenting and screening all potential residents before they stepped foot on our soil.
- I am a racist because I believe that citizenship in the United States is reserved for those who want to assimilate into American society in an effort to become part of the melting pot that makes this country great.
- I am a racist because I believe that protecting our borders is an obligatory government function as opposed to an ignored thorn in the side of the politicians who hope a new underclass will translate to political and personal power sometime in the future.
- I am a racist because I believe that our elected officials are Americans first, complete with the obligation to uphold their duty to represent American interests (rights) in every way, shape and form.
- I am a racist because I believe my American ancestors from all races and religions died in previous and current wars to protect the American way. Their service was not in vain and they gave the ultimate sacrifice to preserve those rights that our forefathers carved out in a uniquely American Declaration (of Independ-

ence).

- I am a racist because I believe that hastily crafted legislation that is done in the secret of the night and without debate is the antithesis of American democracy – the kind I'd expect from lesser governments that have little regard for the citizens of their nations.
- I am a racist because I believe that there are serious questions about the future economic impact this legislation will have on the already decrepit health care, social security and education infrastructures that politicians have failed to fix despite decades of promises by many of the very same people who failed to fix the immigration (issue) when given repeated chances to do so.
- I am a racist because I think that border enforcement should be a top priority that need not be made more complicated by sucking it into the issue of what to do with the people that are already here in this country illegally. They can be dealt with separately without affecting the other adversely.

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Go Ahead, Call Me a Racist

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- Finally, but neither last nor least, I am a racist because I think that stopping the flow of illegal immigrants into this country is the single most important issue facing the nation other than the war on terror. Its impact on society is devastatingly dangerous from a security point of view and unsupportable from an economic one.

Although I consider this to be a well-rounded list, I would like to add several of my own points, namely:

- I am a racist because I firmly believe that a nation's citizens must **obey** the rule of law because our respect for the law has held this nation together for over 200 years.
- I am a racist because not only do I believe we, as citizens, should obey the rule of law, but that our government officials (who we put there) have an obligation to **enforce** the law.

- I am a racist because I don't believe the politicians' claim that our economy "depends" on immigrant labor.
- I am a racist because I believe that English should be the "official" language of the United States – the only thread that binds us as Americans together (just as it has been the past 200 years).
- I am a racist because I'm not stupid enough to buy into the absurd assertion by the administration and its supporters that S. 1639 is the best way to stem the tide of illegal immigrants pouring across our borders.
- I am a racist because I'm also not stupid enough to believe the Bush-McCain-Kennedy bill does not grant amnesty to 10-13 million illegal aliens who have callously disobeyed our laws and violated our borders.
- I am a racist because I don't agree with those who claim illegal immigration adds to

our ethnic diversity. (We are already one of the most diverse countries in the world; why do we need more diversity?)

- I am a racist because I believe borders, much like the doors and locks of our houses, are designed to be exclusionary by nature and we have every right to control those borders just as we control who we allow into our homes.
- I am a racist because I don't buy into the idiotic assertion put forth by El Presidente Jorge Booooooosh that we (the federal government) have failed to control the border and we (the federal government) have failed to enforce the law on employers, so the best solution is to create a new law to replace the law we (the federal government) have failed to enforce.

For the moment, we have survived one of those rare moments in the history of our nation where our way of life could have been wiped out by the single stroke of a pen. Thankfully, our government of the people, by the people and for the people prevailed (for now).

Let's say I break into your house

Recently large demonstrations have taken place across the country protesting the fact that Congress is finally addressing the issue of illegal immigration. Certain people are angry that the U.S. might protect its own borders, might make it harder to sneak into this country and, once here, to stay indefinitely. Let me see if I correctly understand the thinking behind these protests.

Let's say I break into your house. Let's say that when you discover me in your house, you insist that I leave. But I say, "I've made all the beds and washed the dishes and did the laundry and swept the floors. I've done all the things you don't like to do. I'm hard-working and honest, except for when I broke into your house."

According to the protesters, you are:

- Required to let me stay in your house.
- Required to add me to your family's insurance plan;
- Required to educate my kids;
- Required to provide other benefits to me and to my family (my husband will do all of your yard work because he is also hard-working and honest, except for that breaking in part).

If you try to call the police or force me out, I will call my friends who will picket your house carrying signs that proclaim my RIGHT to be there. It's only fair, after all, because you have you have a nicer house than I do, and I'm

just trying to better myself. I'm a hard-working, honest person, except for well, you know, I did break into your house.

And what a deal it is for me! I live in your house, contributing only a fraction of the cost of my keep and there is nothing you can do about it without being accused of cold, uncaring, selfish, prejudiced and bigoted behavior.

Oh yeah, I also DEMAND that you to learn MY LANGUAGE so you can communicate with me!

Why can't people see how ridiculous this is? Only in America. If you agree, share it if you see the value of it. If not, blow it off, along with your future Social Security funds and a lot of other things.

This was found on the Internet.

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Reflections

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Sheila and Hannah Higgins

We Get Letters! Imagine That!

The letter below is one that was considered "not fit to be printed in the Orange County (California) Register." Because we here at the Advocate are frequently politically INCORRECT, we proudly publish it here.

Dear Editor:

So many letter writers have based their arguments on how this land is made up of immigrants. Ernie Lujan for one, suggests we should tear down the Statue of Liberty because the people now in question aren't being treated the same as those who passed through Ellis Island and other ports of entry.

Maybe we should turn to our history books and point out to people like Mr. Lujan why today's American is not willing to accept this new kind of immigrant any longer. Back in 1900 when there was a rush from all areas of Europe to come to the United States, people had to get off a ship and stand in a long line in New York and be documented. Some would even get down on their hands and knees and kiss the ground. They made a pledge to uphold the laws and support their new country in good and bad times. They made learning English a primary rule in their new American households and some even changed their names to blend in with their new home.

They had waved good bye to their birth place to give their children a new life and did everything in their power to help their children assimilate into one culture.

Nothing was handed to them. No free lunches, no welfare, no labor laws to protect them. All they had were the skills and craftsmanship they had brought with them to trade for a future of prosperity. Most of their children came of age when World War II broke out. My father fought along side men whose parents had come straight over from Germany, Italy, France and Japan. None of these 1st generation Americans ever gave any thought about what country their parents had come from. They were Americans fighting Hitler, Mussolini and the Emperor of Japan. They were defending the United States of America as one people. When we liberated France, no one in those villages was looking for the French-American or the German-American or the Irish-American. The people of France

saw only Americans. And we carried one flag that represented one country. Not one of those immigrant sons would have thought about picking up another country's flag and waving it to represent who they were. It would have been a disgrace to their parents who had sacrificed so much to be here. These immigrants truly knew what it meant to be an American. They stirred the melting pot into one red, white and blue bowl.

And here we are in 2007 with a new kind of immigrant who wants the same rights and privileges. Only they want to achieve it by playing with a different set of rules, one that includes the entitlement card and a guarantee of being faithful to their mother country. I'm sorry, that's not what being an American is all about. I believe that the immigrants who landed on Ellis Island in the early 1900's deserve better than that for all the toil, hard work and sacrifice in raising future generations to create a land that has become a beacon for those legally searching for a better life. I think they would be appalled that they are being used as an example by those waving foreign country flags.

And for that suggestion about taking down the Statue of Liberty, it happens to mean a lot to the citizens who are voting on the immigration bill. I wouldn't start talking about dismantling the United States just yet.

(signed) Rosemary LaBonte

We get around, it seems.....

The following letter came to us unsigned in an envelope with a Wyoming postmark. Even though I rarely print unsigned letters, I simply cannot resist this one. VEM

To the Editor:

God has assigned Viki Eggers Mason to Aberdeen, as if to a large thoroughbred horse which, because of its great size is inclined to be lazy and needs the stimulation of some stinging fly. It seems that God has attached Viki to Aberdeen to perform the office of such a fly and all day long she never ceases to settle here, there, everywhere, rousing, persuading, reproving every one of you.

You will not easily find another like Viki. But perhaps before long, certain aldermen or others may finish Viki off thoughtlessly with a single slap; then Aberdeen could go on sleeping 'til the end of its days. Unless God in His care for Aberdeen sends you someone to take Viki's place.

Well, what can I say about this? Thank you, I think. I've been compared to some unflattering critters in my day, but I've never thought of myself as the horsefly type. Besides, Wyoming Reader, I'm fairly certain that if you asked the good elected officials of Aberdeen, they would assure you that my continual interference with their agenda is far south of a heavenly mandate.

I pride myself in being an astute pain in the rump, so I'm generally on guard against both thoughtless slaps as well as the more sinister thoughtful ones.

In the meanwhile, our Municipal leaders telephone numbers are listed below. If you happen to be from Aberdeen and moved to join me in the swarm, sting on! VEM

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Honorable Cecil Belle, Mayor

125 West Commerce, Aberdeen

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Ward 1 Alderman Alonzo Sykes

1113 Elk Circle, Aberdeen

369-7705

Ward 2 Alderman Cloyd Garth

310 James Street, Aberdeen

369-5734

Ward 5's OTHER Alderman Willie Cook

505 South Matubba, Aberdeen

369-9156

Ward 4 Alderman Brunson Odom

1021 Murphree Circle, Aberdeen

369-2246

Ward 5 Alderman Jim Buffington

402 South Matubba, Aberdeen

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THE TRUTH IN BLACK AND WHITE

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