

Was Jesus Politically Correct?

John 18:36: (NASB) Jesus answered, my kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, then my servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, my kingdom is not of this realm.



George Orwell's 1949 book 1984 was about the future. It was a scary and suggestive look at what could happen to society if we did not protect our freedoms from totalitarianism. The idea that "Big Brother is watching" was a fearful one, for this fictional story gave the feeling that what we say and think is monitored and forcefully used to keep us in line. So, here it is 2017, and the year 1984 passed 33 years ago without Big Brother watching. But wait a minute - the sexist and alarming thought of "Big Brother watching" would invade "safe spaces" and be recognized as a potential trigger for some and we need

to be gender and social status-free in our policing of the masses, so instead of Big Brother watching we should say, "Thought interpreting humans are guiding the collective." The point is, we have entered a time in history where the policing of thoughts and words has overtaken us in a unique and disturbing way. What would Jesus do in this environment? Would he stand in support of it or against it? Would Jesus be politically correct?



(Source: Wikipedia on Political Correctness) In the early-to-mid 20th century, the phrase "politically correct" was associated with the dogmatic application of Stalinist doctrine, debated between Communist Party members and American Socialists. This usage referred to the Communist party line, which provided "correct" positions on many political matters. According to American educator

Herbert Kohl, writing about debates in New York in the late 1940's and early 1950's, the term "politically correct" was used disparagingly to refer to someone whose loyalty to the CP line overrode compassion, and led to bad politics. It was used by Socialists against Communists, and was meant to separate

out Socialists who believed in egalitarian moral ideas from dogmatic Communists who would advocate and defend party positions regardless of their moral substance



Politically correct - good start, Political Correctness is in a Decadent Phase, Steven Pinker (Harvard Professor)

• A lot of these are outgrowths of movements that originally were completely legitimate. Mainly, back when I was a child, even a teenager, it was perfectly acceptable to tell ethnic jokes. You could hear them on the radio - your Polish jokes, for example. Before my time, but I guess when I was a child, African Americans were excluded from campuses, women were the butt of sexual insults and jokes when they did step foot on a campus like MIT, and there was



a legitimate movement to remove these kinds of crude barriers to full participation of stigmatized groups. Gay people as well, those of us who are above the age of 50 can remember "limp wrist" jokes and lisping imitations of gay people, and so on. There was some increase in decency that made those kinds of demeaning remarks and discriminatory policies...

There was a movement to remove basic barriers to participation for certain groups - this is appropriate. We agree with changing society's obvious wrongs. But after standing up for something and making progress, what is next? When does it get to a point where it goes over an edge?

Fascism: (Excerpts from Wikipedia) - a form of authoritarian nationalism that came to prominence in early 20th century Europe. Opposed to liberalism, Marxism and anarchism, fascism is usually placed on the far right within the traditional left-right spectrum. Liberal democracy is obsolete. A totalitarian one-party state led by a dictator is necessary.

Marxism: (Excerpts from Yahoo Answers) - Marxism is essentially a theory of history, which holds that economic circumstances are the root of political and cultural events. The mode of production is what forms society - so the capitalistic mode of production creates a hierarchical class-based society. In Marxism, history proceeds in a set course from feudalism to capitalism to socialism. Marx was not the founder or inventor of Communism. Marx theorized that in an ideal state there would be no fixed jobs.

(Source: Excerpts from factmyth.com, "The Origin of Politically Correct" - posted by Thomas DeMichele on August 18, 2016) Political correctness, in its perfect balance, looks like civil rights and feminism, but in an extreme, can look a lot like either Fascism or Marxism (likewise, a lack of correctness can look like the American south circa the 1850's). The far-right politicians, who are usually the ones who speak about "tolerance as intolerance," tend to ignore the Fascist part as their goals are typically anti-left. They focus on being anti-Marxist. Likewise, the Marxists preach peace and love and focus on the Fascists. Meanwhile, those who want to do nothing, typically ignore the dangers of a more laissez-faire style. The reason we tend to focus on the socialism inspired dark side of PC is because it is well-intentioned and thus more difficult to see coming. Marxism doesn't mesh well with American values and often doesn't work very well in practice in large societies without mutating into a more authoritarian form of government, but its underlying intention is virtuous, while the argument against is often rooted in the vice of intolerance.

In its perfect balance, political correctness can do good things but it is a sensitive and easily-manipulated idea.



• Most people agree that we need to improve our economic system somehow. Yet, we are also often keen to dismiss the ideas of capitalism's most famous and ambitious critic, Karl Marx. This isn't very surprising. In practice, his political and economic ideas have been used to design disastrously planned economies and nasty dictatorships. Nevertheless, we shouldn't reject Marx too quickly. We ought to see him as a guide whose diagnoses of capitalism's ills helps us to navigate towards a more promising future. Capitalism is going to have to be reformed, and Marx's analyses are going to be part of any answer.



- Marxism says:
 - 1. Modern work is alienating people are alienated from what they are good at.
 - 2. Modern work is insecure.
 - 3. Workers get little; capitalists get rich.
 - 4. Capitalism is unstable few need to work so we should have more leisure.
 - 5. Capitalism is bad for Capitalists. Marriage is an extension of business. (Marx was anti-marriage.)

Was Jesus politically correct about children?

Jesus did not say too much about raising children, though he did comment on some of the great inherent values children bring to us.

Jesus and children

<u>Proverbs 22:6</u>: (NASB) Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Give your child clear-cut guidance, missing from most parenting today.



- Our top story tonight, teachers at Carlos Rey Elementary School are in a tough situation. They were told by their Assistant Principle to stop calling their students "boys" and "girls."
- It seems that school administrators decided to take the new transgender bathroom policy for APS a step further. This is the first example that we are seeing of something that started as a bathroom issue, now expanding into daily life in the classroom. So, we took the new policy to people on both sides of the issue tonight.
- Here's the letter sent to teachers at Carlos Rey Elementary this month. It's titled, "Gender Identity Procedural Directive." It basically says, starting this month, teachers can no longer refer to their students as "boys" and "girls," telling them to eliminate gender in their classrooms. As you can imagine, it incites a passionate reaction from both sides.

Giving a child a choice by suggesting gender identification is not teaching them. This allows a 5-year old to create a destiny.



(Source: Excerpts from thesun.co.uk, June 9, 2016, by Jasper Hamill) TRIGGER WARNING: Meet 'Generation Snowflake' - the hysterical young women who can't cope with being offended. Claire Fox, head of a think tank called the Institute of Ideas, has penned a coruscating critique of "Generation Snowflake," the name given to a growing group of youngsters who "believe it's their right to be protected from anything they might find unpalatable." She said British and American universities are dominated by cabals of young women who are dead set on banning anything they find remotely offensive. "It makes me sad that these teens and 20-somethings have become so fearful that they believe a dissenting opinion can pose such a serious threat," Fox wrote in an article for Mail Online. This



hyper-sensitivity has prompted the University of East Anglia to outlaw sombreros in a Mexican restaurant and caused the National Union of Student to ban clapping as "it might trigger trauma," asking youngsters to use "jazz hands" instead...

Clapping makes a noise that could trigger a memory for an individual who was not previously clapped for.

The value of children:

Matthew 18:1-6: (NASB) ¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus and said, who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven? ²And he called a child to himself and set him before them, ³and said, Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

Jesus told us to be teachable, trusting, humble, willing and wanting to grow up. That is what is represented by a child back in biblical days. Today's children are brainwashed from a young age to be able to do and think what they want without the benefit of firm, clear guidance.

⁴Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵And whoever receives one such child in my name receives me;

Not only should we be teachable and always growing up, we must embrace others doing the same.

Today we say children should be able to make their own decisions, regardless of their immaturity. Households are run based on how the children feel. This is not correct!

⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble, it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck, and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

Our spiritual life depends upon our growing up! Jesus saw a depth of teachability and trusting in children that he wanted to see in the adults who would be his followers. In our society, children are not like those described in the Bible.

...Books containing troublesome material are now slapped with "trigger warnings," whilst universities and student unions are declared "safe spaces" where young people should not have to encounter anything they disagree with.



Jesus' attitude towards children would not be "politically correct" in our day. He saw them as being taught and guided by their parents.

<u>Matthew 19:13-15</u>: (NASB) ¹³Then some children were brought to him so that he might lay his hands on them and pray; and the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴But Jesus said, Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these. ¹⁵After laying his hands on them, he departed from there.

Jesus always had time for children, because they followed him without hesitation. He used their ability to be taught as an example for us.

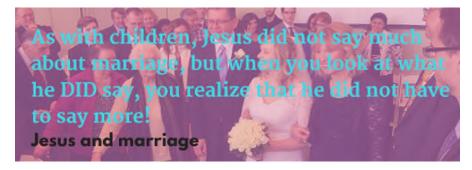


(1))Children as priceless, Political Correctness is in a Decadent Phase, Steven Pinker

• Time after time you see what starts out as an understandable and defensible and desirable moral movement just go completely overboard, having achieved its major goals. Another example, which doesn't involve political correctness but it involves another kind of madness, is our treatment of children. So, children, those of us who have read Oliver Twist sort of know how children used to be treated in the 19th century. They were put to work as coal miners, and chimney sweeps and starved in orphanages and so on. Then there was kind of a children's rights revolution where children were treated, in the words of one economist, as "economically worthless, emotionally priceless."

We look at what Jesus did, said and taught, and it is nothing near how our children are being raised today.

How would Jesus fit in to today's politically correct view of marriage?



<u>Matthew 19:3-9</u>: (NASB) ³Some Pharisees came to Jesus, testing him and asking, is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any reason at all?

This question was likely provoked by the Pharisees' own internal debate on the matter that had been going on for decades. Political correctness wants to label us and put us on sides, and Jesus was not going to play that game.

Phase, Steven Pinker



• But often movements kind of reach their decadent phase. Where having achieved the majority of their goals, having picked the low-hanging fruit, they don't go out of business, but they need to find increasingly obscure grievances and causes to retain their moral franchise. And I suspect that's what happened to what we now call "political correctness," many aspects of which, when in their moderate form, were completely reasonable.

A movement gets to a point where the initial victory is won, but then the envelope is pushed further and further. Here is an example:

(Source: Excerpt from thesun.co.uk, by Rachel Dale, January 7, 2017) "I'M FOUR MONTHS PREGNANT," A British man, 20, will be the first to give birth thanks to a sperm donor he found on Facebook. Hayden Cross plans to have a baby before returning to complete the transition process, which will remove his breasts and ovaries. The former Asda worker, born a girl 20 years ago, is legally male and has begun hormone treatment. But he put his transition on hold to have a baby with donor sperm. Hayden, who lives in Gloucester and is four months pregnant, said, "I want the baby to have the best. I'll be the greatest dad."

Has political correctness gone too far? Are we supposed to look at this as beautiful? Must this be accepted?

Jesus' direct and pointed answer to a question about how to end a marriage:

⁴And he answered and said, have you not read that He who created them from the beginning made them male and female, ⁵and said, for this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh? ⁶So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.

God made mankind male and female. Jesus was politically incorrect in quoting such a Scripture from Genesis. But what about divorce? Jesus does not directly answer the question; rather, he says, "Why do you even ask? The whole idea is to be joined together for life. You should not be thinking about how to get out of it. Be thinking about how to stay *in* it! Stay married! It is a sacred covenant." That is not politically correct. Today if I do not feel like staying in my marriage, I simply do not.

Hayden told The Sun on Sunday, "I faced the prospect of not becoming the man I am supposed to be, physically, or a dad, so I didn't feel like I had any choice but to have a baby now then get back to transitioning. I want a kid now, then it's back to transition. In September I got pregnant by a sperm donation."

But getting pregnant was her choice. We have corrupted the sacredness of the family.

The Pharisees obviously do not get the point and ask again - Jesus MUST be labeled:

⁷They said to him, why then did Moses command to give her a certificate of divorce and send her away? ⁸He said to them, Because of your hardness of heart Moses permitted you to divorce



your wives; but from the beginning it has not been this way. ⁹And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery.

Jesus answers and again stresses that it is all about *keeping* the promise you made. Divorce was not supposed to exist. God allowed it because their hearts were hard. This viewpoint of keeping your promise is no longer politically correct. "If I don't feel like it, I shouldn't have to. Further, you shouldn't be telling me what I can and can't do."



Yet Hayden admits he now feels uncomfortable carrying a child and struggles with the physical changes... "I was finally starting to become myself and become a man physically - but now my body is going in the opposite direction. It makes me angry that I've been put through this. Carrying a baby is meant to be a happy time, but in my body, it feels wrong. I just couldn't face being years down the line and still waiting to transition so that I can have a kid. I wanted the kid now so that I can have the transition before I get old."

Now she is accusing others for her dilemma...? Political correctness takes away personal responsibility. Political correctness is not in line with scriptural principles, because it is about feelings and not how life actually works.



So, that's our new understanding of children as opposed to economic resources to be exploited. That led to a lot of great reforms - child labor laws, compulsory education and child welfare agencies. It led to a reduction of



corporal punishment of children, of spanking. It led to a great attention to children's safety, like car seats and not exposing kids to second-hand smoke and playground equipment that led to fractured skulls. But now we've gotten to the point, as any parent knows, and as any grown-up child knows, where parents won't let children out of their sight, where kids can't walk to school, where they can't play by themselves in the playground out of fear they might fall, or get insulted, or get abducted by sex perverts, all of it totally out of proportion to any assessment of the objective risks, but the hyper-parenting movement is an example of a progressive trend that just went too far.

We protect our children to such a degree that we do not expose them to failure or things they do not like. We go along with how they feel. They are not shown how to cope.

We are certainly NOT to be anywhere near "politically correct" regarding marriage:

Colossians 3:18-20: (NASB) ¹⁸Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹Husbands, love your wives and do not be embittered against them. ²⁰Children, be obedient to your parents in all things, for this is well-pleasing to the Lord.

We want to be scripturally and spiritually correct so we can build families who honor God and are productive in society.

We have gone so far over the edge that it is hard to imagine how it could be repaired in this present, evil world.



(This is meant sarcastically.) Based on facts, Save the Snowflakes, Media Research Center TV

- It happens all around you and you may not even notice.
- Thousands of Snowflakes have found themselves personally victimized by the recent election of Donald Trump as President of the United States.
- They continue to be emotionally damaged by the idea that the country may be run by someone that they didn't vote for.
- Campuses across America are doing everything they can do to help put an end to this devastating human crises. Cornell recently hosted a cry-in where Snowflakes could drink hot chocolate and come to terms with the unspeakable tragedy of not getting their way.
- The University of Pennsylvania offered puppies and kittens for Snowflakes.
- The University of Michigan Law School scheduled a post-election self-care workshop where Snowflakes could color and blow bubbles.
- Other colleges and universities even canceled classes and final exams for Snowflakes when the emotional damage was just too crippling.





A caller from Milwaukee, Wisconsin suggests: I wanted to call and say how much I appreciate the topic. In a very politically-charged environmental right now, it is hard to be in the world and not of it. I especially appreciate the logical and scriptural-based arguments you are presenting. It is a challenge. It is hard to find the balance at work between not participating in a conversation and showing your disagreement that way vs. speaking out and really standing for the truth.

We do not have to change society, but we can stand for something higher.

Was Jesus a Marxist? Marxism has the idea of a Utopian world revolving around equality and not having possessions. These points sound a lot like Jesus. He wanted people treated equally and was not materialistic.

Marxism truly does paint a very utopian picture of the world - it revolves around equality and not having "things" and these points do sound somewhat like Jesus.

Jesus taught and stood for very specific principles, and those principles were most often misunderstood – then and now.

Jesus and social tolerance



Matthew 19:16-22: (NASB) ¹⁶And someone came to him and said, Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may obtain eternal life? ¹⁷And he said to him, why are you asking me about what is good? There is only One who is good; but if you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments.

For the Jew, following the Law's commandments was the pathway to life. But it also would lead someone to Jesus, because he was the Messiah, the fulfillment of the Law.

¹⁸Then he said to him, which ones? And Jesus said, you shall not commit murder; you shall not commit adultery; you shall not steal; you shall not bear false witness; ¹⁹honor your father and mother; and you shall love your neighbor as yourself. ²⁰The young man said to him, all these things I have kept; what am I still lacking? ²¹Jesus said to him, if you wish to be complete, go and sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me. (Sounds very "Marxist!") ²²But when the young man heard this statement, he went away grieving; for he was one who owned much property.

Following him meant not being attached to the things left behind. This is a spiritual concept, not a Marxist one.

In the book, 1984, or in any Marxist society, this young man talking to Jesus would have had to be "re-educated." (That re-education took place in a torture camp that forced you to no longer want your possessions, done for the good of society.)

The following audio clip was from a 1984 interview with a former KGB agent who defected to America in 1970. He is explaining the "mind control" tactics the KGB would use to subvert nations, which often started with planting the seeds of Marxism, establishing a strong following to subvert the people. He now speaks of what would happen next to the people once they downsized and became more equal.



• It's the same pattern everywhere. The moment they serve their purpose, all the "useful idiots" are either executed entirely (all the idealistically-minded Marxists) or exiled, or put in prisons like in Cuba - many former Marxists are in prison. Most of the idiots who were cooperating with the Soviets, especially the Department of Information of the USSR Embassy, were listed for execution. And when I discovered that fact, of course I was sick, I was mentally and physically sick.

This is why he defected. He saw mass executions of those who thought they were standing for some great ideal, but they were just political pawns, "useful idiots."

Jesus' teachings rose well above the fray, as he lived his own teaching of truly loving your enemies:

<u>Matthew 5:43-45</u>: (NASB) ⁴³You have heard that it was said, you shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. ⁴⁴But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute



you, ⁴⁵so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.

Christianity is merciful yet honest enough to speak the truth when it needs to be spoken:

Acts 3:12-15: (NASB) ¹²But when Peter saw this, he replied to the people, Men of Israel, why are you amazed at this, or why do you gaze at us, as if by our own power or piety we had made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified His servant Jesus, the one whom you delivered and disowned in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you disowned the holy and righteous one and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵but put to death the Prince of life, the one whom God raised from the dead, a fact to which we are witnesses.

After being so incredibly blunt and politically incorrect to accuse them of their actions, what result would come of it? More shortly...

Jesus was not trying to fix the society he was in; he was trying to show them a higher way to follow him. He spoke to the Jewish people based on the Law. We should not be trying to fix our society. We should be an example to others, showing them a higher, spiritual way so that God through Jesus can fix the world for real in the next age. We need to learn how to cope with society and stand up for what we should in a way that is Christ-like.

(Source: Moneywatch, December 21, 2016) "Young adults living with their parents hits a 75-year high," Pity both parents and the American housing market: Millennials are moving back home with their folks - and they aren't moving out. Almost 40 percent of young adults



lived with their parents, step-parents, grandparents and other relatives last year, or the highest point in 75 years, according to data from real estate analytics company Trulia. The only time in U.S. history when the share has been higher was in 1940, when the U.S. economy was regaining its footing from the Great Depression and the year prior to the country's entry into World War II...The research echoes findings from the Pew Research Center earlier this year, which found that 32.1 percent of 18- to 34-year-olds lived at their parents' homes in 2014, exceeding the 31.6 percent of young adults who were married or living with a partner in their own household. That marked a tipping point for the first time in modern history, since the norm for decades was for young adults to push out on their own after high school or college.

We have lost our ability to say, "I am going to just go make it work."

What about politics? Did Jesus get involved? Was he politically correct?

Continuing the last text:

Acts 4:1-4: (NASB) ¹As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to them, ²being greatly disturbed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. ³And they laid hands on them and put them in jail until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who had heard the message believed; and the number of the men came to be about five thousand.

The result of Peter not being politically correct was he got thrown in jail...but people converted by the thousands! Why? Peter was bold enough to tell the truth. We must be bold enough to speak the truth.





Christianity then focuses us on honesty and accountability and provides forgiveness for our wrongdoings. Christianity is focused on bringing one person at a time to see their own lives, not to try to change society. In this world of political correctness gone haywire, we should not pool our resources and try to fight it. We should stand the way Jesus stood. He showed his followers a better way.

Marxism failed because the leaders were greedy and could not apply noble principles for the benefit of the people. Jesus does not have that shortcoming.



"Those who make conversations impossible, make escalation inevitable." — Stefan Molyneux

If we do not make an environment where we can talk to one another, the situation will escalate. *Please see our episode*, "How Much Should Christians Compromise?" from January 9, 2017, for more on this concept.

<u>Luke 20:19-26</u>: (NASB) ¹⁹The scribes and the chief priests tried to lay hands on him that very hour, and they feared the people; for they understood that he spoke this parable against them. ²⁰So they watched him, and sent spies who pretended to be righteous, in order that they might catch him in some statement, so that they could deliver him to the rule and the authority of the governor.

This sounds like the 1984 book's "Thought Police" or any random present day politically correct approach. Clearly they needed to get rid of Jesus! He was offending people!

²¹They questioned him, saying, Teacher, we know that you speak and teach correctly, and you are not partial to any, but teach the way of God in truth. ²²Is it lawful for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not? ²³But he detected their trickery and said to them, ²⁴Show me a denarius. Whose likeness and inscription does it have? They said, Caesar's. ²⁵And he said to them, then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's. ²⁶And they were unable to catch him in a saying in the presence of the people; and being amazed at his answer, they became silent.

They never expected that answer from Jesus. He delved into the laws and politics of the day - should I be paying these taxes to Caesar? Sure, give him the money due. God wants your hearts, mind, soul and strength.

Jesus never hinted at insurrection and always taught to be cooperative and to rise to even higher standards than were expected. For Jesus, it was always all about godliness.



There is danger in falling into traps of certain ways of thinking. We are talking about drawing people in with good principles, drawing them in and then dominating them by ruling over them with an iron fist. Joseph Stalin was a great political example of this.

Unfortunately, the Papal system was a great example of this as well. They drew masses of people in through Christianity, set rules and created the vision of hell-fire to scare the people if they stepped out of line. With that fear in place, you now control them. This is a misuse of something good for the purpose of power.

We are in this world but are not of it. Do not try to change the world; stand above the fray. This is what Jesus did.

Back to religious politics:

Mark 12:28-31: (NASB) ²⁸One of the scribes came and heard them arguing, and recognizing that he had answered them well, asked him, what commandment is the foremost of all? ²⁹Jesus answered, the foremost is, hear, O Israel! The LORD our God is one LORD; ³⁰and you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. ³¹The second is this, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.

They tried to argue Jesus into a corner. Whatever commandment he would pick, they intended on arguing against it. Jesus did not hesitate about which was the greatest commandment - a combination of two, but in his description he described all of them. (If you kept perfectly the first two, all of the rest automatically followed.) Brilliant!

Jesus was about loving ALL, but always in the context of loving God first, because the true God is love. Today we see the complete disassembly of these two factors. Some religions love their God and hate the people who do not agree. Others, while denying God, proclaim to love the people though they have disdain for those who do not agree with them. Jesus never did that. He lived his life in sacrifice for both his friends and enemies.



• The influence of Marxist/Leninist ideas in the United States is absolutely fantastic. I could never believe it 14 years ago when I landed in this part of the world that the process would go that fast. The next stage, of course, is crisis. It may take only up to six weeks to bring a country to the verge of crisis. You can see it in Central America now. And after crisis, with a violent change of power, structure and economy, you have the period of so-called "normalization." It may last indefinitely. Normalization is a cynical expression borrowed from Soviet propaganda. When the Soviet tanks moved into Czechoslovakia in '68, Comrade Brezhnev said, "Now the situation in brotherly Czechoslovakia is normalized." This is what will happen in [the] United States if you allow all these schmucks to bring the country to crisis. To promise people all kinds of goodies and the paradise on earth, to destabilize your economy, to eliminate the principle of free market competition, and to



put a Big Brother government in Washington, D.C. with benevolent dictators like Walter Mondale, who will promise lots of things.

You bring in a benevolent dictator when "normalization" takes place, which is anything but normal. Society is vulnerable when we do not think through things logically and maturely. Political correctness is based on feelings and a protective bubble we build for ourselves because we do not want to feel any kind of offensive feelings.

In one sentence, Jesus clearly describes his "political" views in our theme text:

<u>John 18:36</u>: (NASB) Jesus answered, my kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, then my servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, my kingdom is not of this realm.

His kingdom does not belong within the context of the kingdoms of this world. His is a replacement kingdom. If you replace something, you are not trying to fix the old broken thing; you remove it and replace it with something with far more lasting value.

How do we frame the expression of our Christianity in this politically correct environment?



Go back to the original "good news" of the Gospel and apply its principles to your life. We should not try to change the world around us, as it is being torn down to be replaced with God's kingdom. But we should be a witness to the individuals around us of a higher, better way.

We can easily fall into creating a politically correct Christian environment.

(Source: Investigative Reporter @AGockowski on Sep 26, 2016) An RA at the University of Kansas was advised against incorporating an image of a gorilla into a jungle-themed floor decoration because the animal apparently represents "a very masculine image." Assistant Complex Director Dale Morrow also noted that there are "stereotypes that surround this animal," and therefore its inclusion in the display would not be "inclusive." ...





<u>Matthew 5:13-16</u>: (NASB) ¹³You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.

To be the salt of the earth is to be a person of exceptional character - godly character - a person who is a living sermon to any who see them! That kind of character has a preserving effect; it keeps things intact. It is stable and selfless.

¹⁴You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; ¹⁵nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the

house. ¹⁶Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

To be the light of the world is to be a source of light and truth. Being a light means not only revealing what is in dark places, but also being a beacon of hope and direction. Rise above to be the example! Be the light, be the salt!



We can be happy and hopeful in a dark world because we know the answers. People can see our calm attitude. We may not be telling everyone directly about Jesus, but someone may at some point ask you, "Why are you so happy all of the time?" or "What do you believe, because you have such peace?"



... "Second, this animal could be triggering to some people as there are stereotypes that surround this animal," he continued, noting that all the RA would need to change "is the picture and the words." An acquaintance of the RA, who also wishes to remain anonymous, explained to Campus Reform that the gorilla was used as part of a jungle-themed decoration for a hallway and was not put up as a solitary image...

More sarcasm, Save the Snowflakes, Media Research Center TV

- Unfortunately, these efforts are not enough.
- We need your help to make sure these Snowflakes no longer have to live in fear of being offended by facts and logic, opposing points of view.
- Or triggering harmful things like proper pronouns or cultural Halloween costumes.
- Snowflakes should not have to walk around their college campus and risk hearing something they disagree with.
- Or seeing something that doesn't fit within their personal world view.
- Every dollar that you donate will go towards helping those who have been victimized by the opinions of others.
- Proceeds will be used to purchase teddy bears, coloring books and Play-Doh for campus safe spaces.
- Cardboard for homemade protest signs and counselors for Snowflakes who have been victimized by hearing things that they don't like.



...UPDATE: KU responded to Campus Reform's inquiry, saying Morrow, an assistant complex director, "does not speak for our housing department," and noting that it "seems reasonable that students would post photos of animals as part of a jungle-themed decoration."

Our bottom line regarding our role in the world:

First, focus on the building up of the body of Christ:

Ephesians 4:11-16: (NASB) ¹¹And he gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, ¹²for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; ¹³until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.

Our position in this world of political correctness needs to be focused on the body of Christ, and standing up for what is true and right.

Second, stand firmly upon the foundation of Jesus and do not fall for the emotional trickery of men:

¹⁴As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; ¹⁵but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into him who is the head, even Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

Grow up! Let us be *spiritually* correct, not politically correct. We need to be spiritually sound and spiritually mature. Be salt! Be light! We are not going to change the world around us, but we can change the minds of a few by showing them a better way. Stand above the fray. Do not let political correctness get you down, because what you stand for is ultimately stronger, more powerful and everlasting - the kingdom of God!

So, was Jesus politically correct?
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions..
Think about it...!

And now <u>even more</u> to think about... only in the Full Edition of CQ Rewind!

One more very politically incorrect teaching of Jesus:

John 6:41-69: (NASB) ⁴¹Therefore the Jews were grumbling about him, because he said, I am the bread that came down out of heaven. ⁴²They were saying, is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say; I have come down out of heaven'? ⁴³Jesus answered and said to them, do not grumble among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the prophets, and they shall all be taught of God. Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to me. ⁴⁶Not that anyone has seen the Father, except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread which comes down out of heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die.



⁵¹I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread also which I will give for the life of the world is my flesh. 52Then the Jews began to argue with one another, saying, How can this man give us his flesh to eat? 53So Jesus said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in yourselves. 54He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. ⁵⁵For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats me, he also will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread which came down out of heaven; not as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live forever. ⁵⁹These things he said in the synagogue as he taught in Capernaum. 60Therefore many of his disciples, when they heard this said, This is a difficult statement; who can listen to it? 61 But Jesus, conscious that his disciples grumbled at this, said to them, does this cause you to stumble? ⁶²What then if you see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life. ⁶⁴But there are some of you who do not believe. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he was saying, for this reason I have said to you, that no one can come to me unless it has been granted him from the Father. ⁶⁶As a result of this many of his disciples withdrew and were not walking with him anymore. ⁶⁷So Jesus said to the twelve, you do not want to go away also, do you? 68 Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have believed and have come to know that you are the Holy One of God.

(Source: Wikipedia) 1984 is set in Oceania, one of three intercontinental superstates that divided the world after a global war. Most of the plot takes place in London, the "chief city of Airstrip One," the Oceanic province that "had once been called England or Britain." Posters of the Party leader, Big Brother, bearing the caption "BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU," dominate the city, while the ubiquitous telescreen (transceiving television set) monitors the private and public lives of the populace. The class hierarchy of Oceania has three levels:

- (I) The upper-class Inner Party, the elite ruling minority, who make up 2% of the population.
- (II) The middle-class Outer Party, who make up 13% of the population.
- (III) The lower-class Proles (from proletariat), who make up 85% of the population and represent the uneducated working class.

As the government, the Party controls the population with four ministries:

The Ministry of Peace deals with war and defense.

The Ministry of Plenty deals with economic affairs (rationing and starvation).

The Ministry of Love deals with law and order (torture and brainwashing).

The Ministry of Truth deals with news, entertainment, education and art (propaganda).

The protagonist, Winston Smith, a member of the Outer Party, works in the Records Department of the Ministry of Truth as an editor, revising historical records to make the past conform to the ever-changing party line and deleting references to unpersons, people who have been "vaporized," i.e., not only killed by the state but denied existence even in history or memory.

The story of Winston Smith begins on 4 April 1984: "It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen," yet he is uncertain of the true date, given the régime's continual rewriting and manipulation of history. Smith's memories and his reading of the proscribed book, *The Theory and Practice of Oligarchical Collectivism* by Emmanuel Goldstein, reveal that after the Second World War, the United Kingdom fell to civil war and then was absorbed into Oceania. Simultaneously, the USSR conquered mainland Europe and established the second



superstate of Eurasia. The third super state, Eastasia, comprises the regions of Eastern/Southeastern Asia. The three super states wage perpetual war for the remaining unconquered lands of the world, forming and breaking alliances as is convenient. From his childhood (1949-53), Winston remembers the Atomic Wars fought in Europe, western Russia and North America. It is unclear to him what occurred first: The Party's victory in the civil war, the US annexation of the British Empire or the war in which Colchester was bombed. Smith's strengthening memories and the story of his family's dissolution, suggest that the atomic bombings occurred first (the Smiths took refuge in a tube station), followed by civil war featuring "confused street fighting in London itself" and the societal postwar reorganization, which the Party retrospectively calls "the Revolution."

Plot:

Winston Smith is a man who lives in Airstrip One, the remnants of Britain broken down by war, civil conflict, and revolution. A member of the middle class Outer Party, Winston lives in a one-room London apartment. His sustenance consists of black bread, synthetic meals, and "Victory"-branded gin. Telescreens in every building, accompanied by secret microphones and cameras, allow the Thought Police to identify anyone who might compromise the Party's régime. Children are encouraged to inform the officials about potential thought criminals, including their parents.

Winston works at the Ministry of Truth, or "Minitrue", as an editor. He is responsible for historical revisionism; he rewrites records and alters photographs to conform to the state's ever-changing version of history itself, rendering the deleted people "unpersons"; the original documents are destroyed by fire in a "memory hole". Despite being good at his job, Winston becomes mesmerized by the true past and tries to get more information about it. In a place beside his flat's telescreen where he believes he cannot be seen, he begins writing a journal criticizing the Party and its enigmatic leader, Big Brother. By doing so, he commits a crime that, if discovered by the Thought Police, warrants certain death. Julia, a young woman who maintains the novel-writing machines at the ministry and whom Winston loathes, surreptitiously hands Winston a note confessing her love for him. Winston and Julia begin an affair after Winston realizes she shares his loathing of the Party, first meeting in the country, and eventually in a rented room at the top of an antiques shop. They believe that the shop, being located in a proletarian neighbourhood of London, is safe, as the room has no telescreen.

Weeks later, Winston is approached by O'Brien, an Inner Party member whom Winston believes is an agent of the Brotherhood—a secret underground society that intends to destroy the Party. They arrange a meeting at O'Brien's flat where both Winston and Julia swear allegiance to the Brotherhood. A week later, O'Brien clandestinely sends Winston a copy of "The Book", *The Theory and Practice of Oligarchical Collectivism* by Emmanuel Goldstein, the publicly reviled leader of the Brotherhood. The Book explains the concept of perpetual war, the true meanings of the slogans "War is peace", "Freedom is slavery", and "Ignorance is strength", and how the Party can be overthrown through means of the political awareness of the proles (proletarians).

In a surprising turn, the Thought Police capture Winston along with Julia in their rented room. The two are then delivered to the Ministry of Love (Miniluv) for interrogation. Mr. Charrington, the shopkeeper who rented the room to them, reveals himself as a Thought Police agent. O'Brien is also an agent of the Thought Police. He is part of a special sting operation used by the police to find and arrest suspected thought criminals. O'Brien interrogates and tortures Winston with electroshock, telling him that Winston can "cure" himself of his "insanity"—his manifest hatred for the Party—through controlled manipulation of perception. Winston confesses to crimes that O'Brien tells him to say that he has committed, but O'Brien understands that Winston has not betrayed Julia. O'Brien sends him to Room 101 for the final stage of re-education, a room which contains each prisoner's worst nightmare. Winston shouts "Do it to Julia!" as a wire cage holding hungry rats is fitted onto his face, thus betraying her.



After being put back into society, Winston meets Julia in a park. She admits that she was also tortured, and both reveal betraying the other. Later, Winston sits alone in the Chestnut Tree Cafe, troubled by memories which he is sure are lies. A raucous celebration begins outside, celebrating Oceania's "decisive victory" over Eurasian armies in Africa, and Winston imagines himself as a part of the crowd. Winston feels he has at last ended his "stubborn, self-willed exile" from the love of Big Brother—a love Winston returns quite happily as he looks up in admiration at a portrait of Big Brother.

(Source: thesun.co.uk, by Jasper Hamill, June 9, 2016) TRIGGER WARNING Meet 'Generation Snowflake' - the hysterical young women who can't cope with being offended

British thinktank boss says mollycoddled kids are breaking down in tears when asked to deal with controversial ideas.

A top British thinker has claimed young women are in the grip of a "hysteria" which has made them unable to cope with being offended.

Claire Fox, head of a thinktank called the Institute of Ideas, has penned a coruscating critique of "Generation Snowflake", the name given to a growing group of youngsters who "believe it's their right to be protected from anything they might find unpalatable".

She said British and American universities are dominated by cabals of young women who are dead set on banning anything they find remotely offensive.

"It makes me sad that these teens and 20-somethings have become so fearful that they believe a dissenting opinion can pose such a serious threat," Fox wrote in an article for Mail Online.

This hyper-sensitivity has prompted the University of East Anglia to outlaw sombreros in a Mexican restaurant and caused the National Union of Student to ban clapping as "it might trigger trauma", asking youngsters to use "jazz hands" instead.

Books containing troublesome material are now slapped with "trigger warnings", whilst universities and student unions are declared "safe spaces" where young people should not have to encounter anything they disagree with.

Fox described astonishing scenes at an event set up to discuss whether the public outcry against footballer Ched Evans was "social justice or mob rule".

The academic said her mostly female audience broke down in tears after she "dared suggest (as eminent feminists have before me) that rape wasn't necessarily the worst thing a woman could experience".

Fox added: "I expected robust discussion - not for them all to dissolve into outraged gasps of, 'You can't say that!'

"Their reaction shocked me. I take no pleasure in making teenagers cry, but it also brought home the contrast to previous generations of young people, who would have relished the chance to argue back.

"It illustrated this generation's almost belligerent sense of entitlement. They assume their emotional suffering takes precedence. Express a view they disagree with and you must immediately recant and apologise."

Generation Snowflake has also created a social minefield for young boys and men, who risk being labelled "sex pests" for twanging a girl's bra at school, Fox continued.

She said women were opting to stay at home and socialise on the internet due to overblown fears about predatory men.



"There is a strand of self-absorption and fragility running through this generation; all too ready to cry 'victim' at the first hint of a situation they don't like," Fox concluded.

"We need a younger generation that's prepared to grow a backbone, go out into the world, take risks and make difficult decisions. Otherwise the future doesn't bode well for any of us."

Claire Fox has penned a book about Generation Snowflake which is called I Find That Offensive and was published by Biteback in May.

(Source: Moneywatch, December 21, 2016) "Young adults living with their parents hits a 75-year high" Pity both parents and the American housing market: Millennials are moving back home with their folks - and they aren't moving out. Almost 40 percent of young adults lived with their parents, step-parents, grandparents and other relatives last year, or the highest point in 75 years, according to data from real estate analytics company Trulia. The only time in U.S. history when the share has been higher was in 1940, when the U.S. economy was regaining its footing from the Great Depression and the year prior to the country's entry into World War II.

How can young adults transition back to living with their parents? The number of millennials who fail to leave the nest has been climbing for the past 10 years, with the trend starting shortly before the Great Recession of 2008 but accelerating during the downturn and the recovery. The phenomenon is tied to a few factors, ranging from society shifts to economic headwinds. For one, Americans are delaying marriage and starting families. But the bigger issue may be the triple whammy of low wages, student debt and rapidly escalating rents.

"Even though unemployment rates have decreased and the economy is picking up, we know wages are stagnant, so this will impact this generation of homebuyers," making it more challenging to save for a down payment, said Cheryl Young, senior economist at Trulia. "The millennials are getting married later and having fewer children, and that's particular to this generation."

The research echoes findings from the Pew Research Center earlier this year, which found that 32.1 percent of 18- to 34-year-olds lived at their parents' homes in 2014, exceeding the 31.6 percent of young adults who were married or living with a partner in their own household. That marked a tipping point for the first time in modern history, since the norm for decades was for young adults to push out on their own after high school or college.

The last decade hasn't been kind to America's youngest generation of adults. They came of age just as the economy fell into a recession, which caused higher unemployment rates and tighter credit markets. While it was tougher to qualify for a mortgage following the recession, millennials were also taking on increasing amounts of student debt. The typical undergraduate student borrower had \$30,100 in student loan debt in 2016, a surge of 53 percent in just one decade, according to the Institute of College Access and Success.

Since the recession, housing prices have regained their footing. Rents have skyrocketed, thanks to the confluence of higher housing prices and the increased demand for rental apartments.

"For most people who take the traditional trajectory, you might rent, then you are ready to buy a home," Young said. "But if people are living with relatives, it means they aren't even able to rent. The rental prices are very high in some urban areas, and those are barriers for people to move out."

Millennials are also earning less than Generation X took home at the same age, according to Pew. Millennial households in 2014 earned median income of \$61,003, compared with an inflation-adjusted \$63,365 for Gen Xers in 1998.

That's created a perfect storm for parents and the real estate market: Homeownership rates for Americans in their 20s and 30s have plummeted, according to Harvard's Joint Center for Housing Studies. It's likely the impact will only worsen in the next few years since some young



graduates have deferred their loan repayments, and those grace periods are coming to an end, the report predicted.

Slightly more than 35 percent of Americans under the age of 35 own their own homes, a decline of 8 percentage points from 2004, Pew found in a study published earlier this month. The decline was sharpest for lower-income Americans, as well as people who are unmarried.

Still, Young notes that many millennials are buying homes. Because their generation is currently the largest among all age groups, millennials still make up the biggest share of first-time home buyers, even after accounting for the living-at-home trend. One challenge for first-time home buyers is the lack of starter homes, or lower-priced homes that tend to attract first-time home buyers, Young noted.

The living-at-home trend has been closely watched by the real estate industry because the formation of new households -- when young adults rent their own apartments or buy their own homes -- is part of the engine that drives the housing market. It also helps boost the economy as a whole, given that those new householders need to buy everything from furniture to kitchenware.

Baby boomers may feel a culture gap when their adult kids move back home. After all, when they came of age in the 1970s, only about 25 percent of their cohort lived at home, or close to the lowest share since 1940.