

June 28, 2015

Roger Simon points out most of the racism in the country comes from the Democrat party and the left.

Ninety percent of the racism in America today comes from the Democratic Party and the Left. They live off it and exploit it. It is unconscionable to the degree they do this, ruining the lives and futures of the very people they say they are helping in the process.

I am uniquely positioned to say this because I spent most of my life on the Left and was a civil rights worker in the South in my early twenties. I was also, to my everlasting regret, a donor to the Black Panther Party in the seventies.

So I have seen this personally from both sides and my conclusion is inescapable. The Left is far, far worse. They are obsessed with race in a manner that does not allow them to see straight. Further, they project racism onto others continually, exacerbating situations, which in most instances weren't even there in the first place. From Al Sharpton to Hillary Clinton, they all do it.

Barack Obama is one of the worst offenders in this regard. Recently, in reaction to the horrid actions of the deranged, but solitary racist Dylann Roof, the president claimed racism is in our DNA.

How could he possibly utter such nonsense and who was he talking about? ...

Seth Mandel thinks a perfect illustration of Simon's above point is the left's treatment of Bobby Jindal.

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The mockery in question wasn't because Jindal, the governor of Louisiana, is a mere footnote in the polls. Nor was the mockery about Jindal's seriousness as a political figure.

Rather, the mockery consisted of explicit racism. And the story was odd not because of the existence of the tweets (welcome to the Internet, governor!) but because it was a positive story, with the Beeb openly praising the bigotry.

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... Even though Jindal was born in the United States, they won't allow him to simply be "American." They refuse to let him identify by his country of birth, instead forcing him to identify by the birth country of his parents.

It's bitter, and it's bigoted, and it's extraordinarily unseemly. But it's also enlightening, telling us what leftists really think about the American melting pot: They don't like it one bit.

Kevin Williamson has more on the left's Jindal jive.

Governor Bobby Jindal of Louisiana is, we are informed by all the best people, insufficiently ethnic. Governor Jindal, born in Baton Rouge, is Punjabi in the sense that your average Philadelphian with a surname ending in a vowel is Italian: ancestrally, trivially. Governor Jindal's speech, culture, mannerisms, politics, religion, habits, and affect are as far removed from Chandigarh, the north Indian city where his parents met, as they are from Bogota or Stuttgart. The governor insistently rejects the tossed salad model in favor of the melting pot: an American is an American is an American, in his view.

For his political conservatism Governor Jindal, like Governor Nikki Haley of South Carolina and conservative activist Dinesh D'Souza, also Republicans of Indian origin, is savaged as an Uncle Tamas — an Indian guilty of acting white. The charge has been led by The New Republic, the former political journal turned vanity press owned by Facebook millionaire Chris Hughes, one of the whitest white men in the history of whiteness, an argyle sock of a man. One cannot delegate ethnic-purity policing to the likes of Elspeth Reeve or Gabriel Snyder, but Jeet Heer was, blessedly, ready for duty. Heer is a Canadian of Indian background. He is an expert on comic books.

His analysis is appropriately cartoonish. He argues that the Indian-Americans in his crosshairs — D'Souza especially — are racists, and adds: "Anti-black racism, I've often thought, is one of the more unwholesome manifestations of assimilation." One wonders if he has ever been to India, where anti-black racism is quite common: Africans traveling in India or living there routinely are denied accommodations in hotels; the culture minister of the state of Goa recently described Nigerians (about 50,000 of whom live in India) as a "cancer," and they are habitually blamed for India's illegal drug trade. (Here is a sign reading: "No to Nigerians, No to drugs.") There has been talk of mass expulsion. ...

Mona Charen says we shouldn't be surprised. The Dems have a long record of racism.

Here's what the former president of the United States had to say when he eulogized his mentor, an Arkansas senator:

"We come to celebrate and give thanks for the remarkable life of J. William Fulbright, a life that changed our country and our world forever and for the better. ... In the work he did, the words he spoke and the life he lived, Bill Fulbright stood against the 20th century's most destructive forces and fought to advance its brightest hopes."

*So spoke President William J. Clinton in 1995 of a man who was among the 99 Democrats in Congress to sign the "Southern Manifesto" in 1956. (Two Republicans also signed it.) The Southern Manifesto declared the signatories' opposition to the Supreme Court's decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* and their commitment to segregation forever. Fulbright was also among those who filibustered the Civil Rights Act of 1964. That filibuster continued for 83 days.*

Speaking of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, let's review (since they don't teach this in schools): The percentage of House Democrats who supported the legislation? 61 percent. House Republicans? 80 percent. In the Senate, 69 percent of Democrats voted yes, compared with 82 percent of Republicans. ...

A good example of Democrat racism is Woodrow Wilson. Randy Barnett says we should start removing his name from places of honor.

... Born in Virginia and raised in Georgia and South Carolina, Wilson was a loyal son of the old South who regretted the outcome of the Civil War. He used his high office to reverse some of its consequences. When he entered the White House a hundred years ago today, Washington was a rigidly segregated town — except for federal government agencies. They had been integrated during the post-war Reconstruction period, enabling African-Americans to obtain federal jobs and work side by side with whites in government agencies. Wilson promptly authorized members of his cabinet to reverse this long-standing policy of racial integration in the federal civil service.

Cabinet heads — such as his son-in-law, Secretary of the Treasury William McAdoo of Tennessee — re-segregated facilities such as restrooms and cafeterias in their buildings. In some federal offices, screens were set up to separate white and black workers. African-Americans found it difficult to secure high-level civil service positions, which some had held under previous Republican administrations.

A delegation of black professionals led by Monroe Trotter, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Harvard and Boston newspaper editor, appeared at the White House to protest the new policies. But Wilson treated them rudely and declared that "segregation is not a humiliation but a benefit, and ought to be so regarded by you gentlemen."

The novel "The Clansman" by Thomas Dixon — a longtime political supporter, friend and former classmate of Wilson's at Johns Hopkins University — was published in 1905. A decade later, with Wilson in the White House, cinematographer D.W. Griffith produced a motion picture version of the book, titled "Birth of a Nation."

With quotations from Wilson's scholarly writings in its subtitles, the silent film denounced the Reconstruction period in the South when blacks briefly held elective office in several states. It hailed the rise of the Ku Klux Klan as a sign of southern white society's recovery from the humiliation and suffering to which the federal government and the northern "carpetbaggers" had subjected it after its defeat in the Civil War. The film depicted African-Americans (most played by white actors in blackface) as uncouth, uncivilized rabble. ...

Roger L. Simon

90% of the Racism in America Comes from the Democratic Party and the Left

My conclusion is inescapable. Here's why...

Ninety percent of the racism in America today comes from the Democratic Party and the Left. They live off it and exploit it. It is unconscionable to the degree they do this, ruining the lives and futures of the very people they say they are helping in the process.

I am uniquely positioned to say this because I spent most of my life on the Left and was a civil rights worker in the South in my early twenties. I was also, to my everlasting regret, a donor to the Black Panther Party in the seventies.

So I have seen this personally from both sides and my conclusion is inescapable. The Left is far, far worse. They are obsessed with race in a manner that does not allow them to see straight. Further, they project racism onto others continually, exacerbating situations, which in most instances weren't even there in the first place. From Al Sharpton to Hillary Clinton, they all do it.

Barack Obama is one of the worst offenders in this regard. Recently, in reaction to the horrid actions of the deranged, but solitary racist Dylann Roof, the president claimed racism is in our DNA.

How could he possibly utter such nonsense and who was he talking about? The majority of Americans are from families that came to this country *after* slavery existed. Many of those were escaping oppression of their own. In my case my family was fleeing the pogroms of Eastern Europe. Many of the members of my family who stayed behind ended up gassed in Auschwitz or exterminated in Treblinka.

Is Obama telling me that racism is in *my* DNA? What a wretched and insulting statement. If he means that, he should tell it to me face-to-face.

If he does, I will tell him what I think. The racial situation in this country has gotten decidedly worse since he took office. And he is a great deal to blame. Ever since the beer summit it was obvious he was disingenuous and harmful on the subject of race, seeking to stir the pot when it was actually empty or nearly. His claim that if he had had a son he would look like Trayvon Martin was ridiculous and self-serving in the extreme. Barack Obama is a product of the fanciest private school in Hawaii and his children go to Sidwell Friends, the fanciest school in D. C. He takes vacations on Oahu and his wife parties in Switzerland. He had as much in common with Trayvon as I do with the queen of Spain.

And speaking of foreign lands, I've spent time abroad and speak Spanish and French and if Mr. Obama thinks the U.S. is a racist country, he ought to do a little bit of traveling not on Air Force One. Try sitting at a French dinner table for twenty minutes and listening to the casual conversation if you think America is racist.

The truth is the USA is remarkably un-racist for a country its size. We weren't always that way, obviously, but we walked the walk and we are now. Or were. The Democrat Party and its assorted media hacks are trying to take us backwards. They suffer from nostalgia for racism for the glorious days when they could assert their moral superiority. Sorry, those days are over. The only way to stop remaining racism is to stop it, not talk about it, impute racism to people

who don't have it and generally do everything possible to divide the American people from themselves.

And, Democrats, above all if you care about black people, stop it. All you're doing is making their lives worse.

NY Post

[Why liberal racists are attacking Bobby Jindal](#)

by Seth Mandel



Early Thursday, an odd story went up on the BBC's website: "Bobby Jindal presidential bid sparks Twitter mockery."

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The Washington Post caused a bit of a stir earlier this week with a story on Jindal that featured a (white) American college professor declaring, "There's not much Indian left in Bobby Jindal."

What are all these liberals so bothered by? It's passages like this, from Jindal's recent comments: "We're not hyphenated Americans anymore."

Jindal's argument is clear: Your ethnic or religious heritage doesn't make you any less fully American. You don't need a qualifier just because your parents or grandparents were born elsewhere. This is America, after all.

For the left, being "American" insufficiently describes you for the cultural commissars of modern identity politics.

So who's right? Is a racially colorblind and ethnically integrated society America's future? Or are we headed for a balkanized culture defined by our differences?

The answer, strangely enough, could come from the way the next US Census questionnaire is worded.

The Census is taken every 10 years, and the next one is scheduled for 2020. The federal government is considering taking two possible changes, and is sending out test surveys this fall.

One possibility is for the question about the Census respondent's race to be worded as asking for the subject's "race or origin," with racial options as well as ethnic and national-origin choices.

Another possibility is to get rid of "race" altogether as a category. It would expand the identity portion of the Census by asking something along the lines of: "Which categories describe Person 1?" And it would add a category for those of Middle Eastern and North African descent.

That latter proposed change makes a lot of sense — so much sense that it's hard to believe the government will actually do it.

The fact is, race in America is far more complex than it once was. This is to our country's credit: Racial integration, plus welcoming immigration policies, has meant that racial identity is no longer so — forgive me — black and white.

For example, this year the Fieldston Lower School in The Bronx undertook a bizarre experiment in which the school's liberal social-justice administrators decided to segregate the kids, once a week and starting in third grade, according to race.

This was ostensibly to get that "honest conversation" leftists are so fond of, but it hit a wrinkle. One mother — a supporter of the program, I should note — told New York Magazine she identifies as "ethnically Dominican and racially black." But presumably, her kid would have to choose.

In an effort to make youngsters racially aware, the school was having them erase part of their familial identity so they'd fit in neat boxes.

This is the logical endpoint of the liberal identity-politics crusade. Leftist school administrators will constantly remind kids with darker skin that they stand apart.

And now they're doing the same to Bobby Jindal. Even though Jindal was born in the United States, they won't allow him to simply be "American." They refuse to let him identify by his country of birth, instead forcing him to identify by the birth country of his parents.

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National Review

[Bobby Jindal and Liberals' Racist Double-Standard](#)

To those on the Left, he's an Uncle Tamas.

by Kevin D. Williamson

Governor Bobby Jindal of Louisiana is, we are informed by all the best people, insufficiently *ethnic*. Governor Jindal, born in Baton Rouge, is Punjabi in the sense that your average Philadelphian with a surname ending in a vowel is Italian: ancestrally, trivially. Governor Jindal's speech, culture, mannerisms, politics, religion, habits, and affect are as far removed from Chandigarh, the north Indian city where his parents met, as they are from Bogota or Stuttgart. The governor insistently rejects the tossed salad model in favor of the melting pot: an American is an American is an American, in his view.

For his political conservatism Governor Jindal, like Governor Nikki Haley of South Carolina and conservative activist Dinesh D'Souza, also Republicans of Indian origin, is savaged as an Uncle Tamas — an Indian guilty of acting white. The charge has been led by *The New Republic*, the former political journal turned vanity press owned by Facebook millionaire Chris Hughes, one of the whitest white men in the history of whiteness, an argyle sock of a man. One cannot delegate ethnic-purity policing to the likes of Elspeth Reeve or Gabriel Snyder, but Jeet Heer was, blessedly, ready for duty. Heer is a Canadian of Indian background. He is an expert on comic books.

His analysis is appropriately cartoonish. He argues that the Indian-Americans in his crosshairs — D'Souza especially — are racists, and adds: "Anti-black racism, I've often thought, is one of the more unwholesome manifestations of assimilation." One wonders if he has ever been to India, where anti-black racism is quite common: Africans traveling in India or living there routinely are denied accommodations in hotels; the culture minister of the state of Goa recently described Nigerians (about 50,000 of whom live in India) as a "cancer," and they are habitually blamed for India's illegal drug trade. (Here is a sign reading: "No to Nigerians, No to drugs.") There has been talk of mass expulsion.

Africans to one side, color-based discrimination within and between Indian communities is intense. It is the usual story of action and reaction: Governor Jindal not only stands accused of acting white, but of having an official portrait that is literally too white. Mockers on Twitter abuse him under the hash-tag #BobbyJindallsSoWhite. The governor, asked about the portrait controversy, gave a masterly performance: "You mean I'm not white?" he asked, innocently. "I'm shocked at this revelation."

Jindal is the product of Baton Rouge public schools, Brown, the Rhodes scholarship, the McKinsey consultancy, Capitol Hill, and any number of other influences, but the ethnicity police expect him to enter the 2016 Republican National Convention wearing a turban and performing a choreographed Bollywood number to the tune of Selfie Le Le Re. It isn't that the governor hasn't ever done anything that we might think of as typically Indian-American — he certainly has, having been a standout student who started a few businesses as a young man, who was admitted to both the Harvard and Yale medical schools, and who surely broke his parents' hearts by accepting neither. It is that he is in a position that perplexes and enrages the Left: He is a minority within a minority. "The vast majority of American South Asians identify as Democrats," sniffs Heer. How dare these American South Asians act as if they can simply follow their own hearts and their own minds?

That is how progressives say: "Mind your place, darkie."

If you're wondering, the word "selfie" in that Hindi tune is indeed a borrowing of the familiar English neologism, but the cultures of India are remarkably syncretic. If you go to Jindal *père's* old haunts in Chandigarh, you'll see some remarkable architecture that may not strike your eye as being "Indian," whatever we imagine that to mean — the city's most notable structures are the work of Le Corbusier, just as much of New Delhi is dominated by the work of Edwin Lutyens and Herbert Baker. Perhaps it is the case that the capital of Punjab is inauthentically Punjabi by the lights of *The New Republic*.

Perhaps that view is too narrow.

Perhaps it is the case that "Dinesh D'Souza and Bobby Jindal advanced in the GOP by erasing their ethnic identities," as *The New Republic* insists. Perhaps something else is at work here: India itself has in recent years been wracked by a very ugly and sometimes violent confrontation between Hindus and Christians regarding conversions, and some of that animus has found its way into the diaspora. Jindal is a Catholic convert; D'Souza, a child of Goan Catholics, wrote a book called *What's So Great about Christianity*, no question mark. Governor Haley, a Methodist convert from a Sikh background, has been subjected to any number of ugly and bigoted religious attacks from her political rivals. Heer accuses her of "suppressing public references to her Sikh heritage" and complains that she is "presented by her campaign as a 'proud Christian woman.'" Never mind that that is precisely what she is — there's a religious principle at stake here, but neither a Hindu principle nor a Sikh one. Jindal, D'Souza, and Haley stand accused of the worst sort of heresy: being members of an ethnic minority group who neither present nor understand themselves as the white man's victims, whose stance toward the country in which they all reside and in which two of them were born — the country they *love* — is not one of opposition. The Left needs neediness, and these three aren't offering up much of that.

That's a problem for Asian Republicans specifically, of course. Norms against racism are suspended in the case of Republicans: If you are a black woman with an R next to your name, good progressives like Ted Rall will be happy to call you a "house n—" and to lampoon you in the crudest racial mode, just as nice liberals are happy to describe Clarence Thomas with terms of racial abuse. If black Republicans are taking it that hard, Asian-American Republicans must expect worse.

And Asian-Americans, whether of South Asian or East Asian origin, are, culturally speaking, a special case: They generally enjoy a high level of socio-economic success (Indian-Americans are the wealthiest U.S. ethnic group) and are not in the main very enthusiastic practitioners of identity politics, regardless of their party affiliation. And for the Left, such success must never go unpunished. Democrats are working very hard to empower public institutions to discriminate

against one group of Americans on racial grounds, especially when it comes to admission to elite state universities. Guess who? It would have taken more than a progressive “gentleman’s agreement” to keep Bobby Jindal out of Harvard or Yale. What about the White House?

Governor Jindal is running for president, and he is not running as an Asian-American. He is running as an American sans hyphen, and he may win or he may lose, but we can be absolutely sure that, as far as the Left is concerned, he will never be forgiven.

Jewish World Review

Whitewashing the Democratic Party's History

by Mona Charen

Here's what the former president of the United States had to say when he eulogized his mentor, an Arkansas senator:

"We come to celebrate and give thanks for the remarkable life of J. William Fulbright, a life that changed our country and our world forever and for the better. ... In the work he did, the words he spoke and the life he lived, Bill Fulbright stood against the 20th century's most destructive forces and fought to advance its brightest hopes."

So spoke President William J. Clinton in 1995 of a man who was among the 99 Democrats in Congress to sign the "Southern Manifesto" in 1956. (Two Republicans also signed it.) The Southern Manifesto declared the signatories' opposition to the Supreme Court's decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* and their commitment to segregation forever. Fulbright was also among those who filibustered the Civil Rights Act of 1964. That filibuster continued for 83 days.

Speaking of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, let's review (since they don't teach this in schools): The percentage of House Democrats who supported the legislation? 61 percent. House Republicans? 80 percent. In the Senate, 69 percent of Democrats voted yes, compared with 82 percent of Republicans. (Barry Goldwater, a supporter of the NAACP, voted no because he thought it was unconstitutional.)

When he was running for president in 2000, former Vice President Al Gore told the NAACP that his father, Sen. Al Gore Sr., had lost his Senate seat because he voted for the Civil Rights Act. Uplifting story — except it's false. Gore Sr. voted against the Civil Rights Act. He lost in 1970 in a race that focused on prayer in public schools, the Vietnam War and the Supreme Court.

Gore Jr.'s reframing of the relevant history is the story of the Democratic Party in microcosm. The party's history is pockmarked with racism and terror. The Democrats were the party of slavery, black codes, Jim Crow, and that miserable terrorist excrescence the Ku Klux Klan. Republicans were the party of Lincoln, of Reconstruction, of anti-lynching laws, of the civil rights acts of 1875, 1957, 1960 and 1964. Were all Republicans models of rectitude on racial matters? Hardly. Were they a heck of a lot better than the Democrats? Without question.

As recently as 2010, the Senate president pro tempore was former Exalted Cyclops Robert Byrd, D-W.V. Rather than acknowledge their sorry history, modern Democrats have rewritten it.

You may recall that when MSNBC was commemorating the 50th anniversary of segregationist George Wallace's "Stand in the Schoolhouse Door" stunt to prevent the integration of the University of Alabama, the network identified Wallace as "R-Ala."

The Democrats have been sedulously rewriting history for decades. Their preferred version pretends that all of the Democratic racists and segregationists left their party and became Republicans starting in the 1960s. How convenient. If it were true that the South began to turn Republican due to Lyndon Johnson's passage of the Civil Rights Act, you would expect that the Deep South, the states most associated with racism, would have been the first to move. That's not what happened. The first southern states to trend Republican were on the periphery: North Carolina, Virginia, Texas, Tennessee and Florida. (George Wallace lost these voters in his 1968 bid.) The voters who first migrated to the Republican Party were suburban, prosperous "New South" types. The more Republican the South has become the less racist.

Is it unforgivable that Clinton praised a former segregationist? No. Fulbright renounced his racist past, as did Byrd and Gore Sr. It would be immoral and unjust to misrepresent the history.

What is unforgivable is the way Democrats are still using race to foment hatred. Remember what happened to Trent Lott when he uttered a few dumb words about former segregationist Strom Thurmond? He didn't get the kind of pass Bill Clinton did when praising Fulbright. Earlier this month, Hillary Clinton told a mostly black audience, "What is happening is a sweeping effort to disempower and disenfranchise people of color, poor people and young people from one end of our country to another. ... Today Republicans are systematically and deliberately trying to stop millions of American citizens from voting." She was presumably referring to voter ID laws, which, by the way, 51 percent of black Americans support.

Racism has an ugly past in the Democratic Party. The accusation of racism has an ugly present.

Volokh Conspiracy

[Expunging Woodrow Wilson from Official Places of Honor](#)

by Randy Barnett

As I indicated in my post yesterday [on Instapundit](#), I support Governor Nikki Haley's initiative to remove the Confederate battle flag from government buildings. Now that we are expunging the legacy of past racism from official places of honor, we should next remove the name Woodrow Wilson from public buildings and bridges. Wilson's racist legacy — in his official capacity as President — is undisputed. In [The long-forgotten racial attitudes and policies of Woodrow Wilson](#), Boston University historian William R. Keylor provides a useful summary:

[On March 4th, 1913] Democrat Thomas Woodrow Wilson became the first Southerner elected president since Zachary Taylor in 1848. Washington was flooded with revelers from the Old Confederacy, whose people had long dreamed of a return to the glory days of Washington, Jefferson, Madison, and Monroe, when southern gentlemen ran the country. Rebel yells and the strains of "Dixie" reverberated throughout the city. The new administration brought to power a generation of political leaders from the old South who would play influential roles in Washington for generations to come.

Wilson is widely and correctly remembered — and represented in our history books — as a progressive Democrat who introduced many liberal reforms at home and fought for the

extension of democratic liberties and human rights abroad. But on the issue of race his legacy was, in fact, regressive and has been largely forgotten.

Born in Virginia and raised in Georgia and South Carolina, Wilson was a loyal son of the old South who regretted the outcome of the Civil War. He used his high office to reverse some of its consequences. When he entered the White House a hundred years ago today, Washington was a rigidly segregated town — except for federal government agencies. They had been integrated during the post-war Reconstruction period, enabling African-Americans to obtain federal jobs and work side by side with whites in government agencies. Wilson promptly authorized members of his cabinet to reverse this long-standing policy of racial integration in the federal civil service.

Cabinet heads — such as his son-in-law, Secretary of the Treasury William McAdoo of Tennessee — re-segregated facilities such as restrooms and cafeterias in their buildings. In some federal offices, screens were set up to separate white and black workers. African-Americans found it difficult to secure high-level civil service positions, which some had held under previous Republican administrations.

A delegation of black professionals led by Monroe Trotter, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Harvard and Boston newspaper editor, appeared at the White House to protest the new policies. But Wilson treated them rudely and declared that "segregation is not a humiliation but a benefit, and ought to be so regarded by you gentlemen."

The novel "The Clansman" by Thomas Dixon — a longtime political supporter, friend and former classmate of Wilson's at Johns Hopkins University — was published in 1905. A decade later, with Wilson in the White House, cinematographer D.W. Griffith produced a motion picture version of the book, titled "Birth of a Nation."

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While the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People publicly denounced the movie's blatant appeals to racial prejudice, the president organized a private screening of his friend's film in the White House for the members of his cabinet and their families. "It is like writing history with lightning," Wilson observed, "and my only regret is that it is all so terribly true."

[Here](#) is the exchange between Wilson and Trotter:

Mr. Monroe Trotter. Mr. President, we are here to renew our protest against the segregation of colored employees in the departments of our National Government. We [had] appealed to you to undo this race segregation in accord with your duty as President and with your pre-election pledges to colored American voters. We stated that such segregation was a public humiliation and degradation, and entirely unmerited and far-reaching in its injurious effects. . . .

President Woodrow Wilson. The white people of the country, as well as I, wish to see the colored people progress, and admire the progress they have already made, and want to see them continue along independent lines. There is, however, a great prejudice against colored

people. . . . It will take one hundred years to eradicate this prejudice, and we must deal with it as practical men. Segregation is not humiliating, but a benefit, and ought to be so regarded by you gentlemen. If your organization goes out and tells the colored people of the country that it is a humiliation, they will so regard it, but if you do not tell them so, and regard it rather as a benefit, they will regard it the same. The only harm that will come will be if you cause them to think it is a humiliation.

Mr. Monroe Trotter. It is not in accord with the known facts to claim that the segregation was started because of race friction of white and colored [federal] clerks. The indisputable facts of the situation will not permit of the claim that the segregation is due to the friction. It is untenable, in view of the established facts, to maintain that the segregation is simply to avoid race friction, for the simple reason that for fifty years white and colored clerks have been working together in peace and harmony and friendliness, doing so even through two [President Grover Cleveland] Democratic administrations. Soon after your inauguration began, segregation was drastically introduced in the Treasury and Postal departments by your appointees.

President Woodrow Wilson. If this organization is ever to have another hearing before me it must have another spokesman. Your manner offends me. . . . Your tone, with its background of passion.

Mr. Monroe Trotter. But I have no passion in me, Mr. President, you are entirely mistaken; you misinterpret my earnestness for passion.

A swell guy, eh? After resigning from the Socialist Party to support Wilson, W.E.B Dubois was appalled at Wilson's racist policies:

President Wilson's initial policy measures were so stridently anti-black, Du Bois felt obliged to write "Another Open Letter to Woodrow Wilson" in September 1913. Du Bois was blunt, writing that "[I]t is no exaggeration to say that every enemy of the Negro race is greatly encouraged; that every man who dreams of making the Negro race a group of menials and pariahs is alert and hopeful." Listing the most notorious racists of the era, including "Pitchfork" Ben Tillman,** Du Bois wrote that they were undoubtedly encouraged since "not a single act" or "a single word" from Wilson "has given anyone reason" to believe that he will act positively with respect to African Americans citing the removal of several black appointees from office and the appointment of a single black whom was "such a contemptible cur, that his very nomination was an insult to every Negro in the land." Altogether the segregationist and discriminatory policies of Wilson in his first six months alone were judged by Du Bois to be the "gravest attack on the liberties" of African Americans since Emancipation.

In a tone that was almost threatening Du Bois wrote the president that there exist "foolish people who think that such policy has no limit and that lynching "Jim Crowism," segregation and insult are to be permanent institutions in America." Pointing to the segregation in the Treasury and Post Office Departments Du Bois wrote Wilson of the "colored clerks [that] have been herded to themselves as though they were not human beings" and of the one clerk "who could not actually be segregated on account of the nature of his work" who, therefore, "had a cage built around him to separate him from his white companions of many years," he asked President Wilson a long series of questions. "Mr. Wilson, do you know these things? Are you responsible for them? Did you advise them? Do you know that no other group of American citizens has ever been treated in this way and that no President of the United States ever dared to propose such treatment?" Like Trotter later Du Bois ends by threatening Wilson with the complete loss of black votes for any of his future electoral quests or that of his Democratic Party. Du Bois relied on questions to hammer home his point. "1. Do you want Negro votes? 2. Do you think that 'Jim

Crow' civil service will get these votes? 3. Is your Negro policy to be dictated by Tillman and Vardaman? . . . "

(**As Justice Thomas notes, Democrat Senator "[Pitchfork](#)" [Ben Tillman](#) of South Carolina was the author of the earliest campaign finance "reform," the Tillman Act that barred corporations from contributing directly to federal candidates.)

In response to these outcries, in 1914, Wilson told [The New York Times](#), "If the colored people made a mistake in voting for me, they ought to correct it." It would be a valuable educational experience today to correct this mistake, and the historical record, by having a candid conversation about the racist legacy of Woodrow Wilson. And racism was not his only sin. The Wilson administration prosecuted and jailed many antiwar activists for sedition, including Socialist Party presidential candidate Eugene Debs for having made an antiwar speech. (Debs was later pardoned by Republican President Warren Harding.)

No doubt there are others whose names should also be expunged. But because of his record of official racism and betrayal, Wilson's name should be first on any such list. Those who oppose its removal from government buildings should explain exactly why whatever principle of tolerance they apply to so extreme a purveyor of racist policies as Wilson should not be applied equally to memorials to other historical figures as well.

RELATED: Historian Paul Rahe on [Progressive Racism](#):

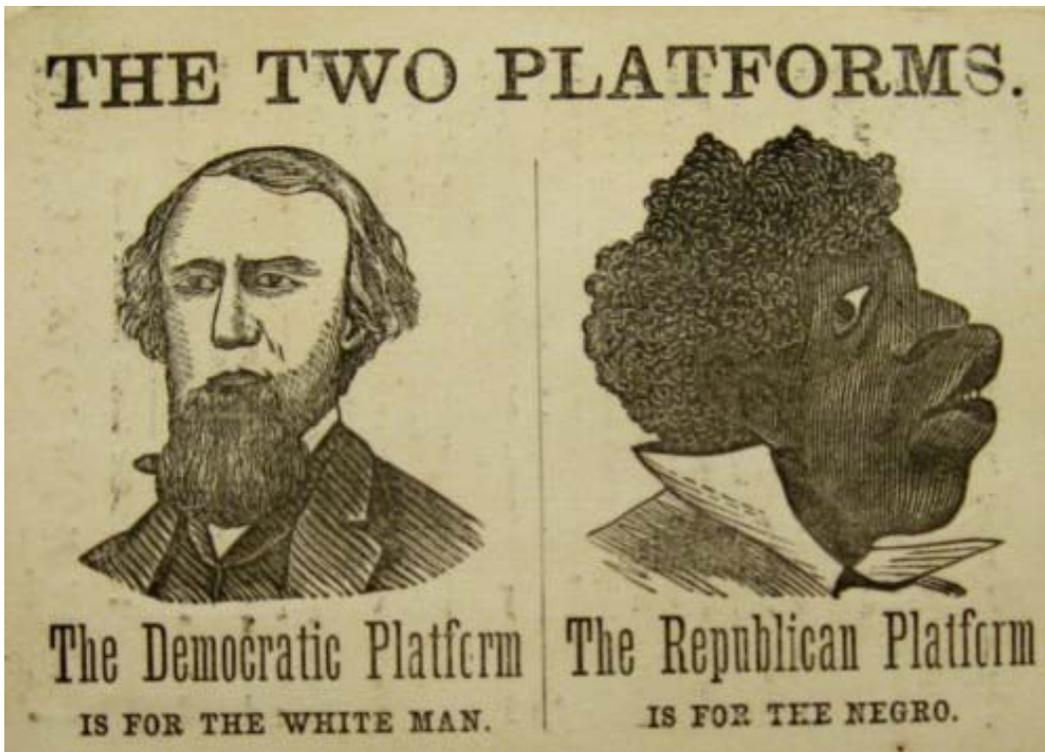
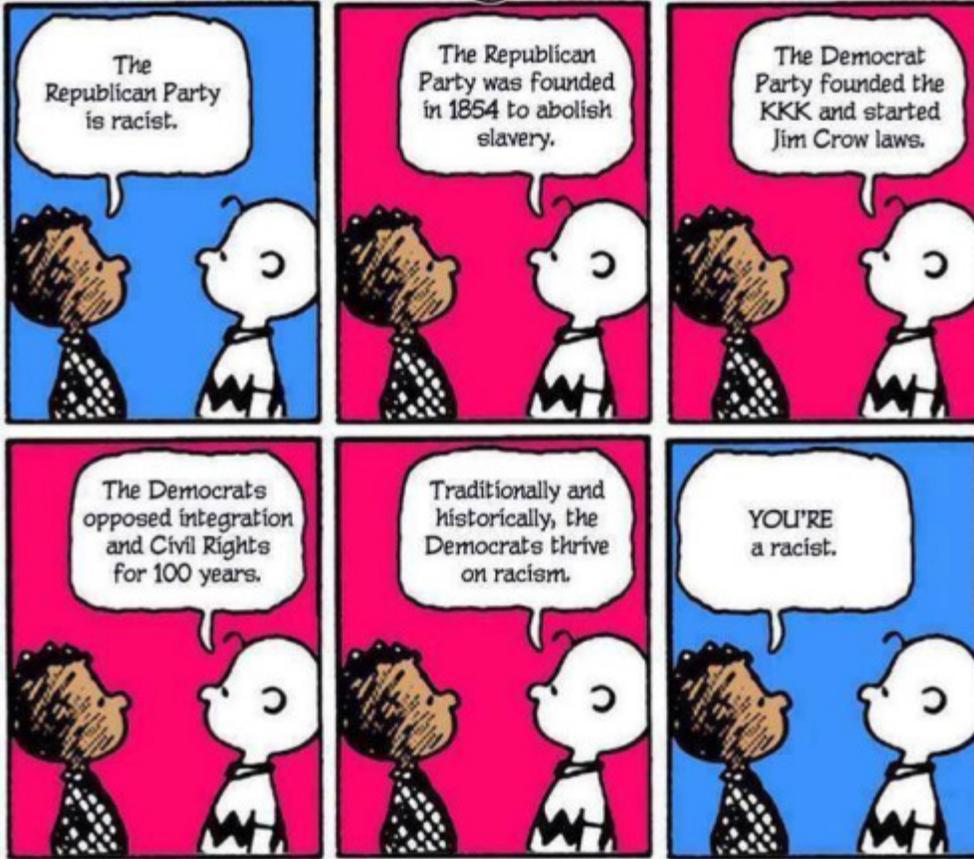
Wilson, our first professorial president, . . . was the very model of a modern Progressive, and he was recognized as such. He prided himself on having pioneered the new science of rational administration, and he shared the conviction, dominant among his brethren, that African-Americans were racially inferior to whites. With the dictates of Social Darwinism and the eugenics movement in mind, in 1907, he campaigned in Indiana for the compulsory sterilization of criminals and the mentally retarded; and in 1911, while governor of New Jersey, he proudly signed into law just such a bill.

STILL MORE on [The Menacing Mr. Wilson](#):

Wilson's racist views were hardly a secret. His own published work was peppered with Lost Cause visions of a happy antebellum South. As president of Princeton, he had turned away black applicants, regarding their desire for education to be "unwarranted." He was elected president because the 1912 campaign featured a third party, Theodore Roosevelt's Bullmoose Party, which drew Republican votes from incumbent William Howard Taft. Wilson won a majority of votes in only one state (Arizona) outside the South.

What Wilson's election meant to the South was "home rule;" that is, license to pursue its racial practices without concern about interference from the federal government. . . . But "home rule" was only the beginning.

UPDATE: [When Will The American Political Science Association Stop Giving The Woodrow Wilson Award In Honor of Noted Racist Thomas Woodrow Wilson?](#)





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