

## "A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO NIRVANA"

THE CONCEPT OF ANY SUPERNATURAL BELIEF SYSTEM IS PREDICATED ON THE IDEA THAT A SUPERNATURAL DEITY, ENTITY OR FORCE, CREATES, CONSIGNs AND CONTROLS ALL THAT EXISTS. I AM CONVINCED THAT THESE SYSTEMS WERE AND ARE STILL CREATED AS A MEANS OF ULTIMATE CONTROL OVER ANYONE WILLING TO BELIEVE (AS I MENTIONED IN "EGO BE DAMNED"). I SUBMIT THAT LONG BEFORE THE DRUID, EGYPTIAN, MESOPOTAMIAN, OR EVEN THE TRULY ANCIENT GÖBEKLI TEPEAN HIERARCHIES HAD DREAMED UP THEIR MANY PRETENTIOUS GODS, GODDESSES AND ANTIHESICAL ENTITIES, THERE WERE SHAMANS OR WITCHDOCTORS IN PRIMITIVE SOCIAL GROUPS THROUGHOUT THE INHABITED WORLD, CREATING SPIRITS AND CONTRIBES TO FRIGHTEN THE YOUNG AND GULLIBLE INTO SUBMISSION. I FIND IT INTERESTING THAT MORE CREDENCE SEEMS TO BE GIVEN TO THE CONTRIVANCES DESIGNED THROUGH UNSUBSTANTIATED SUPERSTITIONS AND BELIEFS OF ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS, THAN CREDIBLE THEORIES AND CONCLUSIONS, DEVELOPED THROUGH EXTENSIVE AND METICULOUS ANALYTIC EXAMINATION OF THE MYRIADS OF BOTH PHYSICAL AND DOCUMENTATIVE EVIDENCE AVAILABLE TO MODERN DAY ARCHAEOLOGISTS, ANTHROPOLOGISTS AND SOCIOLOGISTS, OH WELL, I GUESS BELIEVING IN THE IDEA THAT A SHAPE-SHIFTING, BLOODSUCKING, IMMORTAL VAMPIRE WAS THE CURSE OF HUNGARY, INSTEAD OF A MAD TYRANT WHO IMPALED HIS ENEMIES ON STAKES IN FRONT OF HIS CASTLES TO WARN OTHERS OF THEIR IMPENDING FATE, IS MORE DESIRABLE, TO THOSE WHO SEE "LORD OF THE RINGS" AS NON-FICTION!

THERE ARE MANY QUESTIONS THAT ALWAYS SEEM TO SURFACE (THAT WEREN'T ANSWERED IN "THE ADJUSTMENT BUREAU"), SUCH AS, WHY DOES IT MATTER WHETHER DEITIES EXIST, IF THAT EXISTENCE HAS NO COGENT POSITIVE EFFECT ON THE WORLD IN GENERAL, OTHER THAN IMAGINED. TO CONSTANTLY SPIN ALL OF THE HORRIBLE DAILY WORLD EVENTS TO EITHER EMPLOY OR JUSTIFY A BELIEF SYSTEM, SEEMS TO SERVE AS COMPELLING EVIDENCE, THAT FEAR OF REASON AND REALITY MAY BE THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND ANY FAITH BASED SECT'S ARGUMENTS. THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY HAS ALWAYS WELCOMED ANY CREDIBLE DEBATE, AS IT STRENGTHENS THE INTELLECTUAL PROCESS, WHEREAS, WHENEVER I've QUESTIONED ANY SUPERNATURAL BELIEF SYSTEM, PEOPLE BECOME DEFENSIVE, AGGRAVATED AND OFTEN HOSTILE, PROVING TO ME THAT THE "TERRIBLE TRIO" (FEAR, IGNORANCE, AND EGO) IS ALIVE AND WELL IN NIRVANA. ALL I've EVER ASKED OF ANYONE, IS THAT THEY THINK, QUESTION AND ANALYZE ALL OF THE INFORMATION THAT'S AVAILABLE TO THEM BEFORE ACCEPTING ANYTHING, ESPECIALLY FROM ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS THAT PROMOTED THE SACRIFICE OF GOATS, SHEEP OR EVEN THEIR OWN CHILDREN ON THE EVE OF A FULL MOON OR TO REAP A BOUNTIFUL HARVEST. I DON'T RECALL BEING AWAKENED EARLY ON SUNDAY MORNING BY A GROUP OF AGNOSTICS TOUTING THE WONDERS OF STEVEN HAWKING, OR ATHEISTS KEEPING ME FROM MY FLIGHTS AT AIRPORTS, TRYING TO SELL ME A COPY OF "ORIGIN OF THE SPECIES". I LIKE TO THINK THAT IT'S BECAUSE REASON DOESN'T NEED TO BE SOLD LIKE SOME MIRACLE WEIGHT LOSS PILL, OR GET RICH QUICK SCHEME. PEOPLE IN THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY HAVE ALWAYS HAD A DUTY TO SEEK TRUTH, WITH COMPLETE OBJECTIVITY, RATHER THAN AN ADAMANT AJENDA AIMED AT PROVING OR DISPROVING WHATEVER PHYSICAL OR METAPHYSICAL CONCEPT THAT MAY FOSTER ACCEPTABLE BELIEFS. SOMEONE ONCE TOLD ME THAT GOD MUST BE REAL, BECAUSE IF HE WASN'T, THERE WOULDN'T BE SO MANY CHURCHES AND SYNAGOGUES. HOW CAN YOU ARGUE WITH LOGIC LIKE THAT?

I'M SURE THAT THE SHOCK OF DISCOVERING THAT MOST FAITH BASED RELIGIONS MAY BE DESIGNED TO CREATE CONTROLLED ENVIRONMENTS WOULD BE EVEN MORE DISCERNING TO SOME THAN SAY, FINDING OUT THAT J. LO WAS ONCE A GAY NAMED JACK. WHEN I CONSIDER ALL OF THE CONDITIONS THAT THESE GROUPS HAVE INITIATED ON SOCIETY, AND THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS THAT THEY'VE HAD ON ANYONE WHO RELISHES TRUE FREEDOM, I WONDER WHY MORE PEOPLE DON'T EXAMINE THEIR BELIEFS. ONE POSSIBLE ANSWER COULD BE THAT THEY ARE IN FACT BELIEFS, AND NOT SUBSTANTIATED REALITIES, AND AS SUCH, WERE PROBABLY ACQUIRED THROUGH CONSTANT STIMULUS AS CHILDREN OR YOUNG ADULTS, UNEXPLAINED RECOVERY FROM ILLNESS, ACCIDENT OR DRUG ADDICTION, EMOTIONAL EXPERIENCE, A PERCEIVED SUPERNATURAL ENCOUNTER (EITHER DREAM, DRUG OR EMOTIONALLY INDUCED), OR SIMPLY A NEED FOR COMMUNITY. ALSO, PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGNS, PEER PRESSURE AND FEAR OF ALIENATION, CREATE A SUBSTANTIAL RESTRAINT THAT COULD BIND ANYONE GIVEN THEIR PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES.

I REALIZE THAT IT CAN BE DIFFICULT TO THINK OF THE COSMOLOGY OF A LOVING PARENT, FRIEND OR MENTOR AS IGNORANT UTTERANCES OR EVEN LIES, BUT WHEN YOU CONSIDER THAT THEY TOO, WERE MOST LIKELY FORCE-FED A GREAT DEAL OF INCONGRUOUS INFORMATION THROUGHOUT THEIR LIVES, AS WERE THEIR PROSECUTORS BEFORE THEM, SUBMISSIVENESS IS UNDERSTOOD. AT ABOUT AGE 12, I QUESTIONED THE PURPOSE OF MY FRIENDS WORSHIPPING A BEING THAT DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ABLE TO AFFECT THE WORLD POSITIVELY, OR WORSE, HAS THE POWER TO DO SO, YET CHOOSES NOT TO. TWO FRIENDS WERE FORBIDDEN TO HANG OUT WITH ME, AND ANOTHER CALLED ME AN ASSHOLE, BECAUSE HIS FATHER TOLD HIM THAT GOD HAS A PLAN. GREAT! A PLAN, THAT INCLUDES UNIMAGINABLE PAIN, SUFFERING AND LONG WINGERING DEATHS FOR MILLIONS OF MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN (NOT TO MENTION ANIMALS), EACH YEAR, AS WELL AS THE SLOW DISSOLUTION OF THE PLANET AND ALL OF IT'S INHABITANTS. SORRY FOR THE PESSIMISM, BUT I'M PISSED BECAUSE I'VE BEEN UNABLE TO WATCH "THE DAILY SHOW" SINCE 2006.

THOSE WHO CHOOSE TO HEAP ALL OF THE WORLD'S MANY ABDOMINABLE, VILE DAILY ACTUALITIES ON THE ENVISIONED HORNS OF SOME ANTAGONISTIC CREATURE LIKE LUCIFER OR IT'S COUNTERPARTS IN OTHER RELIGIONS, SHOULD CONSIDER THAT BY ALL APPEARANCES, THINGS AREN'T LOOKING WELL FOR THE GOOD GUYS. WANT, WHAT BETTER WAY TO RALLY THE TROOPS, THAN TO IMPLANT THE IDEA THAT GOD NEEDS YOUR HELP TO DEFEAT THIS AWFUL MENACE (WITHOUT IMPLYING THAT THIS ALL POWERFUL, ETHEREAL BEING, MAY SUCCUMB TO IT'S OWN FORM OF KRYPTONITE, OF COURSE). THEN THERE'S THE SPIN, PUTTING THE BLAME FOR THIS POSSIBLE DEFEAT ON US MERE MORTALS, FOR NOT BELIEVING, WORSHIPPING, RECRUITING AND NATURALLY, NOT EMPTYING OUR WALLETS TO FINANCE THIS SO-CALLED WAR AGAINST EVIL, WHILE HELPING TO CREATE THE MANY MEGA-WEALTHY PRACTITIONERS OF THE FAITH, LIKE KENNETH COPELAND, PAT ROBERTSON OR ORAL ROBERTS. THIS IS NOT TO SAY THAT THEIR ORGANIZATIONS DON'T HELP MANY AROUND THE WORLD WHO CAN'T HELP THEMSELVES, BUT AT WHAT COST? THE LOSS OF INDIVIDUALITY, PERSONAL FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION OR THE DESIRE TO SEEK ANSWERS TO THE MOST SIGNIFICANT QUESTIONS, INVOLVING LIFE ON EARTH AND BEYOND, OUTSIDE OF RELIGIOUS TEXTS OR TEACHINGS IS A COMMON MALADY, ASSOCIATED WITH CULT INTERVENTION, FROM SCIENTOLOGY TO THE VATICAN.

THOSE WHO ARE WILLING TO SURRENDER THEIR THOUGHT PROCESSES TO UNKNOWN ENTITIES ARE GENERALLY MORE APT TO BECOME VICTIMS TO PEOPLE LIKE JIM JONES, DAVID KORESH, CHARLES MANSON OR RUSH LIMBAUGH (OK, MAYBE NOT LIMBAUGH). SPLINTER GROUPS LIKE THE MANY DIFFERENT BABIST AND SO-CALLED NON-DENOMINATIONAL SECTS AS WELL AS THE PAGANS SEEM TO PLAY A MAJOR PART IN THIS CONSIGNMENT OF CONTROL AND RECRUITMENT, AS THEY APPEASE THE SPECIFIC FADES AND DESIRES OF THE DISSATISFIED, DISILLUSIONED AND DISFRANCHISED. NEWLY REVIVED INTEREST IN ODINISM, WITCHCRAFT (WICCA) AND OTHER PAGAN RELATED CULTS PLAY TO THE MORE FANCIFUL DESIRES, WHILE SATANISM PLAYS TO AN AFFINITY FOR, OR AT LEAST THE APPEARANCE OF AN AFFINITY FOR EVIL. MOST OCCULT TYPE GROUPS SEEM TO BE LITTLE MORE THAN THE MEANS TO DIRECT FOCUS ON INDIFFERENCE TO GOD AND CHRISTIANITY, RATHER THAN ACTUAL BELIEF IN THE AUTHENTICITY OF A PARTICULAR CRAFT OR PRACTICE. THOSE THAT I'VE KNOWN OVER THE YEARS, FED OFF THE ENCHANTMENT AND FALLACIOUS IMPICHES THAT THEY BELIEVED GAVE THEM AN AIR OF MYSTERY AND MUCH DESIRED ATTENTION. I'M SURPRISED THAT THE INHABITANTS OF MOUNT OLYMPUS HAVEN'T MADE THEIR WAY BACK INTO THE MAINSTREAM, BUT I GUESS THAT THE CONCERT OF WINGED HORSES, MINOTAURS, CENTAURS AND 3 HEADED ANYTHINGS MAY BE TOO HARD FOR EVEN UFO OR GHOSTHUNTERS TO SWALLOW AND BACCHUS AND NARCISSUS MAY HIT A LITTLE TOO CLOSE TO HOME FOR SOME.

THOUGH I SEE MOST OF THESE BELIEF SYSTEMS AS NOTHING MORE THAN VEHICLES FOR THOSE WHO SEEK ACCEPTANCE BY OTHERS AND TO BE AN ELEMENTAL PART OF SOMETHING IMPORTANT, I'M SADDENED SEEING THAT THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SO MUCH OF THE MANIPULATION, CONFLICT, HATE, DESTRUCTION AND EVEN ANNIHILATION OF ENTIRE SOCIETIES. WHEN RELIGIOUS ZEALOTS DISREGARD OR REFUSE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THESE CONTRIVANCES EVEN EXIST, THEIR ALLEGIANCE TO THE "TERRIBLE TRIO" BECOMES CRYSTAL CLEAR. I'M NOT SURE IF THE REASON FOR MOST TO DENY CULT STATUS, HAS TO DO WITH SHEAR NUMBERS, A MISTAKEN PERCEPTION OF PARTICULAR AGENDAS OR JUST THE NEGATIVE CONNOTATION THAT SUGGESTS MINDLESS OBEDIENCE TO SOMETHING THAT HAS NO DISCERNABLE EVIDENCE OF EXISTENCE OR CREDIBILITY, BUT A SECT BY ANY OTHER NAME, STILL SMELLS. ONE THING THAT CONCERN'S ME, IS THAT THERE IS LITTLE OR NO ACCOUNTABILITY, UNLESS SEX IS INVOLVED AND MONEY IS TO BE MADE. WHEN ALLOWED TO TAKE HOLD, THESE BELIEF SYSTEMS INFEST LIKE CUDD-WEEED, CHOKING OUT ALL REASON AND COGNIZANCE.

THE PRECEDING SENTENCE WAS BROUGHT TO YOU BY ANIMUS TOWARD ANY CONTROLLING, IMPERIOUS SOCIETY, WHICH CAN BE FOUND WHEREVER CONSCIENCE AND SCRUPLES ARE BOLD. IT'S DIFFICULT TO REMAIN DETACHED WHEN SO MANY QUESTIONS GO UNANSWERED ARE IGNORED, OR SPUN SO FAR OUT OF THE REALM OF CONTENTION, THAT "PETER PAN" BEGINS TO SOUND ALMOST BIOGRAPHICAL. ONE OF THE MOST RELEVANT QUESTIONS REMAINS, "WHY IS SO MUCH EVIL PERPETRATED ON SO MANY, IN THE NAME OF GOD"? THOUGH ISLAMICS ARE TAKING MOST OF THE HEAT THESE DAYS, IT'S IMPORTANT TO RECOGNIZE AN INCREDIBLE HISTORY OF CHRISTIAN, JEWISH AND YES, EVEN BUDDHIST HINDU AND SIKH TERRORISM. OF COURSE THE INQUISITION INSTANTLY COMES TO MIND, SUCH A PROUD MOMENT FOR CATHOLICS AND HISTORIANS EVERYWHERE. FOR THE MILLIONS OF JEWS, GYPSIES, HOMOSEXUALS, SUSPECTED WITCHES AND ENTIRE TRIBES OF NATIVE PEOPLES AROUND THE WORLD, WHO WERE BEATEN, TORTURED, AND SLAUGHTERED (SOUND FAMILAR), IT PROBABLY WASN'T A WALK IN THE PARK. THEN THERE WAS THE CHILDREN'S CRUSADE, INSANE WITCH HUNTS, THE BOMBINGS OF NORTHERN IRELAND, ETHNIC CLEANSING IN BOSNIA, RWANDA AND OF COURSE, THAT LITTLE TANTRUM BY ADOLF HITLER AND HIS ARYAN GANG. THE HEINOUS PRACTICES OF HINDUS, WHO BURNED "MISSIONARY FAMILIES OR HOW ABOUT WHEN JEWISH DOCTOR BARUCH GOLDSTEIN ANSWERED GODS CALL TO ARMS WHEN HE ENTERED THE TOMB OF THE PATRIARCHS WITH AN ASSAULT RIFLE AND SHOT INTO A CROWD OF PRAYING MEN AND BOYS. HE GOT A MONUMENT ERECTED TO HIM.

DON'T DISPARAGE AMERICA, WE HAVE OUR OWN PROUD MOMENTS, LIKE WHEN MINISTER PAUL HILL, KILLED AN ABORTION DOCTOR IN FLORIDA OR THE REVEREND MICHAEL BRAY WHO BURNED CLINICS. THEN THERE ARE THOSE LIKE THE REVEREND WILDMAN'S SECT AND OTHERS WHO PICKET FUNERALS OF HOMOSEXUALS LIKE THE MURDERED MATTHEW SHEPPARD, TAINTING HATEFUL SLOGANS LIKE, "QUEERS AREN'T WELCOME IN HEAVEN" AND "REST IN PEACE... IN HELL", WHILE SIGHTING PASSAGES FROM THE BIBLE LIKE, LEVITICUS 18:22 AND GENESIS 1:26-28 ETC. TO TRY TO EXCUSE THEIR HATRED OF THE DECEASED, AND HITTER DISRESPECT FOR THEIR FAMILIES. I RECALL A NEWS CAMERA, ZOOMING IN ON A BUMPER STICKER, ATTACHED TO ONE OF THE PICKETERS CARS THAT READ, "KILL A QUEER FOR CHRIST"! JESUS WOULD BE SO PROUD. IT SEEMS THAT MORE AND MORE, SO-CALLED SEPARATIST GROUPS HAVE TAKEN UP THE SAME CONSERVATIVE CAUSES, YET UNDER THEIR CONCEPTION OF FREEDOM AND THE PERNICIOUS HOMOGENIZATION OF THE FIRST AND SECOND AMENDMENTS, HAVE CONJURED UP A MOST VIRULENT SOUP, THOSE WHO DON'T THINK, ACT OR WORSHIP AS THEY DO COULD END UP TAKING ON A LEVIATHAN THAT COULD COST THEM THEIR FREEDOM, THEIR SANITY OR THEIR LIFE.

OK, NOT ALL ZEALOTS SLAUGHTER BABIES OR VIRGINS TO APPEAR THEIR OMNISCIENT GODS. SO MANY PEOPLE WHO ARE INVOLVED IN THE MANY SUPERNATURAL, FAITH BASED ORGANIZATIONS, TRULY BELIEVE IN THE PARCIEVER ACTS AND TEACHINGS OF PEOPLE LIKE JESUS CHRIST, THE PROFET MOHAMMED AND SIDDHARTHA GAUTAMA, WHO ARE SAID TO HAVE TAUGHT BY EXAMPLE, GOODNESS, ACCEPTANCE, TOLERANCE AND FORGIVENESS. I DO HAVE ISSUES HOWEVER, WITH THOSE WHO BELIEVE THAT THEY ARE THE CHOSEN ONES, ON A MISSION TO ABOLISH WHAT THEY PARCIEVE AS ENCROACHING EVIL, BENT ON DESTROYING ALL THAT THEY HOLD TO BE GOOD. I BELIEVE THAT THESE PEOPLE ARE A DANGER TO THEMSELVES AND SOCIETY AS A WHOLE, AND PROBABLY MORE LIKELY THAN MOST, TO STRAP A BOMB TO THEIR BODIES AND HEAD TO THE MALL TO KILL SANTA OR AT LEAST, DISTURB YOUR REST TO TALK ABOUT WHY YOU SHOULD BE SAVED, WHILE PUSHING COPIES OF AWAKE AND WATCHTOWER. IT'S ALSO DISTURBING TO SEE HOW OFTEN RELIGIOUS TERRORISM IS LINKED TO, AND EXPLOITED BY THOSE WITH POLITICAL AGENDAS, WHO FORGE LAWS THAT ARE WITHOUT REASON, OBVIOUSLY SMITE OPPONENTS TO GAIN INCREDIBLE POWER, AND CREATE A MAZE-LIKE GOVERNMENTAL SYSTEM THAT CORRUPTS THE VERY FABRIC OF OUR EXISTANCE. KARL MARX SAID, "RELIGION IS THE SIGH OF THE OPPRESSED CREATURE, THE SENTIMENT OF A HEARTLESS WORLD... IT IS THE SPERM OF THE PEOPLE!"

NOW, EVEN THE SO-CALLED WORD OF GOD GIVES SANCTIONS TO IMMORAL ACTS, SUCH AS SLAYING ADULTERS, HOMOSEXUALS AND CHILDREN; STONING NON-VIRGINS, ENSLAVING AND BEATING PEOPLE, GENOCIDE AND SO MUCH MORE (SEE LEVITICUS 20:10, 20:13, 25:44-46, DEUTERONOMY 21:1-2, 20:16-18, 22:20-21, 2 KINGS 2:23-24 AND LUKE 12:47-48 AND MARK 9:47-48). PROFESSOR JERRY A. CONE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, WROTE OF THIS IN A PIECE CALLED "AS ATHEISTS KNOW, YOU CAN BE GOOD WITHOUT GOD", USA TODAY, 08/01/11, PAGE 7A, QUESTIONING WHETHER HUMAN MORALITY IS INSTINCTIVE, RATHER THAN A GIFT FROM GOD, SIGHTING BOTH EVOLUTION AND SECULAR REASONING AS OBSERVED WITHIN THE MANY PRIMATE GROUPS, HE

ALSO CONSIDERS PLATO'S QUESTION: "DO ACTIONS BECOME MORAL, SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY'RE DICTATED BY GOD, OR ARE THEY DICTATED BY GOD, BECAUSE THEY ARE MORAL?" HE SIGHTS THAT A GOD CANNOT BE THE SOURCE OF MORALITY, BUT AT BEST, A TRANSMITTER OF SOME HUMAN-GENERATED MORALITY BECAUSE IF HE COMMANDED US TO DO SOMETHING IMMORAL IT WOULDN'T AUTOMATICALLY BE OK. HE ALSO POSES THAT SECULAR MORALITY HAS A FLEXIBILITY AND RESPONSIVENESS THAT NO GOD-GIVEN MORALITY COULD EVER HAVE, AND THAT IN ESSENTIALLY NON-RELIGIOUS COUNTRIES SUCH AS SWEDEN DENMARK AS WELL AS THE NETHERLANDS, ALTRUISM IS SECOND TO NONE! IN FACT THEIR LIBERAL SOCIAL PROGRAMS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN USED AS MODELS FOR A MORAL, INTELLECTUAL SOCIETY.

THE IMPORTANCE THAT AN INDIVIDUAL PLACES ON A CONTINUING DEVOTION TO, OR WORSHIP OF ONE OR MORE ETHERIAL BEING, SEEMS TO BE DEPENDANT ON ISSUES INVOLVING, SELF-ESTEEM OR A VULNERABILITY TO SUGGESTION OR PERSUASION BY OTHERS WHO OFFER A DESIRED OR NEEDED SUPPORT SYSTEM. THOUGH RECRUITMENT IS USUALLY GENERAL TO EVERYONE THAT COULD BRING ESSENTIAL NUMBERS TO MOST SECTS, THOSE WHO SEEM HAPLESS, HOPELESS AND HABITUAL, SEEM TO BE TARGETED MORE OFTEN THAN THOSE WITH STABLE, PRODUCTIVE EXISTENCES. THE KU KLUX KLAN AND OTHER SUPREMACIST GROUPS ARE KNOWN FOR USING THEIR OWN CHILDREN TO RECRUIT SCHOOLMATES INTO THEIR AMERICAN BORN, WHITE CHRISTIAN CULT, BY PLAYING TO THE CHILDHOOD DISINTEREST IN SCHOOL, RULES AND PARENTAL CONTROLS, BY OFFERING AN ENVIRONMENT OF FUN, GUNS, SEX AND ALCOHOL... NOT TO MENTION HATE FOR THOSE WHO LOOK, ACT AND THINK DIFFERENTLY.

THOUGH I PERSONALLY LIKEN A CONVERSATION ABOUT THE EXISTENCE OF GOD TO BE ABOUT AS INTELLIGENT AS A SERIOUS DISCUSSION ABOUT LEPRECHAUNS OR FIRE-BREATHING DRAGONS, MY MIND MUST AND WILL REMAIN OPEN. I MEAN, WHO WOULDN'T LIKE TO SEE A REAL FIRE-BREATHING DRAGON, IF ANYONE COULD GIVE ME THE SLIGHTEST BIT OF ACTUAL PROOF OF THE EXISTENCE OF SUPERNATURAL BEINGS OR A LOGICAL REASON TO DO ANY MORE THAN ACKNOWLEDGE THEM, IF THEY DID INFACT EXIST, THEY WOULD HAVE MY UNDIVIDED ATTENTION. ELLUSIONIST, JAMES RANDY (WHO HAS OFFERED \$1,000,000 FOR ANY CREDIBLE EVIDENCE OF ANY KIND THAT WOULD PROVE SUPERNATURAL EXISTENCE), ONCE SAID, "IF THERE TRULY WERE PEOPLE OUT THERE WITH SUPERNATURAL POWERS, DON'T YOU THINK THAT AT LEAST ONCE YOU'D READ THE HEADLINE... PSYCHIC WINS LOTTERY"?

FINALLY, TO ALL OF THE DRUIDS, WITCHES, WARLOCKS, WICCANS AND OTHER WAND WIELDING, SPELL CASTING SECTARIES OF THE MYSTICAL ARTS, WHO RESIDE IN PRISONS AND JAILS EVERYWHERE, WHAT HAPPENED? DID YOUR JUDGES USE BINDING SPELLS OR WERE YOU JUST FRESH OUT OF UNICORN HORN? I MEAN, I GET THAT YOU ARE UNABLE DO A SPELL TO GET OUT, BUT HOW ABOUT ONE THAT WILL GET US SOME DECENT FOOD?

NEXT UP, WE VISIT THOSE OTHER WACKY PARAmours OF VIRTUE WHO MAKE, BRAKE, AND MANIPULATE THE LAWS OF THE LAND IN "WHAT STRANGE BEDFELLOWS BE, THESE BASTARDS OF DEMOCRACY",