

## Deceit and the Political Right

by Jon Faulkner via dasha - CommonDreams *Sunday, Oct 3 2010, 7:26am*

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Without being entirely dismissive of the progressive response to the right's ascendancy it is painfully obvious that words, no matter how eloquent or apt, fall short when arguing the progressive ideology. Republican sophists use rhetorical argument, albeit in the absence of truth, to great success to refute the progressive left.

Progressives expend endless words making their case, and for any progressive who reads such words, they are a strong argument. But the right will always win any argument against the left because, as any story teller knows, rationality/actuality falls short of deception when it is assumed the reciprocate will suspend belief.

How, one may ask, do republicans connect so successfully with their mindless southern and mid-western base, and independents whose lukewarm considerations are easily swayed? *Deceit is a powerful weapon and those who have no regard for morality wield it to their great advantage.* [Emphasis added.]

When one side adheres to the rules, and the other side is free of any ethical or moral boundary, the outcome is a foregone conclusion.

The Sophists, in the fifth century B.C. saw Socrates drink the poison Kool Aid. The Grecian aristocracy, aware of the Sophist's casual consideration of the truth, encouraged their young nobility to sophistry (deception). Today, while progressives appeal endlessly to the questionable intellect of the masses, the right gives them simplistic, distorted descriptions of what could be except for the liberal enemy.

As deceitful as any Sophist the right never hesitates to employ any subterfuge, exaggeration, anecdotal license or bold faced lie to achieve its ends. Progressives, perpetually unable to respond in kind, resort to logic, rationalities and the ever popular excuse of forgiving themselves. The results are as predictable as gravity.

The left, as always, is forced into a defensive position, which as any chess player or military leader knows, is the weakest of all possible positions. Cowardice fails to explain the mea culpa of the progressive left. If it were only a fault it would be correctable, but it seems to be a mindset.

The Sophists spearheaded the attack against Socrates and finally, and in spite of "his" apology, he was put to death. The Socratic defense, constructed by his student Plato, nonetheless survives today as a procedural defense in product liability, tort defense and other disciplines of the legal process.

With such an historical precedent, that acknowledges deceit trumping truth, it is any wonder that after 2400 years progressives remain impotent and defenseless in their refutation of the right's flagrant lies.

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