

1 Culture War

- Figuring Out American Politics

2 Politics

3 Lightning Rod “Sarah”

- “I’m shocked that Sarah Palin has been chosen to run as McCain’s running mate. Who cares if she’s a hockey mom? I believe she has dangerous beliefs which are counter-intelligent and which fly in the face of more than two centuries of reasoned science and philosophy.”

4 Culture War

- The phrase “Culture War” is a metaphor used to claim that political conflict is based on sets of conflicting values.
- These values come from our worldview, which is the framework we use to interpret the world around us and interact with it.
- So the passionate political conflict we see today is not an argument over issues, it is actually a conflict between two competing worldviews and their corresponding values.
- Judeo-Christian vs. Secular Humanist
- Conservative (Right) vs. Progressive (Liberal/Left)

5 Culture War

- “There is a religious war going on in our country for the soul of America. It is a cultural war, as critical to the kind of nation we will one day be as was the Cold War itself.”
- In addition to criticizing “environmental extremists” and “radical feminism,” he said public morality was the defining issue of our time.

6 Culture War

- In his book, Culture Warrior, O’Reilly asserts that the United States is in the midst of a “vicious culture war” between “traditionalists” and “secular-progressives”.

7 Definitions

- Traditionalist
 - Is someone who believes that the United States is, more often than not, a noble country that has made some mistakes.
 - Believe in the family unit and place emphasis on spirituality, selflessness, and charitable causes.
- Secular Progressives
 - Individuals who reject the Judeo-Christian worldview.

- Want to social engineer a brave new world void of what they believe is repressive social norms and values.

8 Waring Issues

- Traditionalist
- National

9 Waring Values

- Traditionalist
- National

10 My Definition

- A SP is a person who has rejected or misunderstood the Judeo-Christian worldview and has instead developed a romantic notion on what the world ought to be and seeks to achieve this secular utopian state through progressive social engineering and change.
- Rejecting the long held religious belief that happiness was the result of pleasing God, SP instead make happiness an entitlement to be enjoyed now and the responsibility of government to make it happen.
- So to take from the rich and give to the poor will bring heaven to the earth for many, then who cares if rights of the few are forgotten.

11 My Definition

- If "abortion on demand" provides escape from the hardships of unwanted pregnancy then so what if the rights of the unborn are overlooked.
- If a marriage doesn't work out or you find someone else that's better, then break your marriage vows because happiness is the ultimate good and should be pursued at all cost.
- Happiness is then the measure of everything. It is an entitlement even given to terrorist, murderers, rapists, and child molesters who aren't bad people but individuals who only need education and counseling.

12 Theological Perspective

- Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place." (John 18:36 NIV)
- But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, (Philippians 3:20 NIV)

13 Theological Perspective

▪And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. 14 People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. 15 If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 Instead, they were longing for a better country — a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them. (Hebrews 11:13–16 NIV)

14 Theological Perspective

- Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. (1 Peter 2:11 NIV)
- We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, . . . (2 Corinthians 5:20 NIV)
- The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said: “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever.” (Revelation 11:15 NIV)

15 Theological Perspective

- The Kingdom of Christ (Isaiah 9)
 - government will be on his shoulders . . .
 - increase of his government and peace there will be no end . . .
 - establish—upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever . . .
 - called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace . . .

16 Theological Perspective

- But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness. (2 Peter 3:13 NIV)

17 Conclusion

- There is a war going on today that is really more about God and truth than most people realize.
- While we should promote good government and strive to protect the rights of the innocent, the fight is ultimately God’s.
- Politicians love to tell us what we want to hear, yet often fail to deliver on their promises for one reason or another.

18 Conclusion

- It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. (Psalms 118:8 NIV)

19 Conclusion

- “Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. 11 He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.” (1 Peter 3:10–12 NIV)