



A WEEKLY COMMENTARY

# ON TARGET

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*The price of Freedom is eternal vigilance –*

Print Post Publication Number 381667 00258

Vol.43, No.28

July 20th, 2007

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:** The Party Power-Game: A political Party is a group of people who share a sectional viewpoint which they are convinced is right and so they seek to gain power for themselves in order to impose it on others who disagree with them. This is quite incompatible with decentralised action, which it merely uses as a part of the propaganda means for attaining the power of government. All such Parties start off full of 'democratic ideals' which soon turn out to be impracticable and obviously incompatible with the seeking of centralised power over others."

– "On Planning the Earth IV" by Geoffrey Dobbs, "*Home*" Journal, November 1990

**ROMULUS IS NOT MY FATHER** by James Reed: Professor Raimond Gaita is professor of moral philosophy at King's College, University of London, and professor of philosophy at the Australian Catholic University. He is the author of the book "*Romulus, My Father*", which has been made into a major film starring actor Eric Bana (who has also played Bruce Benner in the Marvel Comic film "*Hulk*").

Gaita has recently said in an article in *The Australian* (4/7/07, pp.24-25) that "one of philosophy's primary tasks in public discussion is to be an uncompromisingly severe judge of intellectual laziness." That being so, let us take a philosophical look at "*Romulus My Father*".

As one critic put it in the review: "The immigrant experience underpins this tragic story of a fractured childhood." Gaita tells the story of his immigrant parents. His father's wife Christina leaves Romulus for his best friend. The book and film takes us through the tragic twists and turns of this family. The impression left in my mind – and this could be my own reader's bias – is that Australian culture somehow is responsible, at least in part for at least some of the family's plight. This has become something of a literary genre.

If this interpretation is right, I say that this is utter nonsense. The post war migrants were fortunate indeed to have been let into this country. Most of them have done well in Australia. As well, I say: there is nothing specially sad about the tragedies described in "*Romulus, My Father*". Tragic for young Raimond, yes – but not exceptionally so. In my own family and circle of people I have known, I have experienced or know someone who has experienced, worse.

For example, my best friend had a son who was the type of son any man could wish for. He was happily married at age 24 with three young children and a beautiful wife. One day he was killed in

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a hit and run accident. The funeral was attended by an enormous number of people – most could not be seated. His young wife collapsed on her knees by his coffin and kissed it as she said goodbye. She raised the children alone. She never married and still mourns for her husband. The film "Titanic" made \$1 billion out of those sort of emotions, but it is present in our own experiences.

I have known old timers who fought in most of the major battles of the 20th century. Men who were gassed in the trenches during World War I and suffered the trauma until they died. Men who cried out at night; men who could never get the sound of battle out of their ears. But they worked on, until their death, with no complaint, no psychologist and no film made about their suffering. I ask: who speaks for them? Who writes for them?

The story of the Anglo-Saxon suffering that built this nation on sweat and blood is being forgotten. Today all that counts in the literary world is the migrant experience. But, it needs to be "deconstructed", just as their intellectuals have "deconstructed" our life. If the aim of philosophy in the wider sense is to encourage the critical examination of core assumptions of our ideology, then Australia sorely needs "philosophy".

**DID OUR DIGGERS DIE FOR THIS?** by James Reed: The Australian soldiers who went off to fight in World War II, largely against the Japanese, did not want to see Australia become an Asian colony. Yet today that seems to be happening. Consider John Howard's seat of Bennelong, once an Anglo-Saxon one. The number of non-English speakers is 36.3 per cent and over half of Bennelong (58.8 per cent) were either born overseas or have parents that were. In the future, diversity breeds more diversity, until a new homogeneity – 100% Asian occurs. What is true for one city is in principle true for all. That is how a nation changes.

Criticisms of immigration seldom appear in our newspapers. Lionel Shriver "Turn of the Native", *The Australian: Literary Review*, 6/6/07 pp.7-8) has come close to raising a concern : "[There] may be a psychological tipping point at which even initially kind, broad-minded populations start to feel overrun. When a Host country's people no longer feel visited but invaded, big, scary emotions come into play, emotions little different from those of a homeowner whose house is being burgled."

I would add to this metaphor, that the "burglar" has long kicked the homeowner on the street and the system, with its ideology of hatred of tradition stands ready to punish any who object.

Shriver cites an example from America of a ranging family in New Mexico whose range has a border with Mexico. Each day 500 illegal immigrants cross the land.

This includes drug smugglers and armed "coyotes". And "having been held up more than once, the ranchers are fearful every time they walk out the door, and have written off whole tracts of their own property as too dangerous to set foot on".

I fail to see how my suggested augmented metaphor is inappropriate. The situation is well known to officials who allow it to happen because one of the benefits of immigration is cheap labour for the furnaces of capitalism.

**OUR SOCIAL DECLINE : PROSTITUTING YOUTH** by James Reed: Although attention has been finally directed towards the shocking sexual abuse of Aboriginal children, let us not forget that White children are also being sexually exploited. In Adelaide and other cities, children as young as 13 and possibly younger, have been working as prostitutes on the streets and sometimes in brothels. ("Prostitutes as Young as 13 on the Streets", *The Advertiser*, 25/6/07, p.1.) This is a clear indication

**WATCHING BRITAIN BURN** by James Reed: Terror alert and fear grips the media again as the members of a British plot to unleash a wave of car bomb attacks across Britain are captured. Articles appear in our press warning of up to 3000 young home-grown terrorists that could become radicalised in Australia. Analyses are published telling us that "Islam Must face Its Uncomfortable Truths" (*The Australian*, 3/7/07, p.12). But the problem is much deeper than that.

An article in the U.K. *International Express* (26/6/07, pp.24-25) "Destination Slough" says that Slough in Berkshire is struggling to cope with a flood of immigrants. The sub-headline says: "As the government admits immigration is out of control, racial tensions grow in the Berkshire town where 80 languages are spoken and a quarter of the population have come from abroad."

Books such as Mark Steyn's "*America Alone: The End of the World As We know It*" (2006) are right to see radical Islam as a major threat to the West. But it is only part of a major general immigration led disaster.

The U.K. Department of Education has just released figures showing that in London primary schools, 53.4 per cent of students do not use English as their main language. In secondary schools the figure drops slightly to 49.3 per cent. These sorts of statistics are replicated across the country. No nation can survive the type of chaos caused by the undermining of a common language.

Thus the British government's commission on the future of a "Multiethnic Britain" has rejected the concept of "Britishness" itself and advocates that British history be "revised, rethought, or jettisoned". They call it multiculturalism, but we should call it cultural genocide, the attack on our kind.

The original of the political correctness ideology, as argued by Frank Ellis in his book "*Political Correctness and the Theoretical Struggle*", is firmly rooted in communist doctrine. Old Chairman Mao spoke and wrote about it a lot. Now we live under it: hasn't Lenin, Marx and Mao really won? Perhaps the first battle, but we must not let it end this way!

**Mmmmm.... THE POPE ABOUT TO UPSET THE JEWS?** by Betty Luks: The present Pope has announced that the Old Latin Mass, suppressed in 1969, will make a comeback. But, the old rite has passages saying that the Jews live in "blindness" and "darkness" and a prayer is made that "the Lord our God may take the veil from their hearts and that they may acknowledge our Lord Jesus Christ". (*The Advertiser*, 30/6/07, p.75.)

It will be interesting to see if race hatred legislation will be used against the Roman Catholic Church. There seems to be at least a problem in Victoria with its very restrictive Racial and Religious Tolerance Act.

**Patrick J. Buchanan:** An American Catholic, Mr. Buchanan had the following to say about the "Return Of The Latin Mass, Traditionalists Triumph, Despite ADL", 9/7/07: "Elevated to the papacy at 78, Benedict XVI will take no action greater in significance for the Catholic Church than his *motu proprio* [English | Latin] declaring that the Latin Mass must be said in every diocese-on the request of the faithful. Dissenting bishops must comply.

"What earlier generations held as sacred remains sacred and great for us, too," said the Holy Father in his apostolic letter, as he authorized the universal use of the sole official version of the mass allowed of the social decay of our society and our descent into a dark age. It makes a mockery of the economic reductionist claim that all is well with Australia because the economy is 'bubbling along'. These economists, clearly, seldom walk the streets after dark.

in the four centuries between the Council of Trent and Vatican II. To which many Catholics will respond: "Alleluia! Alleluia!"

And so the pope has come full circle. At Vatican II, the future Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, head of the Holy Office for the Defense of the Faith under John Paul II, went about in coat and tie and was seen as a radical reformer and modernist theologian in the mould of his friend Hans Kung.

Now, Kung is silent, Ratzinger is pope, and the Latin Mass, which had fallen into disuse with the introduction of the new rite in 1970, is back. Why? Because the Holy Father knows the solemnity, mystery and beauty of the Latin Mass hold magnetic appeal, not only for the older faithful but the searching young. And he acted to advance a reconciliation with traditionalists out of communion with the Holy See, including the 600,000 followers of the late Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre, excommunicated in 1988, who belong to his Society of Saint Pius X...."

**HITLER, SYPHILIS AND THE HOLOCAUST** by Peter Ewer: The title of the article is "Hitler's Syphilis Blamed for Holocaust" (*The Advertiser*, 22/6/07, p.37). A psychiatrist, Dr. Bassem Habeeb has said that there is "ample circumstantial evidence" that Hitler had syphilis. The claim was made to a Royal College of Psychiatrists' meeting in Edinburgh. The disease's effect on Hitler's brain and Hitler's belief that the disease originated in and was propagated by the Jews may have led to Hitler's blueprint for the Holocaust, Dr. Habeeb said.

David Irving conclusively refuted the claim that Hitler had contracted syphilis by 1940 (through a youthful encounter with a Jewish prostitute). The argument and evidence is given in David Irving's book, *"The Secret Diaries of Hitler's Doctor"*. Hitler's doctor was Professor Theo Morell and he had tested Hitler who was tested negative for syphilis.

However, if syphilitic insanity was the cause of Hitler fuelling the blueprint for the Holocaust, there is a problem. The received version of the Holocaust requires Hitler being a morally responsible agent. If he was really insane, then he could not have been morally responsible because moral responsibility presupposes voluntary and sane action!

Hence Hitler, if insane, would not have been morally responsible for the Holocaust! Bad conclusion. Perhaps the logical ramifications of this idea should have been examined more closely.

**HOWARD WITH SECRET PLANS FOR TROOP WITHDRAWAL?** Is P.M. John Howard secretly planning to begin withdrawing Australian troops from Iraq by February 2008? According to the *Sunday Telegraph*, 1/7/07, quoting an unnamed senior military source, described Howard's withdrawal plan as "one of the most closely guarded secrets in top levels of the bureaucracy."

The newspaper said the drawdown of troops would focus on soldiers based in southern Iraq on security duty with Iraqi soldiers. Australia has about 1,500 soldiers, sailors and airmen in and around Iraq. Howard, a close ally of President Bush, has been a mainstay of support for the U.S. military presence in Iraq.

As recently as last week, Howard said there were no plans to withdraw Australian troops from Iraq, and has consistently said that Australian troops would remain in Iraq for as long as needed. A spokesman for Howard referred to the prime minister's statement last week and said he did not want to give credence to the newspaper report.

"ON TARGET" is printed and published by The Australian League of Rights, 145 Russell St., Melbourne.  
 Postal Address: GPO Box 1052, Melbourne, 3001. Telephone: (03) 9650 9749, Fax: (03) 9650 9368.  
 Subscription \$40.00 p.a.