



# ROSSMOOR NEWS

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## Republican Perspective

*By Christopher Panton*

Fame! Fame at Last!

President Obama recently treated us to his new “My Brother’s Keeper” campaign to help young minority men find a productive place in our society. By his own admission, this is his life’s work. But the fact that the announcement was made so very recently suggests that the President had only just discovered that it was his true calling. Furthermore, the wording of this on-the-spot awakening was deliberately gender biased. As things now stand, with no “My Sister’s Keeper” to look forward to, minority women are apparently on their own. Perhaps the president thinks that they should be at home having babies and not in the work force competing for the same jobs as his upcoming band of brothers.

To me, the most intriguing thing about the president’s sudden revelation is: Where the heck did that come from? What was the catalyst? Having banged around the Internet looking for answers and not finding anything helpfully definitive, I have come to the conclusion that my Rossmoor News column, “How to Advance Your Civilization” (which dealt with the re-emergence of quotas), is what caused our chief executive to panic and race to a new moral high ground. Obviously, the raw power of my silver-tongued oratory - captured in print - rocketed up the Progressives’ Pipeline Alarm and straight into the oval office.

I firmly believe that the president’s overnight epiphany was a pre-emptive strike against my investigative work becoming more widely recognized. His strategy: When minority boys are converted into productive members of society, they will be competing for jobs on merit. This means good-bye to the need for, and talk of, quotas.

To consolidate his position, the president rolled out some big guns. First, was Cecilia Munoz, White House director of the Domestic Policy Council, who allowed that: “Government does a lot of work on this issue already.” Really? Well, that being the case, it has been spectacularly unsuccessful! Next came Pulitzer Prize winner Leonard Pitts, with a column titled “Welcome to the country’s new normal.” He defined a major element of “new” as the impending ascension of the Lady Hillary to the presidential throne, currently occupied by another newbie. His definition of the recently defunct old normal was: “A world wherein straight, white Christian men still call all the shots.” Though Pitts’ Brave New World may well be festooned with junior-high-level blatherskite utterances like this one, his basic vision happens to be consistent with, and lays the foundation for, the president’s miracle program.

To give the president his due, he rightly included Hispanic brothers in his program. So, we were graced with Esther Cepeda’s unabashedly hagiographic column, “A wise investment in America.” Slobber aside, the column’s speculative main thesis is that future America will need these newly skilled brothers because of changing demographics and the need to fill a greater number of highly skilled jobs. Certainly, this is not today’s situation, where there are many skilled people of all colors still out of a job. Plus, the United States is an acknowledged technological magnet that attracts proven skilled candidates from other countries who, understandably, wish to ply their trade at the putative fountainhead.

The booster club’s high point was Rep. Barbara Lee’s (D-Oakland) opinion-piece, “My Brother’s Keeper an initiative ripe for the times.” Her column consisted mainly of a turgid litany of all the unpleasant things - leading to unpleasant statistics - that the quintessential black brother has to put up with today. With her supply of passive verbs running low, Lee blisteringly attributed responsibility for the current plight of the

brothers to “historic biases” and to “institutional” and “systemic” racism. Oh boy, right back to the very things that spawned quotas in the first place. Mr. President, I think that Rep. Lee just kicked your incipient life’s work, and with it, my 15 minutes of fame, smack into the garbage can containing your election promises.

Epilog: I would ask readers who believe that my fanciful account is so divorced from reality as to be just plain silly, to recalibrate their standards by taking a harder look at the real-world socio-political machinations going on in the United States at this very moment.

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