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Subject: Re: Why did you vote for Obama?

Posted by [Spoony](#) on Sun, 07 Dec 2008 20:53:45 GMT

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Cabal8616 wrote on Sun, 07 December 2008 14:31 And there's plenty of other religions who just so happen to be instructed to commit violence.

Yes, I'd not say otherwise, although right now the death toll in the name of Islam is a great deal higher than the others.

Cabal8616 wrote on Sun, 07 December 2008 14:31 Or, y'know, (Hitler, Stalin, Mao) don't really follow religion. Or if they do, it's incredibly loosely. Yeah, only the Muslims commit violence, amirite?

Read my earlier post about atheism. Just because you find an atheist who does something bad, it doesn't mean atheism is bad, it doesn't mean atheism is responsible for what they did. Equally, I would not say Islam is bad just because a Muslim does something bad.

BUT, and don't skip over this: if a Muslim does something bad WHEN THE ISLAMIC HOLY BOOKS SPECIFICALLY INSTRUCT HIM TO DO IT, you absolutely can (indeed, you must) fault Islam. This is the difference; there is no atheist holy book, there is nobody telling you you must carry out acts of violence against innocent bystanders, etc. You're mistaking atheism for just another religion; it's not. It's the LACK of a religion, it means you can figure out your morality for yourself instead of going by the unsupported and contradictory writings of people who, at the time the books were written, clearly didn't know much about the world we live in.

As for your three examples, you picked some pretty odd ones. Hitler was religious; he repeatedly stated in public that the reason he hated Jews so much was because he was a Christian and he held them responsible for deicide, something the Bible readily accommodates. (You might argue that he was simply pretending to be a Christian in order to gain public support, but even if you want to argue this, it hardly works in Christianity's favour or works against atheism) Stalin personally wasn't religious, but his regime absolutely was, as was Mao's.

Cabal8616 wrote on Sun, 07 December 2008 14:31 I understand why you dislike the Muslim extremism, and it pisses me off, too. But, there are some who perceive it differently. I mean, shit, should I tell you you're an angry little teenager because a good lot of atheists are angry little teenagers?

No, because there is no positive ideological connection between myself and any other atheist you care to name. Simply the fact that neither of us believe in a god doesn't mean shit. If you don't believe in the tooth fairy and neither does Stalin, that doesn't mean you have a damn thing in common.

Cabal8616 wrote on Sun, 07 December 2008 14:31 For the most part, Muslims just so happen to be in the spotlight of hatred right now, and you're kind of just falling into that crowd. Look at it from more perspectives than just what you see.

This doesn't make any kind of sense. I'm not falling into a crowd, I'm looking at the staggering death toll being racked up in the name of Islam, I'm looking at the fanatical opposition to human rights and scientific progress. As for "Muslims being in the spotlight of hatred", you don't know me very well. I don't seek to criminalise somebody for their religion; that's thoughtcrime. The idea that you can be convicted because of what you think is wholly repellent to me, and it's yet another

gripe I have against several religions who do exactly that.

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