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Subject: Re: Why did you vote for Obama?

Posted by [Spoony](#) on Wed, 10 Dec 2008 20:11:00 GMT

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Jecht wrote on Wed, 10 December 2008 20:20I say "willpower" because from my viewpoint, resisting the urge to look at another woman lustfully (even if in an advertisement in say, Victoria's Secret while walking in the mall) takes willpower, discipline, self control, or whatever you'd like to call it. A small sacrifice in order to make my future wife happier, and an active demonstration in following the words of Christ. I don't claim to be perfect; I'm very far from perfect, but I do try my best.

Ah, the good old statement that a man who looks at a woman the wrong way has already committed adultery. While I will admit that some of Jesus' reported teachings were valid, some even being quite ahead of their time, some others - including this one - are just plain nonsense. As if there is no moral difference between thinking about doing something and actually doing it!

The Ten Commandments contains the same moral bewilderment.

Still, your "argument" against secularism (I'm stretching the term "argument", but you stretched the term "secularism" even further so let's not dwell on that) seems to mean that everyone has to follow your rules just so your faith doesn't find itself tested and your "willpower" faces no challenges. I can't help but be reminded of the Islamic demagogues who impose those oppressive veils on women; in countries like Saudi Arabia, men are so sexually repressed by their religion that a woman walking around wearing typical Western clothing is almost certainly going to be raped.

Jecht wrote on Wed, 10 December 2008 20:20To answer your previous question, yes I did know what secularism meant, even if the use of the word was highly semantical and irrelevant to the point I was trying to make. A simple dictionary.com search affirms it:

If it was irrelevant to the point you were trying to make, it can only be because you were not answering my question; meaning what is wrong with you believing what you want to believe, me believing what I want to believe, and the town being big enough for the both of us? 'Cos according to you, it isn't.

You said: let's agree to disagree. That's what secularism IS - it means your religious beliefs are your own business, nobody else's and are not cause to interfere with other peoples' lives. It means you are free to believe what you want, and I am free to live my life without the poisoning effect of religious attempting to impose its own rules on every single aspect of society.

If only.

Jecht wrote on Wed, 10 December 2008 20:20If you'd like to listen, and I mean really listen, I can address some of those points you made above against Christianity. The ones I don't know would have to be fielded by someone more learned in biblical teachings like a pastor.

If I didn't like to listen, and I mean really listen, I would not have bothered engaging in this debate in the first place. As for more learned than you, this is religion we're talking about, not science. Religion is the one subject where the teacher knows no more than the student. If this pastor of yours can make guesses based on unsupported ramblings, so can you. Your pastor is no more qualified to answer those questions than you are, or I am for that matter.

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