

*It was nice to take a break from the enclosed spaces of buildings every once in a while. Liberty Park, in Salt Lake City, offered that change, and it was welcome. The weather was similar to one that might be found in a painting of the American West: big beautiful sky with little to no clouds, the sun gleaming as if it were God's own grace pouring across the landscape.*

*Under the gazebo at the center of the park, /u/ChaoticBrilliance stood with microphone in hand, looking out at the vast crowd of people, most of which sitting on quilts with a picnic basket and a few family members.*

*The /u/ChaoticBrilliance had been advertising this 'Picnic and Politics' for a while now: one can still see the charismatic gaze of /u/ChaoticBrilliance's face on the fronts of posters on main street to this day.*

"Good morning, my fellow Westerners! Are you all doing fine this crisp and clear day?"

*The crowd shouted its answer, a resounding 'Yes'.*

"That's great to hear! Now, usually, I start off with a joke, and normally, those within a certain range of my mic have to suffer through it. But today, I want to begin with something a little more serious, because the last thing we need right now, is clowns in office. I'm here to talk about the issues, so that's what I intend to do.

"We are facing a threat with precedent in motive, but not in size, in these United States. It is a movement that threatens to tear down the foundations of our nation by affecting our hearts and minds, while we pay for it to happen. Do you know what threat I'm talking about? Yes, I'm sure most of you do.

"What I speak of is the immoral threat that is culturally gripping the nation in what I might say is not dissimilar to a cultural civil war, the battlegrounds being, instead of the physical locations of farms and fields, forests and furrows, but rather the immaterial battlefields of anything that has a screen.

"Now, I know I sound like an old guy complaining about the 'newfangled youngsters' and their tastes, but to be honest, research has concluded that the youth demand an end to this stifling hothouse of restrictions on our freedoms, especially freedom of religion, just as much as their elders do.

"Why is this? Because we are currently undergoing a cultural reawakening, a moral realization that being fed leftist philosophy is not what we pay for when we pay for 'entertainment', especially among people who are just receiving the privilege of a vote. Want examples? How about the *Star Wars* franchise, in which a message of social justice turned the saga of a space epic into a leftist propaganda machine of a declining source of money as longtime fans and newcomers became disgusted with the forced messaging being shoved down their throats?

“And the fact that we are forced to accept the opinion of the left on matters of how conflicts between civil rights and civil liberties should be resolved? Ridiculous. Allow me to put it into simple terms: a civil right stops becoming a civil right when it encroaches upon someone else’s freedom. It becomes a want. And for those who will inevitably bring up the example of the honorable and successful campaign for civil rights for minorities such as African-Americans and Latinos as an example of civil rights, allow me to remind you right now: racism is illegal. Having a belief in religion is not. Not everything is the new Civil Rights Movement just because you feel guilty for opposing it in the first place, Democrats.

“But the consistently vague and undefined term of social justice as promulgated by supporters of the concept of intersectionality affects our position on economics as well.

“How so? Well, allow me to provide an example. Have you ever heard the argument that Jesus Christ was the original socialist, and thus Christians ought to vote for leftist welfare policies, expensive as any other government program and double as ineffective?

“Oh, I hear those groans. I hear you. Now let me explain why that is the most inaccurate claim I have heard in a long time, maybe even worse than my opponent’s lies!

“Many of those who use this argument mention the line ‘render unto Caesar what is Caesar’s, and unto God what are God’s unto God’, using this as a justification for taxes, despite the verse meaning that what belongs to Caesar is Caesar’s, not what belongs to Caesar is whatever he wants.

“It is one of the highest laws of the Bible that one shall not steal. So I ask you all this: why is it okay when a politician does it?

“The answer is it’s not. So when you go down to the ballot boxes, be sure to vote for a candidate who will defend the Judeo-Christian values that make up American founding principles, including your religious liberties, and will fight the policies that rob Peter to pay Paul in a forcible redistribution of wealth. Those policies, which my opponent advocate, are not the American way, and are certainly not mine.

“So get up, get out, and vote for the candidate who cares. Thank and may God Bless you all, God Bless the West, and God Bless the United States of America.”

*With this, the crowd stands on their feet, applauding candidate /u/ChaoticBrilliance as he steps off of the gazebo and into the crowd, shaking hands, making friends, and signing placards, pictures, and babies.*

*It was a good rally, and he was looking forward to many more. Many, many more.*