

Apology Not Accepted

✘ Does anyone really buy into apologies – the frequent “written or spoken expressions of one’s regret, remorse, or sorrow for having insulted, failed, injured or wronged another” that we hear all too often these days from people in the news?

I’m probably not the best person to be writing about this subject. I’m the gal whose husband tried to convince “you don’t have to say everything you think.” I’m getting better but I’ve had my moments where my foot went straight into my mouth.

I know a loudmouth when I see one and, these days, there’s no shortage. What is in short supply are people who are willing to face the consequences which result from their rants. I think it would be refreshing to hear someone say, “If you must know, I really did mean what I said and I’m not sorry.” But I guess then there’d be even more people out of work.

I’m not saying deep down everyone is a homophobic, conservative-hating, anti-God racist. But I’m getting a little tired of people running their mouths and then, when it suits them and their bank accounts, we’re supposed to forget they ever said what they did in the first place and go on as if nothing happened.

Most will fold like a house of cards under pressure and pony up their unconvincing (at least to me) apologies because their careers are in jeopardy.

Take, for example, one of my favorites, Teflon-coated Kobe Bryant. After his fourth foul in a game, he called referee Bennie Adams a “f*****g f*****t.” Under pressure the following day, he “expressed his heartfelt regret for the hurt that his words caused” and was fined \$100K.

Russell Crowe went on some ridiculous tirade against circumcision on Twitter and the following day felt the need to make additional lame comments. "I realize that some will interpret this debate as me mocking the rituals and traditions of others. I am very sorry. I have a deep and abiding love for all people of all nationalities ..." Just shut up and act.

Recently, comedian, Tracy Morgan, during a comedy routine, went on a rant about homosexuals and later found himself apologizing, probably under pressure from the people behind the scenes of his show 30 Rock. He considers himself an "equal opportunity jokester" but, apparently, not an equal opportunity apologizer because TNT, not Morgan, eventually apologized for his inappropriate comments regarding Sarah Palin.

After listening to one of President Obama's news conferences, Mark Halperin, a regular on MSNBC's "Morning Joe" show called the President a "dick." He was suspended indefinitely as an analyst on the show and issued his "heartfelt and profound apology to the President..."

Even corporations feel the need to apologize. NBC apologized for omitting "under God" from the Pledge of Allegiance during the U.S. Open broadcast. And then, when Missouri Congressman, Todd Akin, equated liberalism to a "hatred of God" in response to NBC's omission, he goes and apologizes!

None of these examples seems to me to be a slip of the tongue. They all meant to say what they said and they had to know what they said would offend someone. I doubt that Kobe meant to call the referee a "sucking maggot."

When we hear these things, are we really looking into a person's soul? When Mel Gibson went on his anti-Semitic tirade, we were told these statements reflected his deep-rooted core beliefs.

I'm not a shrink but I have to think that if someone, like

Morgan, is going to do an entire “comedy routine” about homosexuals, he certainly knows what he’s saying. For him to figure out afterwards that “even in a comedy club this clearly went too far and was not funny in any context,” what made him think it was funny in the first place? But, hey, that’s just me.

Comedian, Jon Stewart, who thinks his impersonation of Presidential hopeful, Herman Cain, was funny, hasn’t apologized (although I’d like to hear him use the same Amos ‘n Andy voice to mock Barack Obama). I didn’t think it was funny but perhaps his liberal audience did, and, besides, it’s always okay to mock a *conservative* black man.

Public mea culpas on demand come far too soon without real sincerity or much introspection as far as I’m concerned. It’s clearly all too convenient when it comes down to the wallet.

Say what you will about the Rev. Al Sharpton, but he’s never apologized for the Tawana Brawley mess he got himself into back in 1987. He’s never been willing to make “an admission of error accompanied by an expression of regret” but, for some unknown reason to me, he’s managed to continue to be the outspoken poverty pimp opportunist he’s always been.

I don’t get it, but if you do, God bless you.

P.S. I won’t be apologizing to the Rev. Sharpton any time soon.

<http://idontgetit.us>