

## **Intolerant of Intolerance - A Political Party of One**

Liberals to the left of me. Conservatives to the right. I am surrounded by a bi-polarism of the political philosophical kind. And I am feeling out numbered.

Forget the Democrats, Republicans, No Party Affiliates, Independents – and all the rest. I am a self-proclaimed ‘Tolerant’ – and by all indications, a party of one.

As a Tolerant, I realize there are no perfect laws, no rules without flaws, that every decision has a cost and find darn few absolute and lasting solutions to any problem.

I concede there are no robotically engineered perfectly logical leaders. While I do hold our leaders to a higher standard, I realize the difficulties getting through this life, in this world and at this time without so much as a blemish is a tall order for any mere human.

Tolerants are not found at the extremes of political ideology, but rather anywhere in between. Here you understand that good cannot have meaning without the existence of evil and darkness is required to define the light. In Tolerant - land there is plenty of opportunity for all because this is where the potential to accomplish amazing things lies, where hope and dreams live and where there is a real chance to coordinate diverse resources so real progress can be made. Tolerants do not proclaim to have all the answers, but they do consider the human condition on a different scale from that of facts and statistics.

‘Vision’ becomes a guide or a direction to a Tolerant – and not necessarily a destination that will be achieved in totality. It is a journey, an attempt and action toward something better. I understand and accept that over time goals and aspirations become moving targets that will mellow, refine, adjust, morph and change around values and attitudes and that will in turn, affect vision.

Tolerants are intolerant of intolerance and have no use for spin, hype, influence, or persuasion. I draw inspiration from passion to the same degree that I avoid fanaticism. While I see few permanent resolutions to the complex conflict in the world, I find great comfort and hope in its diverse potential. I appreciate, enjoy and find great wonder in the grand tapestry of differences among people and cultures - providing it does not cause harm to others.

And I have but one mission, one desire, one wish for the entire planet – to each day find some way to make something a bit better, to share it with others, and to give someone the courage and perseverance to keep trying to do the same.

Life is a training ground to learn the best ways to improve processes and situations in helping others. Tolerants thrive in the ongoing struggle to find new ways to put together opportunities to make things work better than they were previously.

Alas, I live in hope that I am not actually a party of one and that my ‘polar’ friends will widen their view to see the world as it truly is – full of infinite possibility.