

Profiling

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Other police chiefs do support the Justice Department idea. Yet, to some who remember the recent years of turmoil within law enforcement and in the larger society about police racial profiling it must seem astonishing to hear such objections coming from some leaders of the police community.

But to me it's a measure of two things.

First, it exemplifies the progress that can occur when that great strength of a democracy—the commitment to civil discourse—is held by two camps with viewpoints that at first glance seem diametrically opposed. More and more police officials are saying that racial or religious or ethnic profiling is not only unfair, it's not good policing.

Secondly, the willingness of these police officials to speak out offers a trenchant example that thoughtful dissent, even and perhaps especially during a national emergency, is evident of a powerful commitment to both good policing and national security and to democratic values.

Hate Crimes

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agencies to hate crimes insures that federal officials can't accurately gauge the magnitude of hate violence. This fosters the false public impression that hate crimes have diminished or are non-existent.

While the police agencies that don't report or minimize hate crimes bear some of the blame for the laxity in not branding hate crimes as hate crimes, so do federal officials. When Congress passed the Hate Crimes Statistics Act of 1990, it compelled the FBI to collect figures on hate violence. However, it did not compel police agencies to report them.

Recordkeeping on hate crimes is still left up to the discretion of local police chiefs and city officials. Many don't bother compiling them because they regard hate crimes as a politically loaded minefield that can tarnish their image and create even more racial friction. They see no need to allocate more resources to enable police to recognize and combat hate violence. Many police agencies in America haven't established hate task force units, or set specific procedures for dealing with hate crimes.

The Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 1998 was aimed at closing these loopholes and increasing the types of hate crimes prosecuted, and the penalties for them. But the measure is still frozen in the Senate. With Congress fixated on passing and bankrolling the wave of anti-terrorism laws, with provisions that come dangerously close to greenlighting racial profiling and sanctioning civil liberties violations against Arab-Americans, expanded hate crimes legislation is dead in the water. While President Bush and Attorney-General John Ashcroft publicly condemn hate attacks against Muslims, given their stubborn past hostility to tougher

hate crimes laws, there's little reason to expect them to do an about face and prod Congress to pass the bill.

The hatemongers that pappered Chicago suburbs with fliers blaming the World Trade Center attack on minorities and Jews also put American lives at risk. FBI and police agencies should make tracking them the same high priority they make tracking foreign terrorists in America.

Earl Ofari Hutchinson is an author and columnist. Visit his news and opinion website: www.thehutchinsonreport.com.

Santa

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Nicholas Feast day. He was recognized as the patron saint of children, unmarried girls, sailors, pawnbrokers (moneylenders), Russia, Greece, Venice and many other locales and classes of persons. More than 2,000 chapels and monasteries were named after him by the end of the 1400s and the date of his death, Dec. 6, was named St. Nicholas Feast day.

Since prehistoric times people have had mid-winter festivals around the winter solstice time. The Roman Empire had Saturnalia, which was a time of feasts, gambling and singing. In its early years the church had no mid-winter celebration.

Pope Julius I remedied that. He made Dec. 25 the day to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ (not birthday, just the birth because his birthday is unknown.) with Christ's Mass.

During the 1600s and 1700s on the eve St. Nicholas day Dutch children put their shoes by the fireplace and during the night St. Nicholas would drop candy and presents and down the chimney for them. That gift-giving custom was moved from St. Nicholas eve to Christmas Eve.

The children of the immigrant Dutch brought their vision of Sinter Klaas with them, especially the gift giving. In 1809 Washington Irving, the author of "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" and the "Knickerbocker Tales," changed the heretofore tall thin Sinter Klaas of the Dutch into a plump Santa Claus wearing a floppy hat with a pipe in his hatband who rode a wagon over tree tops while dropping presents down chimneys.

Washington Irving's floppy hat Santa Claus didn't last too long. In 1822 Clement Moore's "A Visit from St. Nicholas" a sleigh replaced Washington Irving's wagon, eight reindeer replaced the two horses, Santa's nose got red and each of the reindeer got a name.

In 1869 Thomas Nast, a cartoonist for Harper's Weekly, gave Santa Claus his white beard in an illustration for a book of Christmas poems and in the 1930s through a song, "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer," Santa Claus got a lead reindeer.

As for the real Christmas, the commercial activity, it first started in 1841 when the J.W. Parkinson store in Philadelphia had a real "Chriscringle" come down a

chimney in the store right before the eyes of wide-eyed children. It was a success and was widely copied.

That's understandable. What is not understandable is why Saint Nicholas, a thin Middle Eastern man, had to

be converted into a fat Nordic looking man for acceptability. I shouldn't wonder too much because images of Jesus Christ, a Middle Eastern Semite, fit European men, not Arab or Jewish Semites. Why?

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ADDEMDUM NUMBER 04

POSTPONEMENT OF BID DUE DATE

BID 013-02

SOUTH STRIP TRANSFER TERMINAL

The Reginal Transportation Commission (RTC) of Southern Nevada herewith issues this Addendum No. 04, to the above referenced BID for the South Strip Transfer Terminal in order to extend the due date for submission of bids.

1. The deadline for submission of bids is modified as follows: **Bid Proposals Due 2:00 pm PST, December 19, 2001.**
2. The RTC will issue an addendum clarifying all questions and issues submitted to date no later than December 10, 2001.

Except as modified herein all other terms and conditions of RFB 013-02 shall remain in full force and effect. Please acknowledge this Addendum No. 4 when submitting your bid.
/s/ Linda M. Poling
Senior Purchasing Analyst
Published: Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice — 11/29/01

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Published: Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice — November 29, 2001

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LAS VEGAS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
Human Resources Department
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OR download from our website at www.lvwd.com

Filing deadline: 5:30 p.m., Monday, December 10, 2001. Faxes and resumes will not be accepted in lieu of the required application package.



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