"Understanding & Combating Racism --- August Update: Hope, Transparency, and 'The Chosen'

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| **Bill Wynne** |

 | 8:20 AM (2 hours ago) |  |  |
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| to Bill, bcc: me |

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Dear Friends, Family, Colleagues ...

First a few personal insights about**Hope.** In the last chapter of my memoir titled *'Truth, Reconciliation, Hope, and Action'*  starting on page 162, there are a couple of Fr. Richard Rohr quotes as follows:

* *"The virtue of****hope****is the patient and trustful willingness to live without closure, without resolution, and still be content and even happy because our satisfaction is now at another level, and our source is beyond ourselves."*
* *"The virtue of****hope****with great irony, is the fruit of a learned capacity to suffer wisely, calmly, and generously. The ego demands success to survive; the soul needs only meaning to thrive. Somehow****hope****provides its own kind of meaning, in a most mysterious way." (From his book 'Just This').*

Over the past ten years or so, Hope has been exemplified in my life through what I've learned about the Black experience over the centuries and their incredible, radical resilience in the face of the repeated and continued onslaught of bias, prejudice, and violence. Yet they prevail and persist with a remarkable **Hope** that Rohr talks about above.

People sometimes ask me why I am so hopeful given the times we are living in. One of my responses is that our grandparents and parents had their own dark times to work through including two world wars plus several others wars cold and hot, the threat of fascism followed by communism, the Great Depression, pandemics, and much more ... and our generation is now enduring the residuals from these tragic events and further complicated by many other new and "modern" factors.

So our family members who walked before us prevailed mightily through their own struggles ... as can we!

Likewise, Blacks and others of color have endured through their own sufferings over many centuries and I believe we can learn much from their playbook built upon the virtue of Hope despite the ever-present, ongoing, cruel realities of racism within their lives.

Over the next several months in future updates, I will be building upon this 'hopeful' framework and theme since unfortunately the times suggest that there will continue to be needs.  I "hope" this will provide some encouragement, fortitude, and resilience for many of you.

One closing thought for now: it is relatively easy for anyone to claim "victimhood" and play the "blame game", but I try to remind myself that this is a trap, leads to excuses, finger pointing, wrongful rationalization, and is a form of a "comfort zone". If we ally and surround ourselves within hope, these masks are not necessary.

Please see my most recent blog post which discusses 'Transparency', another important  Principle of Democracy. To broaden the topic a little further, I also show how the very popular TV program, 'The Chosen', could relate to Transparency, as well as how it  portrays racism, prejudice, and male supremacy through its narrative and character development.

I'd appreciate any thoughts and comments. Go to: <https://www.wewynneauthor.com/2024/07/29/the-chosen-and-transparency-a-principle-of-democracy/>

Some relevant and important Links this month:

* <https://rochesterbeacon.com/2024/07/17/why-were-sandra-doorley-and-marvin-taylor-treated-differently/>  ---  the differences are startling but unfortunately not surprising ..
* <https://heathercoxrichardson.substack.com/p/july-28-2024?utm_source=post-email-title&publication_id=20533&post_id=147115092&utm_campaign=email-post-title&isFreemail=true&r=hzcbm&triedRedirect=true&utm_medium=email> ... especially the last few paragraphs which offer "hope"
* <https://email.cac.org/t/d-e-edhvjk-tlkrtkjkyd-g/> --- For Reflection
* <https://email.cac.org/t/d-e-edktlil-tlkrtkjkyd-z/> -- For Reflection
* <https://www.afscme.org/blog/trumps-project-2025-would-take-away-many-of-our-hard-won-rights-and-freedoms#:~:text=His%20plan%20%E2%80%94%20all%20900%20pages,written%20by%20top%20Trump%20advisers>. --- VERY IMPORTANT TO KNOW ABOUT
* <https://americanfalseprophets.org/jd-vance> ... Related to the previous link
* <https://www.pines-rehab.com/>
* <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfyF9cYIinTfwmNcyvdmxdahlwgbtz_pHWsHgQqGwWN0lYKmA/viewform> --- Hope you can make it
* [https://exploringracism.org/update-week-ending-07-20-2024](https://exploringracism.org/update-week-ending-07-20-2024/)/

Peace ... and continue to hang in there with HOPE! ... Bill

PS:...  A question that will probably come up for each of us as the elections get closer, as well as various derivations : who are you voting for?

My personal answer is that no matter what the level of political candidates, I'm voting for Democracy, Freedom, and Decency vs. Autocracy,  the weird (just one way to describe it) 'Project 2025', and Chaos! ... The "who" in terms of the candidate of my choosing will then take care of itself.

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[*https://www.amazon.com/author/billwynne*](https://www.amazon.com/author/billwynne)

*Website:*[*www.wewynneauthor.com*](http://www.wewynneauthor.com/)

***My Personal Mantra***

*As a Servant Leader, strengthen and broaden relationships within a prayerful, vulnerable, inclusive, loving, nonviolent, forgiving (“70x7”), yet relentless “Jesus” spirit of allyship and solidarity in my never-ending pursuit of racial justice for the “common good”!*

*References: Luke 6:27-31; Matthew 5:16; Joshua 24:15; My memoir*