

SORE WINNERS.

Sore losers are cry-babies ...

by Vic Berecz

Sore losers have been with us always, so it's relatively easy to understand them ... if not to sympathize with them. They are simply people unwilling and unable to understand the reality of a situation or to accept their own shortcomings. They become cry-babies. But, *sore winners* are a newer phenomenon. In November 2004, I wrote:

I haven't heard many *sore losers* since the election results became known. Most of the folks who, like me, voted for John Kerry have been saying *Dubya* won it fair and square, let's all pull together like real Americans and work to make his second presidential term more successful than his first. But, unfortunately, I've heard too many *sore winners* in the last week, especially on the radio talk shows. Some took a religious approach ... the Lord demands that we root out evil; and everyone who voted for John Kerry is, by definition, in league with the devil. But, other commentators took it further and offered their *final solution*. What they proposed was that "all those blue states should secede and join Canada, that would leave the *real America* for the *real Americans*."

That last phrase really leaves me cold ... who are *they* to define the *real America* and *real Americans*? To define a community you need to look around you, not look in a mirror. But, more on that another time.

Also, I won't go on quoting from my old rant which *proved*, that if *blue-state-secession* came to pass, "there would be no America, as we know it, left for any of us." Rather, let's fast-forward almost five years and listen to the next generation of sore winners. Just a year ago, Congressman Dennis Kucinich (D-OH) proclaimed that "The Bush Administration is a Ongoing Criminal Conspiracy." Shortly after last November's election, Paul Abrams said, "... the Obama Justice Department has no choice but to prosecute Cheney for war crimes." Since then there has been an incessant vindictive streak accusing the Bush-Cheney administration of everything from "murder" (of every person who died as a result of the Iraq war) to perjury (for violating their *Oaths of Office*). President Obama was correct to say, "We should be looking forward and not backwards." Hopefully that attitude will prevail. It's all too easy to see things we disagree with as *criminal* ... it's all too easy to be vindictive. Let's stop this overreaction now!

Winners or losers ... liberal or conservative ... red or blue ... the reality is that we need each other, if for nothing else, as checks and balances. The only way we can succeed is for most of us to be willing to stand up and shout from the rooftops, "I'm a patriotic American because I can tolerate you, even though I don't agree with you about everything. I'm a patriotic American because I am willing and able to work with you to make this a better place for all of our children and grand-children."

Yes, we must look carefully at history, so that we can learn from it and not repeat its mistakes. But, something we don't need to do now ... or ever ... is to start down that slippery path that leads to each new government obsessing about the faults of its predecessor to the point of jailing or even executing the nation's previous leaders. This is a formula worthy only of *tin-pot* dictators ... it's not the American-way. Americans should not be vindictive. Let's be gracious winners ...

... being a sore winner is down-right un-American.