

Saturday, February 4, 2006

The current state of Denmark

PissedOffPencil writes in his blog how Jyllands Posten made a grave error in judgement when publishing the infamous pictures of Islamic prophet Mohammed. While I agree with the truth of the statement he continues to say that "they" (not sure if he means Jyllands Posten or the entire Danish people) are hiding behind the freedom of speech that we have in Denmark. See, that's just not true. What people are defending when it comes to the freedom of speech is the fact that right after the pictures were published, the Danish Prime Minister (who is, btw, not a social democrat, but a right wing liberalist), were approached by a number of official people from countries that mainly have Islam as their religion, and he was asked to intervene and take measures against Jyllands Posten. He declined, because the political system cannot enforce their views on the press, but the press has to be dealt with, first, by an ethical board, and then the courts. THAT is what people are defending. Okay, so the Prime Minister did decline to talk to 11 ambassadors for these countries, which, in my opinion, has made this sorry ordeal what it is. Now we can just sit back and see what will happen. I, personally, hope that we can conclude this in a nice and respectable manner. Muslims and people of any religion are welcome in my country. Their religious symbols should not be made fun of. Peace.

Posted by Sune Trudslev in Rants at 08:49

I apologize for not being more clear in my post about this matter. With "they" I meant media in general and Jyllandsposten specifically. The Danish people in general are in my experience very hospitable and kind and I actually had a hard time believing that those pictures originated from Denmark of all places.

I also apologize for getting the Danish Prime Ministers party wrong. This was a slip of my brain due to the Danish word *Venstre*, which means "left" in Swedish. I do know that Venstre is a right wing party but this time my brain just continued on the left track. I'm sorry about that. I usually check facts before posting.

As one of my commentaries pointed out, the Danish Prime Minister could have taken a personal stand about those pictures early on, but instead chose to ignore the concerns raised by Muslim officials. With Denmark already involved in Iraq it doesn't take much brain power to see that this was a potentially dangerous decision.

The fact that the Danish Prime Minister actually didn't react until Danish economic interests were threatened just adds to the anger of many Muslims and of course extremists seize the opportunity to blow it out of proportions by targeting the poor and uneducated part of Muslim people who only have a vague knowledge of the world in general.

I really hope that this comes to a peaceful solution but frankly I'm quite concerned.

Anonymous on Feb 4 2006, 10:46