"A Nation Founded by Geniuses"

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By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—Have you ever noticed how some ideas jump off a page when presented by a comedian? The following 10 ideas were posted on the Internet.

Although the writing style imitates the presentation style of comedian Jeff Foxworthy, snopes.com concludes that Mr. Foxworthy was not the author of the material. (If imitation is the best form of flattery, Mr. Foxworthy should be smiling to see his style being used by others.)

Consider the following contradictions.

Financial matters

- If your government believes that the best way to eradicate trillions of dollars of debt is to spend trillions more—you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots.
- If hard work and success are met with higher taxes and more government regulation and intrusion while not working is rewarded with food stamps, WIC checks, Medicaid benefits, subsidized housing and free cell phones—you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots.
- If you pay your mortgage faithfully, denying yourself the newest big-screen TV, while your neighbor buys iPhones, time-shares, a wall-sized do-it-all plasma-screen TV and new cars, and the government forgives his debt when he defaults on his mortgage—you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots.
- If the government wants to prevent stable, law-abiding citizens from owning gun magazines that hold more than 10 rounds, but gives many F-16 fighter jets to leaders of warmongering nations—you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots.

Proper identification

■ If you can get arrested for hunting or fishing without a license, but not for entering and remaining in the country legally—you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots.

■ If you must show your identification to board an airplane, cash a check, buy liquor, check out a library book and rent a video, but not to vote for who runs the government—you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots.

School presentations

- If a 7-year-old boy can be thrown out of school for saying his teacher is "cute" but hosting a sexual exploration or diversity class in grade school is perfectly acceptable—you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots.
- If talking about sex with adults at work is considered sexual harassment but talking about sex with kindergartners in school is considered important—you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots.

Getting permission

- If you have to get your parents' permission to go on a field trip or to take an aspirin in school, but not to change your gender—you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots.
- If you have to get your parents' permission to go on a field trip or to take an aspirin in school, but not to get an abortion—you might live in a nation that was founded by geniuses but is run by idiots.