

## Somebody Had to Say It

# Here's the reason I side with the left

It seems that nowadays, scandal upon scandal upon resignation (I'm talking about you, Karl Rove) has kept the political spectrum rife with tension.

Democrat and Republican state representatives have landed in hot water for drunken mishaps.

Nationally, we have vermin in the White House. Oh, and George Bush is in the White House, too.

Our elected officials are in the media everywhere, and the maelstrom of media coverage has left the voting (and non-voting) public confused as to whom they should trust.

I'd like to think that I keep myself well-informed on issues that most people treat with apathy.

I don't necessarily align myself with either of the powerhouse political parties.

I'm not anal retentive enough to be Republican, but I don't exactly feel like a Democrat.

For a large part of my life, I went with what my parent's views seemed to be.

I remember attending a rally for George Bush at the Michigan State University train station in 1999 with my mother and thinking, "Wow, what a great man he is."

Almost a decade later I seem to have lost that sentiment.

As I progressed through adolescence, I began to grasp political concepts for myself and began formulating my own opinions.



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ions.

While I respect my parent's political views, I began to disagree with some, but not all, of them.

I began siding myself with the left on many social issues because of how I truly felt.

My sudden switching of loyalties took many people off guard.

Aspersions were cast, and eventually I was told I was leading a destructive, liberal lifestyle.

Apparently liberals think that they can do whatever they want without having to follow the rules, or at least that's what I was told.

Frankly, I am happy

being who I am.

I am open-minded and very accepting of new experiences and concepts.

I embrace civil liberties with open arms and believe that teaching love and tolerance isn't something only the left should be doing.

I don't like war, and don't piss yourselves because that doesn't mean I don't support the troops.

I strongly support illegal immigration rights, and I have no respect for people who think "Catch an Illegal Immigrant Day" would be a funny idea.

Does supporting these things really make me a bad person?

Does the fact that I stand up for the rights of the gay community make me a sinner or a liberal?

Well I have no apologies.

I typically view myself as more of a libertarian than a liberal.

I strongly believe in the decisions I make. I'm not

out to harm or offend anyone, but I feel as long as I am informed of the risks of making a particular decision, I should be allowed to decide whether I want to do something.

That doesn't mean I am going to go off and smoke crack.

I just value my independence the most, and I hold that to be one of the the strongest convictions that I, or anyone, can make.

There are plenty more things people can worry about other than my political beliefs, and frankly, if that is enough to upset anyone, then I don't even want to waste the time or experience the drama.

Benjamin Disraeli once said to "never apologize for feeling, because to do so is to apologize for the truth."

I strongly agree with what he said, even if he was a Republican.

## The Lookout

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