



## Clanking Chains: Kohl's "Degrees of Antagonism" Become Rhetorical Weapons under "Verbal Inflation"

- 47- **Prejudice** consists of "prejudging a group of people ... to be negative or inferior. It is a rigid attitude that is generalized toward all members of a group, whether one knows them or not." Under verbal inflation even **criticism** of a group or idea is considered to be prejudice. Criticism is the "expression of disapproval based on perceived faults or mistakes." (*NOAD*, 405)
- 48- For example, based on perceived faults and mistakes, I find reason to criticize those who promote the idea that men and women ought to go through basic training together or that women should be assigned to combat roles. But cultural Marxism would call this prejudice against women.
- 49- **Discrimination** is prejudice where "one group of people has the power to dominate another. When that dominant group turns its prejudice into institutionalized forms of depriving the oppressed group of rights or opportunities, discrimination takes place." Under verbal inflation, **aversion** to affirmative action is considered to be discrimination. Aversion is a "strong dislike or opposition to something." (*NOAD*, 110)
- 50- For example, since I disagree with the premise that certain people deserve to be given an advantage over others simply because they are classified as a minority or a member of some racial group then I am averse to such a practice. However, cultural Marxism would call this discrimination.
- 51) **Exploitation** consists of "taking unfair advantage of a person, for financial or other gain. For example, when women in a society are forced to raise children and labor in their homes without being paid." Under verbal inflation, to **disregard** such an opinion is believed to cause exploitation of women. To disregard something is "to pay no attention to it or to ignore it as valid." (*NOAD*, 494)
- 52) For example, the Scripture is clear in Genesis 3:16-19, that the husband's major duty is to earn the living and the wife's is to care for children. It is certainly appropriate for a couple to decide not to have children and that both will work. However, for those who seek to run a one-income household to allow the wife to care for children is their business. They are free to disregard the idea that the wife should be paid. But cultural Marxism would interpret this decision as exploitation.
- 53) But let's assume for a moment that the wife is to be paid for child care and managing certain household duties necessary to maintain a livable environment. Who is going to cut this check? The husband? And if he does, what does his wife do with the money?
- 54) It is clear that if she doesn't deposit it in the family's bank account, she is mismanaging funds that are needed to run the household. Paying the wife to manage the home is a silly argument and should not be considered worthy of debate although I just did so.
- 55) **Oppression** consists of "unreasonably harsh and cruel treatment of a person or group by another. It is used to force people to put up with being exploited. Oppression is used to instill fear into a people as an attempt to control potential resistance and rebellion." Under verbal inflation, **corporal punishment** of children is considered to be oppression.



- 56) For example, the Bible recommends that parents use corporal punishment as a means of suppressing rebellion. Properly administered the child is first reminded of his consistent violation of a standard. The parents must be confident that the child has knowingly violated this standard. The father then informs the child that his behavior must be corrected and in order to inspire future compliance he will administer corporal punishment. A neutral object is to be utilized. Proverbs 29:15 calls it a “rod” but it is a flexible switch like a dowel. It is to be applied without malice to the gluteus maximus. The object is to cause pain though not excessive, and motivate repentance rather than cause injury. However, cultural Marxism would refer to this as oppression, not to mention child abuse.
- 57) **Enslavement** consists of “taking possession of a person and turning him into a slave, fully owned and under the complete control of another.” Under verbal inflation, **marriage** is considered enslavement.
- 58) For example, the biblical concept of the husband having command authority over the wife in marriage is a part of the authority structure of divine institution number two. But under cultural Marxism it is defined as enslavement of the woman.
- 59) **Genocide** is the “deliberate, planned, and systematic attempt to kill an entire race, culture, religion, or other large group of people.” Under verbal inflation, the **Indian Wars** during the time of our national expansion are considered genocidal acts against native peoples.
- 60- As the iniquity of the Hamitic tribes of Canaan was considered full when Joshua was commanded to take the land, so also were the Indian tribes who populated North America when European explorers arrived in the fifteenth century. Attempts were made to evangelize the Indians but their degeneracy was so advanced they failed to respond to any significant degree.
- 61- The American Indians were blinded by religion which included drug abuse, the occult, idolatry, and human sacrifice. The victories won over them by the white settlers were primarily the execution of the fifth cycle of discipline on an evil and decadent people. However, cultural Marxism would refer to these events as attempted genocide.
- 62- Verbal inflation has become a tool of the leftist movement to redefine words so that they might be used as weapons against those who hold legitimate differences of opinion. Perceived violations of politically correct standards are punished by hurling accusations of prejudice. This is one of the applications of Critical Theory.
- 63- This arsenal enables the proponents of cultural Marxism to attack with impunity anyone who expresses a belief that might delay fulfillment of their idealized future utopia. Anything that promotes the advance toward pure democracy is moral while anything that delays the advance is considered evil.
- 64- Such an attitude is called “progressive,” which is an intense expression of human good. It views democratic socialism as the road to a future Golden Age and any who look to history as a guide are considered “reactionaries.” These concepts take us back to Herbert Kohl’s “vocabulary of ideas” for a more precise set of definitions.

**Kohl, *From Archetype to Zeitgeist*, 158-59:**

There are a number of words used to indicate the nature and direction of social, political, and economic **change**. These words ... form a loose continuum, at the center of which is the status quo. The status quo is the current historical situation in a particular community, state, or nation.

**Conservatives** are ... people who want to maintain the status quo. **Progressives** are people who advocate a new social, political, or economic order that provides for more personal and group freedom, and a greater equalization of opportunity, wealth, and power. **Reactionaries** are people who want to return to an older order characterized by some traditional authoritarian rule.



Note the negative connotation assigned to those who disagree with the new morality: reactionary. The *New Oxford American Dictionary* includes the following definition in its 2001 edition:

**Jewell, Elizabeth J. and Frank Abate (eds.). *The New Oxford American Dictionary*. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2001), 1416:**

**react.** Behave in a particular way in response to something.

- **(react against)** Respond with hostility, opposition, or a contrary course of action.
- **(reactions)** Opposition to political or social progress or reform.

**reactionary.** A person or set of views opposing political or social liberalization or reform.

These definitions assign the attitude of “hostility” to those who oppose “social progress and liberalization,” a characterization not found in earlier dictionaries.