

Burke manuscript unearthed

A Capstone-exclusive look at an essay from the "Father of Conservatism"

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Sometimes-Philosopher & Model

A surprising discovery was made at Xanadu, the historic residence of philosopher and political theorist Edmund Burke last week. Much like that one scene in "National Treasure 2," restorers at the historic Buckinghamshire residence discovered a series of unpublished essays lodged inside a secret compartment of a desk drawer on Thursday. Through a series of blackmail and bribery, The Capstone has gained exclusive access to the introductory essay and the rights to reprint it in its entirety below--given that we shamelessly plug the source where the rest of the essays will be published and that we do not discuss the similarity in title to one of C.S. Lewis' publications. The rest of the recently-discovered essays that Burke refers to as his "Conservative Screwtape Letters" are to be published next month as a fundraiser for the Burke Society. Without further ado, here is the transcription of Burke's original manuscript.

Note to the Editor: This introductory Essay is to be published after my Death. Please include it in the selection of essays with the Title we discussed--The Conservative Screwtape Letters. This piece is to be entitled "Five Ways You Can Keep Exploiting While Changing Nothing." --E. B.

My Dearest Anonymous Reader,

In your climb to world dictatorship you have asked again quite earnestly for my thoughts on the modern American liberal. It may surprise you that I find thinkers like these essential to the structure of a conservative government. Like the glory of the French Empire, to my pleasure American leftists have learned to have their cake and eat it too. To be conservative simply means to have a strong grip and change very little. Here is what you can learn.

1. Allow the Colonized to Feel Represented. I like to call it, "still taxation, but with representation." Naïve activists might suggest putting concerted effort into working on disparate poverty, overpopulation, or gentrification within certain cities instead. But, dear Reader, that costs money.

An easier thing to do is elect representatives, a means of telling spoil-sport communities, "Hey, we hear you," without having to do anything. This idea occurred to me while in the prolific political think tank Time Warner Cable Customer Support. Focus on identity and praise your multiculturalism with a zealous Caucasian self-pat on the back.

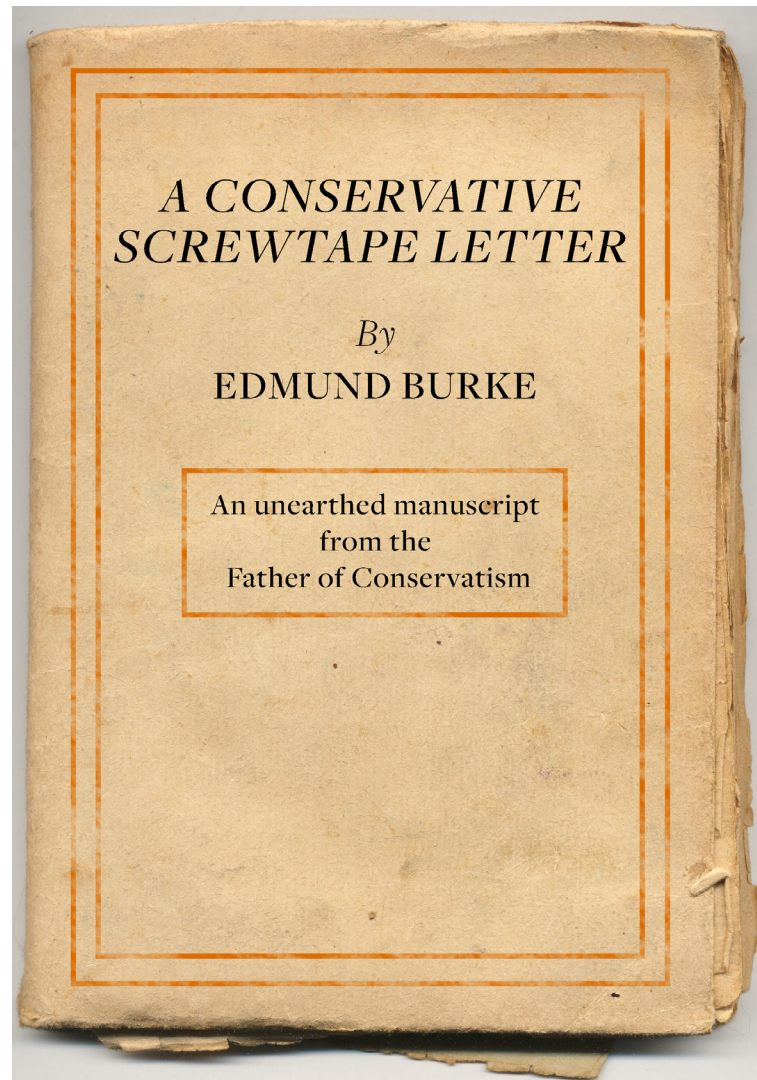
2. Have Representatives Report to People You Own. Consider the genius of the movie "Shaft" in 1971 (don't worry about the anachronism. I have discovered the mystery of time travel). Never miss an opportunity to turn the struggle of a demographic into a commodity. Our newest product is Social Justice by Pepsi-Co. Give the masses a formation that you ultimately control and reinforces belief in capitalism. Consider coercing citizens into buying philanthropic shoes that disintegrate faster than toilet paper.

3. Convince Everyone Things Are Getting Better. Optimism is essential to a conservative government. If people believe time naturally brings opportunity, they will be less likely to ask for it from you. Always advocate for a metanarrative of non-violence and never ever suggest revolution. Only talk about the second amendment in a more theoretical, upper-class context.

4. Focus More on Words. Note that my heir colleague Donald Trump has successfully never used explicit racial slurs once--in his beer-hall-putsch presidential campaign. Words matter far more to a conservative than ideas. The greatest characteristic of stable authority is one that keeps people in the dark about where it is, and you can do that with language.

5. Convince the Masses They Are Sensitive. Encourage isolated forums where people can vent and you don't have to listen. Tell them that they are fragile and unable to face a resistant environment. Stress the individuality of other cultures to the point where they become alien. Keep points and counter-points far apart so that they never create dialogue. We're not Hegelians here. Criticize resiliency as violent or overtly masculine. Tell Betty Friedan to slow down and Malcolm X to read the room. These boundaries will work together to create a safe space for the person that really matters: you.

If implemented correctly, these tools will fuel self-congratulatory hamsters on wheels. Any stones thrown will ripple in a pond that you fish in, changing nothing but your bounty. Good luck with your already stellar efforts in maintaining stability! I have the utmost faith in you.



GRAPHIC BY HANNAH FISHER

The cover of the Burke Society's publication, in which is enclosed Edmund Burke's newly-unearthed manuscript.

Capstone editor follows in Kanye's footsteps

KANYE WEST

Not Lindsay Call

According to an unidentifiable source, last week following the annual Horizon Monday Night Live! event, Capstone Editor Lindsay Call went on an alleged rant in the green room backstage. The supposed rant was recorded on an iPhone 4, which was delivered to our mailbox in the stomach of a

dead shark, with a note reading "Publish this or I will." While we cannot corroborate that the event actually occurred, we have transcribed the rant below in an attempt at transparency (and to highlight that the views of our editors do not necessarily reflect the views of the Horizon as a whole, nor those of Westmont College). In addition, we few writers at The Capstone have been waiting to spill some ink over a cautionary tale--espe-

cially one about our vapid, derivative dictator editor. Finally. The following has been edited for length and for content, with only the relevant parts printed.

"Look at that. The Horizon censored my "Life of Pablo" article without asking me. Now I'm bummed. That, and they wouldn't let run the one on the Phoenix--fake [muffled]. Now I'm not gonna do this [muffled]. Break the Internet...Westmont. I've been through four years of

this. Let's get to it, bro. Are they crazy? I'm 50% more influential than Vanilla Ice, "The Princess Bride," toast from The Mill. 10% more influential than Kazoo Kid, Donald Scherschligt's Twitter, high-waisted shorts. 60% more influential than any version of "Pride and Prejudice," birch trees, alums who stick around, wheatgrass shots from Blenders, and giant wood letters around campus that definitely aren't compensating for

anything. Don't [muffled] mess with me! 7% less influential than Bethany Consentino's article for the Lenny Letter. Dead or alive, 3% more than Kylo Ren. For the next thousand years."

Call is rumored to have tweeted "the world needs a girl like me--the world needs somebody to not be scared and tell the truth" just prior to this article's release. We'll let you make of that what you will--but we're considering her removal.