

"I'm like the conservative  
ayatollah." – Ann Coulter

# *Never Trust Ann Coulter – at ANY Age*

"[Her books] are a middle finger directed at most of the world." – Tucker Carlson

DANIEL J. BORCHERS

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Daniel J. Borchers

Citizens for Principled Conservatism

[www.coulterwatch.com/never.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/never.pdf)

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*It is better to take refuge in the  
LCRD than to trust in man.*

– Psalm 118:8 (NIV)



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## Preface

# Arrogance of Power

**“Leave it to the professionals!” – Ann Coulter<sup>1</sup>**

August 1996 was a pivotal month for Ann Coulter, who launched her media career on MSNBC and became an A-lister on *Politically Incorrect*, a show with an audience in the multiple millions (she was very proud of that and would include a profile of *PI* in her personal press kit).

That August was also my introduction to Ann’s politics, persona, and gifts of persuasion. Ann frequently spoke of character and integrity, of values and principles, and her attitude and demeanor suggested she possessed a moral and godly life.<sup>2</sup> Instead, her life would become possessed by the object of her obsession: herself.<sup>3</sup>

At the time of my acquaintance with Ann, those dynamics were unknown to me. I saw a person who appeared to walk the talk, one whose Christian conservative values were in sync with my own. We met in July 1997, when I presented her with an *Alamo Award* for courage.<sup>4</sup> Our thirty-minute conversation seemed to validate my impressions from her television appearances and written commentary. But within a few months, I would discover a dark side to Ann Coulter. Her person and persona were radically different.

In the course of those few months, Ann repeatedly lied to me, broke every promise she made to me, and at times belittled me to show her own superiority (this, despite my unwavering aid to her and my responsiveness to her requests).

At that very same time, Ann betrayed her client, Paula Jones, precipitating a crisis in Paula’s personal and family life which resulted in devastating results.<sup>5</sup> In short order, Ann would plagiarize from a colleague and then attack his character,<sup>6</sup> attempt to deceive the electorate in Connecticut’s Fourth District,<sup>7</sup> and besmirch the character and reputation of numerous individuals and organizations.<sup>8</sup>

I learned the hard way, from personal experience and from observation, that Ann – despite her pious platitudes and personal promises – is untrustworthy. Untrustworthy at *any* age!



<sup>1</sup> Ann Coulter, YAF’s 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Conservative Student Conference, 7/20/00.

<sup>2</sup> See Daniel Borchers, *The Gospel According to Ann Coulter*, 2011, available as a free download at [www.coulterwatch.com/gospel.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/gospel.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> See Daniel Borchers, *The Beauty of Conservatism*, 2011, available as a free download at [www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf).

<sup>4</sup> See Daniel Borchers, *Vanity: Ann Coulter’s Quest for Glory*, 2012, available as a free download at [www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf).

<sup>5</sup> See Case Study # 1: “Oh, Paula (Jones). Ann Coulter’s Betrayal,” *Vanity: Ann Coulter’s Quest for Glory*, 2012, available as a free download at [www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf).

<sup>6</sup> See Daniel Borchers, “The Plagiarism Trap,” *BrotherWatch*, 2002, [www.coulterwatch.com/files/BW2-009-Plagiarism\\_Trap.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/files/BW2-009-Plagiarism_Trap.pdf).

<sup>7</sup> See Case Study # 3: “Coulter for Congress: Only Scoundrels Need Apply,” *Vanity: Ann Coulter’s Quest for Glory*, 2012, available as a free download at [www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf).

<sup>8</sup> See Chapter 8: “Polemics R Us,” *The Beauty of Conservatism*, 2011, available as a free download at [www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf).



Not to make too much of a childhood tale that Ann enjoys regaling audiences with (after all, children will be children), but her lesson in free market ethics as a young girl bears consideration. As a little girl,

“I can’t believe you have me telling you *this*, but it is Coulter family lore,” she said, and then told her family myth about little Ann taking some stuff from her two older brothers and selling it back to them. “My parents wanted to encourage this incipient capitalism, so they gave my brothers a nickel to buy back whatever it was, and everyone thought it was cute until I took it all back again. ... One time was cute, the second time I was being a Democrat.”<sup>9</sup>

The character flaws I so unwillingly witnessed in 1997 remain extant today. Even more so. She’s had more practice.

Little has changed with this clever child turned conservative avatar. Ann remains deceptive and continues to obsessively look out for number one, regardless of the consequences to other individuals, organizations, the body of Christ, and the nation.

Ann Coulter is untrustworthy at *any* age!

### ***Never Trust Ann Coulter – at Any Age***

Ironically, since the beginning of 2012, Ann’s written commentary dramatically improved, suggesting a measure of spiritual growth and maturity.<sup>10</sup> Her latest book, sadly, is unworthy of the person she seemed to have become – or could become<sup>11</sup> – being principally a collection of dated essays stretching back more than a decade, many of which are filled with the prevarication and polemical hate speech she seemed to have recently eschewed.

*Never Trust Ann Coulter – at Any Age* briefly examines Coulter’s *Never Trust a Liberal Over 3 – Especially a Republican* and it looks at the various ways in which Coulter herself cannot be trusted! So many of the essays reprinted in her latest book – as with so many of her earlier works – are filled with *projection*: projecting her negative attitudes, attributes, and articulations unto those she targets for destruction.

Conservatives rightly decried the politics of personal destruction during the Clinton years, but Coulter has taken that destructive practice to a new level – all in the name of Christ and of Conservatism!



<sup>9</sup> George Gurley, *New York Observer*, 8/26/02.

<sup>10</sup> See Appendix 1: Is *Breaking Bad* Breaking Good for Ann Coulter?

<sup>11</sup> See Appendix 2: Ann Coulter’s *Trust* Busted.



## Arrogance of Power

Born and bred an elite,<sup>12</sup> living a privileged life,<sup>13</sup> and taking full advantage of a continually expanding network of elite power-brokers,<sup>14</sup> Coulter has seemingly sought glory from the advent of her birth.

This was as evident in 1997 as it is today. In the fall of 1997, her words, actions, and demeanor became increasingly arrogant, commensurate with her growing stature within the media and the conservative movement. She possessed an increasingly strong sense of superiority and entitlement, as if she deserved every accolade and any and every grace total strangers might extend toward her.

Consider Coulter's words at a conference for young conservatives *over 13 years ago*:

There are so few people who can defend a position – *any* position – that it is a *miracle* to find a politician who can do so. Speaking for myself, about half the time I'm on television I could do without my alleged allies and that figure rises to about 99% when my alleged allies are politicians. As you listen to them walking through the RNC talking points *de jour*, you just want to shout – “Step *aside*! Let the *professionals* handle this!”<sup>15</sup>

I guess, nobody does it better than Ann!

Arrogance definitively describes Coulter's latest book and the substance of her book tour appearances.<sup>16</sup> More than usual, Coulter thinks she knows what is best for everyone else and insists we subscribe to her edicts, foisting her innate superiority upon us mere mortals. For instance, she – and she alone – creates the *criteria* for conservative electoral victory: only senators and governors can run for national office. Exhorting party unity – and condemning previous primarying of officeholders and candidates – Coulter nonetheless provides lists of Republicans she wants primaryed and removed from office.<sup>17</sup>



As reported in a *Washington Post* Style section profile during her book tour, while she was being escorted to a TV studio for an interview, she *complained* “about not getting booked on the big-time programs,” asking, “Is this an Internet show? I want to be on ‘George Stephanopoulos.’”<sup>18</sup> Coulter's sense of *entitlement* tells her – and us – that she thinks she deserves to be on the biggest and best talk shows.

<sup>12</sup> See Chapter 1: “The Seduction of Ann Coulter,” *The Beauty of Conservatism*, 2011, available as a free download at [www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf) and Chapter 1: “Roots: Ann Coulter's Christian Heritage,” *The Gospel According to Ann Coulter*, available as a free download at [www.coulterwatch.com/gospel.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/gospel.pdf).

<sup>13</sup> See Chapter 2: “The Cuckolding of Conscience,” *The Beauty of Conservatism*, 2011, available as a free download at [www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf).

<sup>14</sup> See Chapter 9: “Goddess of the Conservative Movement,” *The Beauty of Conservatism*, 2011, available as a free download at [www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf).

<sup>15</sup> Ann Coulter, YAF's 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Conservative Student Conference, 7/20/00.

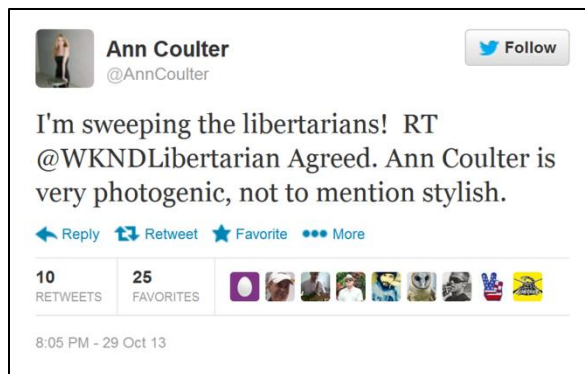
<sup>16</sup> See Daniel Borchers, *Vanity: Ann Coulter's Quest for Glory*, available as a free download at [www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf).

<sup>17</sup> See Chapter 2: “Presidential Follies.”

<sup>18</sup> Krissah Thompson, “Ann Coulter back on airwaves, reenergized by shutdown and exemplifying unhappiness of GOP,” *Washington Post*, 10/29/13.

As I was completing this preface, Coulter repeatedly accused the Obama administration of “arrogance,”<sup>19</sup> seemingly oblivious to that word’s relevance to herself. She then described why they are so arrogant: “Obama and the people around him thought he would get away with it the same way he got away with Benghazi, the same way he got away with the IRS being used to, to, to harass Obama’s political enemies. He has been able to count on what I call the non-Fox media until now to just, just treat him like some cult figure.”

Sounds awfully familiar, doesn’t it? For over a dozen years, Coulter has said the most outrageous things – which would have prompted the firing of just about anyone else – but she brags about surviving those controversies, all enabled by her well-placed friends and colleagues.



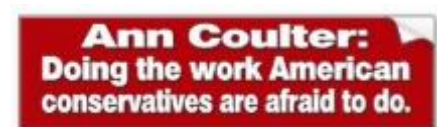
Her arrogance shines through in the interviews she garners across the political spectrum of outlets, and in flippant remarks such as claiming to be a “conservative ayatollah,” strikingly reminiscent of her claim to be a “mean Christian.” Both are oxymoronic self-descriptions. A number of times she has mused over being the “czar of the universe.”

Coulter admits, “I love to have people come up to me and praise me and tell me I say the things that they can’t say and it does, in fact, happen in places like L.A., Manhattan, not just America.”<sup>20</sup>

Speaking to a college audience in November 2013, Coulter praised those students who invited her: “I think the ones who are happy to have me here are very, very smart. I think the ones who are unhappy to have me here are a little stupider.”<sup>21</sup> Her words are reminiscent of remarks a number of years earlier, “I love to engage in repartee with people who are stupider than I am.”<sup>22</sup>

In 2004, asked “what three books do you consider essential reading?” Coulter replied: “The Old Testament, the New Testament, and *Treason*.”<sup>23</sup> Coulter’s friend and interviewer responded, “your book right after the Bible? Sounds about right to me I guess.” (She has made similar allusions in other interviews.)<sup>24</sup>

In a 2011 essay, Coulter attacked her favorite newspaper to vilify, writing, “Perhaps instead of taking potshots at me in its Book Review section, *The New York Times* could consider reviewing one of my eight massive *New York Times* bestsellers. With only one review several years ago and not in the book review section, the editors can rest assured that I know they don’t like me.”<sup>25</sup> Eight “massive” bestsellers?



<sup>19</sup> Ann Coulter, *Fox & Friends*, FNC, 11/9/13. She also denigrated “arrogant bureaucrats” in her 11/13/13 column.

<sup>20</sup> Ann Coulter, *Booknotes*, C-Span, 7/10/02.

<sup>21</sup> Nathaniel Haas, “Ann Coulter discusses the future of the Republican Party,” *Daily Trojan*, 11/12/13.

<sup>22</sup> Ann Coulter, University of Connecticut, 12/7/05.

<sup>23</sup> Jamie Glazov, “Frontpage Interview: Ann Coulter,” *FrontPageMag*, 1/12/04, <http://archive.frontpagemag.com/readArticle.aspx?ARTID=14633>.

<sup>24</sup> Yes, she is using humor to promote herself. But her jokes are never self-deprecating and often self-exalting. Her humor puts other people down and lifts herself up.

<sup>25</sup> Ann Coulter, “N.Y. Times: Fraught Nexus of Lies, Stupidity and Bigotry,” 6/22/11.



Coulter still refers to her books as “massive best-sellers,” despite dramatically declining book sales and diminishing stature on the best-seller list. In March of 2013, Coulter bragged of being “author of nine massive *New York Times* best sellers” and promoted her “latest smash best-seller, *Mugged*”).<sup>26</sup> *Mugged* was on the best-seller list for a mere five weeks (hardly “massive” or “smash”) and did not rise above number six on that list (all of her previous books entered the top five). At the time of her statement, her last four books were on the list seven weeks or less. In contrast, her first four books of this century each graced the list from 12-16 times.

The promotion for her tenth book is especially revealing (and has received little attention from those who should care):

You have NEVER seen Coulter like this before! Coulter is uncensored, unapologetic, and unflinching in her ruthless mockery of liberals, sissies, morons, hypocrites, and all other species of politician.

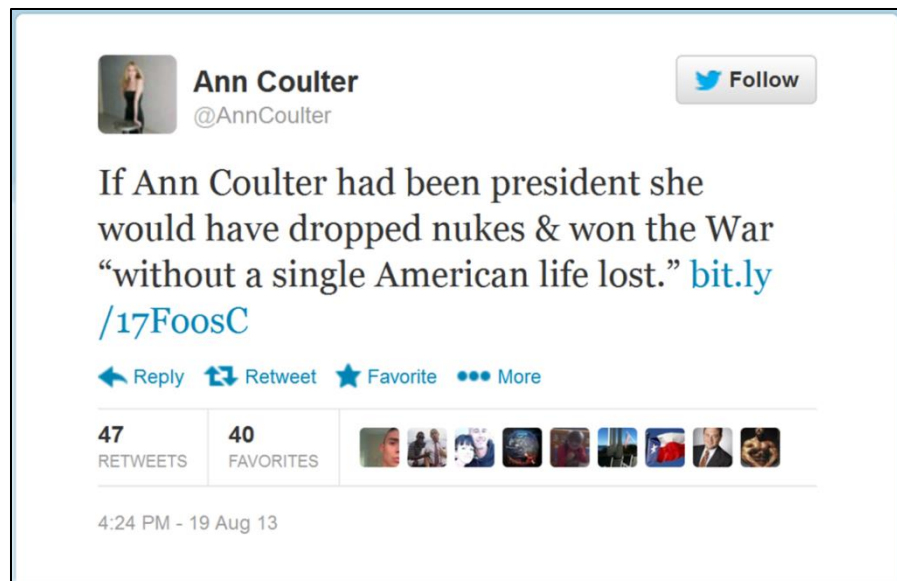
Coulter doesn't stop at the politicians, though. Watch her skewer pundits, salesmen, celebrities, and bureaucrats with ruthlessness and hilarity. No topic is safe! This is Coulter at her most incisive, funny, and brilliant, featuring irreverent and hilarious material her syndicators were too afraid to print!

Notice the words employed: uncensored, unapologetic, unflinching, ruthless mockery, skewer, ruthlessness, irreverent. These words convey arrogance and promote her image as a courageous conservative martyr – and buttress her polemical persona (attacking “sissies, morons, hypocrites”).

Arrogant people are unrepentant, unwilling to be corrected, stubbornly resistant to moral self-improvement. Coulter’s impenitent arrogance alone makes her untrustworthy at *any* age!

Moreover, the very lead sentence of her book promotion is a lie: “You have NEVER seen Coulter like this before!” Most of her book contains material which has been previously published!

Even her promotional material lies. Lies. Arrogance. Untrustworthy. At any age! Ever!<sup>27</sup>



<sup>26</sup> Ann Coulter, speech, CPAC 2013, 3/16/13.

<sup>27</sup> With caveats noted in Chapter 7: Embracing Liberty.

## Chapter 1

# Never ... at ANY Age

“Trust is like a mirror. Once it is broken, you can never look at it the same again.”  
– Anonymous

### Never Trust! Why?

Since before 9/11, Ann Coulter has proven herself untrustworthy. Her lies and hate speech are legendary because they are real – they are not figments of her opponents’ imaginations as she claims. One can arguably lay a large measure of blame to Coulter for the 2012 GOP presidential debacle (see next chapter). Yet, Coulter wants to – *again* – choose for conservatives the best “electable” conservative candidate. Hubris! Run from it!

In *Vanity: Ann Coulter’s Quest for Glory*, I pointed out the reality that Coulter is regarded as an idol by a large number of people. Indeed, Coulter *seeks* that outcome. Following her second best-seller, Coulter admitted, “I love to have people come up to me and praise me and tell me I say the things that they can’t say and it does, in fact, happen in places like L.A., Manhattan, not just America.”<sup>1</sup>

As noted in *Vanity*, Coulter constantly seeks attention. One of her closest liberal friends, comedian Bill Maher, observed “once they are in the public eye, they don’t want to be irrelevant.”<sup>2</sup> Author and Coulter friend Elinor Burkett observed that potential Coulter boyfriends must have a “totally intact” ego because Coulter “has to be the center of attention.”<sup>3</sup>

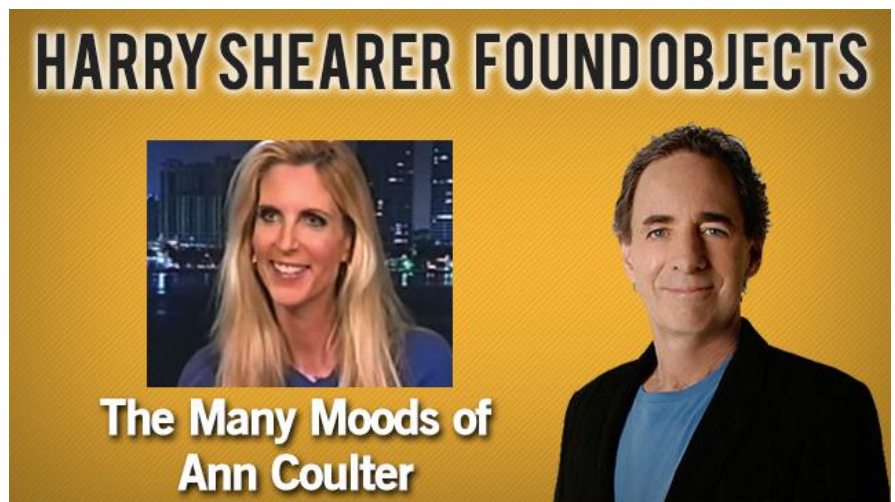
Moreover, to achieve the glory that she seeks, she has compromised her principles beyond measure, becoming a person at variance with who she proclaims herself to be. If Coulter is willing to sacrifice herself on the altars of success, fame, and glory, then whom and what will she not sacrifice?

Coulter’s deception and duplicity have been documented and demonstrated beyond doubt.

### Emotional Volatility Unmasked

An utterly fascinating video of Coulter, posted by Harry Shearer, shows her in-studio wearing a whole series of masks within the space of 74 seconds.<sup>4</sup>

Shearer’s video introduction is explicitly to the point: “It’s not just liberals she castigates. Here, Ann Coulter veers from deriding the intelligence of her debating opponent to reviling a certain Mr. Limbaugh, and finishes off with a sweet photo-op smile.”



<sup>1</sup> Ann Coulter, *Booknotes*, C-Span. 7/10/02.

<sup>2</sup> Laura M. Holson, “Outflanked on Right, Coulter Seeks New Image,” *New York Times*, 10/8/10.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> See Harry Shearer, “Found Objects: The Many Moods of Ann Coulter,” My Damn Channel, [http://www.mydamnchannel.com/harry\\_shearer/found\\_objects/foundobjectsthemanymoodsfofanncoulter\\_2173.aspx](http://www.mydamnchannel.com/harry_shearer/found_objects/foundobjectsthemanymoodsfofanncoulter_2173.aspx).



At the beginning of this short clip, Coulter responds to the interviewer: “You don’t even know what the Republican approach was. That isn’t what Bush did (laughter and eye rolls).”

Seconds later, apparently, referring to her interlocutor, she mutters, “God, she’s stupid,” followed by her realization that the interview was over: “I think that’s it.”

To, apparently the sound technician, she explains, “No, I wanted to get to them dissing the queen. I had a lot of jokes on that.” Hearing something off-camera, Coulter asks, “What’s that noise?” and then says, “Oh.” Noticing someone off-camera, she exclaims, “You’re still *here*! ... I think so.” Responding to comments from her earpiece, she says, “*Thank* you!”

While disengaging herself from the microphone paraphernalia, she laments, “I should have given them a line from my column, but I thought it sounded too self-promoting. I already said, ‘Start attacking me instead of Rush.’ I’m getting sick of defending him. He doesn’t defend *me*. *Fuck* him!”

A smiling Coulter then quickly poses for a photo.

Say what? Consider Coulter’s last two words: “Fuck Rush.” To *think* it is one thing, to *express* it another. But Coulter is *without* inhibitions. She loves expressing the inexpressible. It has become her trademark. The more outlandish, the better – for her notoriety and her bank account.

## Lady Gaga and Miley Cyrus

*Conservatives* have likened Coulter to a number of people one would be hard-pressed to call conservative: Abbie Hoffman, Lenny Bruce, Maureen Dowd, and even the 2013 version of Miley Cyrus. She has been called a right-wing Michael Moore and Al Franken. Many have also compared Coulter to Lady Gaga.

Coulter recently expressed her own views regarding Lady Gaga, Miley Cyrus, and their attention-craving antics:



The main thing I want to say in regard to the publicity stunts and whether women need to do, young women have to do this to get publicity. I don’t think Gaga ever needed to do it. She’s incredibly talented. I don’t like the crazy publicity or the meat dress or anything else. Miley Cyrus is nothing but a publicity stunt.<sup>5</sup>

*Coulter* criticizes crazy publicity stunts? Arrogance and pride will do strange things.

In a speech shortly after the 2012 election, Coulter praised former presidential candidate Alan Keyes (“I love Alan Keyes”), but then she boasted, “but I could win an election sooner than he would and *I* should

<sup>5</sup> Ann Coulter, *Dr. Drew*, HLN, 11/12/13.

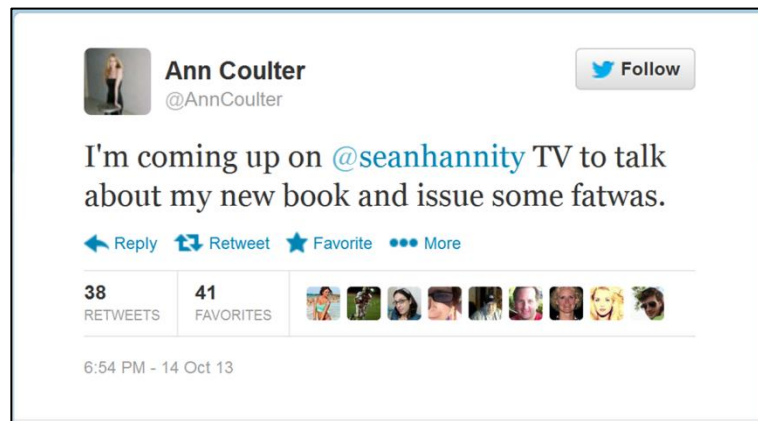
not be running for *any* office.”<sup>6</sup> Despite her best efforts, however, Coulter was unable to even get on the *ballot* as a representative of her own district in Connecticut.<sup>7</sup>

During her most recent book tour, Coulter was asked by an interviewer, “With the government fractured among Democrats, moderate Republicans and the Tea Party, it appears that compromise is a foreign concept and there is little hope that anything will get done. With that said, aren’t you part of the problem with your hard line stances and abhorrence of the other side?” Her response: “No. I am the solution.”<sup>8</sup>

*Coulter is the solution?*

## Pride of Conservatism

2013 began with a more chaste and less polemical Coulter. But then she obtained a lucrative two-book publishing deal and she obtained a last-minute invitation to speak at CPAC. Hubris arose in Coulter’s first post-CPAC essay.<sup>9</sup>



She began her essay admonishing conservatives for not heeding her advice: “I had barely left the stage at CPAC when Republicans did the exact thing I told them not to do.” She said the Right is yielding to the Left by swinging left, adding, “Republicans just keep losing easy races through unforced errors. I advised them to stop doing that.”

The specific “unforced error” which ticked Coulter off was Mark Sanford’s

run for Congress. Calling him “the Todd Akin of South Carolina,” Coulter predicted this “ridiculous candidate” would lose the general election, if not the primary. Sanford won both.

Yes, Coulter – who was wrong on Romney and wrong on Sanford – is the solution.

## Purveyor of Polemics

Coulter eagerly identifies and defines herself as a polemicist, controversialist, and provocateur, and she expresses her delight in offending and outraging others – at being the catalyst for provoking spittle from those she loathes. She brags, “Obviously, I engage in a lot of invective.”<sup>10</sup>

Using Clintonian and Orwellian equivocation, Coulter explained what she means by invective: “But liberals can’t tell the difference between invective that’s true and invective that isn’t true. My invective is backed up in my book [*Slander*] with 35 pages of footnotes and examples. They just lie when they call people things.”

<sup>6</sup> Ann Coulter, speech, Philadelphia, PA, 11/25/12.

<sup>7</sup> See “Case Study # 3: Coulter for Congress: Only Scoundrels Need Apply,” *Vanity: Ann Coulter’s Quest for Glory*, 2012, available as a free download at [www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf).

<sup>8</sup> “Ann Coulter: The ‘Never Trust a Liberal over 3’ Interview,” *Kam Williams Show*, 11/18/13.

<sup>9</sup> Ann Coulter, “Where’s Luca Brasi when you need him?” 3/20/13.

<sup>10</sup> Ann Coulter, quoted by Toby Hamden, ‘I love to pick fights with liberals,’ *The Telegraph*, 7/19/02, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/1401932/I-love-to-pick-fights-with-liberals.html>.



More than a decade later, invective remains at the heart of Coulter's commentary. When asked by an interviewer, "Is it really necessary to capitalize on the over the top villainizing of liberals? Doesn't that kind of behavior harm constructive dialogue?" Coulter replied, "Au contraire! It is the very essence of constructive dialogue!"<sup>11</sup>

A 2004 profile observed the quandary presented by and to Coulter:

The irony is that she claims to be above this kind of steamrolling. "The country is trapped in a political discourse that resembles professional wrestling," she has written. "Liberals are calling names while conservatives are trying to make arguments." But her view of what constitutes an argument seems to be a distinctly one-sided affair. I try again: "Do you think I have any point at all about..." I begin, but she interrupts again. "No!" She doesn't even know what my point was.<sup>12</sup>

Almost a decade later, the quandary continues. Coulter friend and colleague Greg Gutfeld frequently censures the Left for its use of the politics of personal destruction, yet he fails to see that proclivity – indeed, *modus operandi* – in his friend. His remarks on *The Five* are telling – and should be told to his friend. On September 20<sup>th</sup>, Gutfeld berated the Left, saying, "I want to go back to the central theme which is demonization of Republicans which is a very old central theme that appeals to the child intellect of liberals."<sup>13</sup>

Gutfeld continued his rant, adding, "They tell you that somebody who has some kind of an authoritarian belief is evil and somebody who gives you stuff is good. It's a pernicious belief, and it influences society, and it gets people hooked on free things for life."

Strikingly, Gutfeld appears blind to Coulter's own demonization and declarations of evil intentions by the Left. Gutfeld reviled a liberal ideology which is so isolated and insulated from contrary thought that it has become intolerant. "If you say that you are against a program [or doctrine of the ideologue], they say you're evil." But what of Coulter?

A few days later, Gutfeld's remarks again are relevant to Coulter and perhaps helps to explain her own behavior: "There is an argument that celebrities stop growing mentally the moment they reach stardom."<sup>14</sup>

Then Gutfeld denounced liberal journalists, saying, "That rhetoric is coming from journalists, which is worse. What pisses me off is the rhetoric – the hateful rhetoric – that's coming from people who are supposed to be objective." Isn't Coulter a "journalist?"

Gutfeld then explained that it is normal and understandable for politicians to engage in that

**Coulter: The killing of politicians' children should 'start with Meghan McCain'**

**Ann Coulter Calls for Murder of Sen. John McCain's Daughter**

**Ann Coulter "jokes" about killing Meghan McCain, Fox News deletes the blog post**

**Fox News site pulls Ann Coulter post calling for Meghan McCain's murder**

<sup>11</sup> "Ann Coulter: The 'Never Trust a Liberal over 3' Interview," *Kam Williams Show*, 11/18/13.

<sup>12</sup> Sholto Byrnes, "Ann Coulter: The blonde assassin," *The Independent*, 8/16/04.

<sup>13</sup> Greg Gutfeld, *The Five*, FNC, 9/20/13.

<sup>14</sup> Greg Gutfeld, *The Five*, FNC, 9/27/13.

rhetoric, but not journalists, adding, “that’s different, that’s offensive, that’s wrong.” Once again, isn’t Coulter a journalist? But that’s different – she can’t be offensive and wrong because she’s his friend.

Sean Hannity regularly condemns hypocrisy and “selective moral outrage” on the Left,<sup>15</sup> as does Coulter: “This hypocrisy watch on the part of the left has gotten out of control and ideological.” Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY) said, “[Obama’s] greatest crime is his hypocrisy.”<sup>16</sup> But Coulter remains immune from criticism.

## Elimination Rhetoric

Elimination rhetoric remains a fixture in the Ann Coulter Repertoire.

An April 2013 column exemplifies Coulter’s insatiable need to go on the offensive and to fight to the death, so to speak. She wrote: “Obama has been draping himself in families of the children murdered in Newtown. MSNBC’s Martin Bashir suggested that Republican senators need to have a member of their families killed for them to support the Democrats’ gun proposals. (Let’s start with Meghan McCain!)”<sup>17</sup>

As noted by the Associated Press, “The Fox Nation website has removed a column by conservative commentator Ann Coulter because it had a reference to killing the daughter of Sen. John McCain. Fox said Thursday that the post was removed because of the reference.”<sup>18</sup>

One observer noted, “Coulter muddled the process. I’d say the alleged newsman who made the original comment has a lot to answer for, but Ann got in the way and made it all about herself and the McCains. So now nobody’s talking about Bashir. It was a stupid move on Ann’s part that’s worthy of condemnation for stupidity more than anything else – and all for the sake of a joke and a little publicity.”<sup>19</sup>

Just a few weeks earlier, in an essay entitled “Where’s Luca Brasi when you need him?”<sup>20</sup> Coulter advised, “Republicans need to be like Luca Brasi.” In the *Godfather* series, Luca Brasi is the brutal enforcer of the Corleone family, renowned for vicious executions.

Coulter repeated her counsel during her book tour that fall, saying, “We need some strategic hunting accidents, airplane crashes. We need Luca Brasi in our party [to weed out the moderates].”<sup>21</sup>

A couple of weeks ago, Coulter gave a speech: “She joked that Republicans needed to do a better job of removing primary candidates who could not win a general election. ‘We need a Luca Brasi,’ she said, referring to the assassin in *The Godfather*, offering herself as a volunteer.”<sup>22</sup>

Recounting her speech at USC, “After describing how she envisioned each MSNBC host committing suicide, Coulter turned the conversation to improving the Republican Party’s chances in the 2016 election and beyond.”<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> Sean Hannity, *Sean Hannity Show*, Premiere Radio Networks, 8/16/13 and 8/19/13 as examples.

<sup>16</sup> Rand Paul, *Sean Hannity Show*, Premiere Radio Networks, 6/10/13.

<sup>17</sup> Ann Coulter, “Liberals go crazy for the mentally ill,” 4/10/13.

<sup>18</sup> Associated Press, “Fox takes Ann Coulter column down after reference to killing Meghan McCain,” *Washington Post*, 4/11/13.

<sup>19</sup> Post # 68, FreeRepublic, “Coulter Jokes on Gun Deaths: ‘Start with Meghan McCain,’” 4/11/13, <http://www.freerepublic.com/focus/f-news/3006733/posts?q=1&page=51>.

<sup>20</sup> Ann Coulter, “Where’s Luca Brasi when you need him?” 3/20/13.

<sup>21</sup> Ann Coulter, *Chris Plante Show*, WMAL, 10/23/13.

<sup>22</sup> “Coulter Jokes, Provokes at USC Republican-Tea Party Event,” *Breitbart*, 11/11/13.

<sup>23</sup> Nathaniel Haas, “Ann Coulter discusses the future of the Republican Party,” *Daily Trojan*, 11/12/13.



In her Luca Brasi essay, Coulter insisted, “We don't have to use every campaign trick of the Democrats – vote fraud and character assassination – but one thing we could learn from them is to stop letting idiots destroy our party.”

Clearly, Coulter did not have herself in mind when she speaks of “idiots” destroying the GOP, yet, Coulter astonishingly does not recognize that the very character assassination she decries is what she has built her reputation upon and, indeed, what she depends upon to substantiate her views.

Blind to the truth of what she has become, attempting to gain recognition for her brilliant political prowess by replicating her own mistakes from previous election cycles, Coulter cannot be trusted.

Speaking of corrupt politicians and leaders, Rush Limbaugh bemoaned “the lure of absolute power to ordinary people,” explaining why we need people of character, integrity, and morality in our leaders.<sup>24</sup>



<sup>24</sup> Rush Limbaugh, *Rush Limbaugh Show*, EIB, 11/11/13.

## Chapter 2

# Presidential Follies

**“I’m like the conservative ayatollah.” – Ann Coulter<sup>1</sup>**

### King-Maker, Coulter Style

Beginning with the 2000 presidential election cycle, Coulter has insisted that she knows best and that only her criteria matters. From a field of 12 Republican candidates in 1999, Coulter anointed George W. Bush the clear winner and denounced any Republicans who got in his way, even *before* Bush had announced his platform.

Even though conservatives clearly rejected Romney in 2008 and did not want him in 2012, Coulter foisted him on the party through character assassination of his opponents and mischaracterization of Romney. Electoral disaster ensued. Now, in 2013, Coulter has clearly articulated her own vision of the ideal candidate for 2016, with a *list* of criteria for that candidate, even though her ideal candidates of yesteryear were yanked off the presidential stage by a dissatisfied electorate.

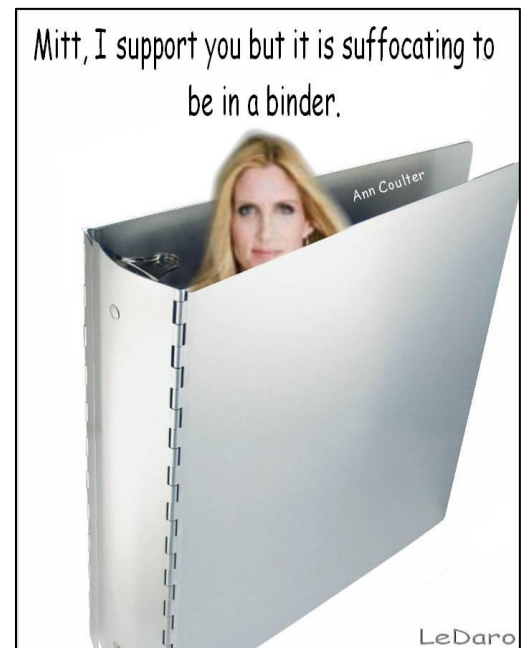
### Romney Adulation

Harkening back to CPAC 2007, in a private conversation with Romney, a smitten Coulter gushed, “You have great answers on everything. The Reagan position on abortion is brilliant. ... No, they don't understand; we hate these liberal atheists. You can't get these sectarian wars going with us. We're all Christians. ... You're SO wonderful.”

Four years later, her devotion to Romney remained unquenched. Amidst a series of essays praising Romney and vilifying his foes, Coulter penned this paragraph:

Among Romney’s positives is the fact that he has a demonstrated ability to trick liberals into voting for him. He was elected governor of Massachusetts – one of the most liberal states in the union – by appealing to Democrats, independents and suburban women... Also, Romney will be the first Republican presidential nominee since Ronald Reagan who can talk. Liberals are going to have to dust off their playbook from 30 years ago to figure out how to run against a Republican who isn’t a tongue-tied marble-mouth.<sup>2</sup>

Already, Coulter was comparing Romney to Reagan, but, at the same time lauding Romney’s “ability to trick liberals into voting for him.” In other words, Romney *pretended* to be liberal to get elected, but is *really* a true conservative in disguise. Coulter still believes this nonsense.



<sup>1</sup> Andrew Kirell, “Ann Coulter Talks to Mediaite About Issuing a ‘Fatwa’ for Conservatives, and Why She Mostly Watches MSNBC,” *Mediaite*, 10/15/13.

<sup>2</sup> Ann Coulter, “If not Romney, who? If not now, when?” 11/16/11.

## Romney Remains Her Ideal Candidate

Presidential politics remains at the forefront of so much of Coulter's latest book and her contemporary commentary. Conservative talk television and talk radio desperately appeal to Coulter for her often bizarre and conflicting political views.

To this day, Coulter insists, "Romney was the ideal candidate,"<sup>3</sup> comparing him favorably to Ronald Reagan: "Romney was a magnificent candidate and it enrages me that people will never see it because he narrowly lost to an incumbent. If this were the same demographics, as I've said a million times, the same demographics as 1980, Romney would have won bigger than Reagan did."<sup>4</sup>

Yes, Romney was better than Reagan! "Romney was the most conservative candidate we've run for president in my lifetime"<sup>5</sup> "He would have won a bigger landslide than Reagan did against Carter if this country had the same demographics as it did in 1980."<sup>6</sup>

Again, Coulter asserts, "If this country had the same demographics as it did in 1980, Romney would have won a bigger landslide than Reagan did."<sup>7</sup> Even though *conservatives* did not want Romney.



Still, Coulter wants to have her way and justify her attempted coronation of Romney: "Three million fewer people voted for Romney than McCain. If all the Republicans who voted for McCain – and Independents – had come out for Romney, he would have won."<sup>8</sup> But she *continues* to miss the point! Her identified electoral demographic – Republicans and Independents – did not *vote* for Romney because they did not *want* Romney.

Romney did worse than McCain even though McCain was in the midst of an economic meltdown and despite Obama's failed presidency. If McCain was such a horrible candidate in 2008 and

Romney such an ideal candidate in 2012, why did Romney only beat McCain by one million votes? Bear in mind, McCain ran during the economic debacle that defined the GOP while Romney ran against the failed presidency of Obama.

<sup>3</sup> Ann Coulter, Book Party, *Daily Caller*, 10/22/13.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> Garth Kant, "Ann Coulter uncorked: 'Are you people awake?'" *WorldNetDaily*, 10/27/13.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>7</sup> Ann Coulter quoted by Matthew Boyle, "Exclusive – Q&A with Ann Coulter on New Book, Amnesty, Washington Republicans," *Breitbart*, 10/22/13.

<sup>8</sup> Bill O'Reilly, *O'Reilly Factor*, FNC, 11/12/13.



Coulter blames everyone but herself and Romney for Romney's defeat. She blames Newt Gingrich, Rick Santorum, "elderly black ladies," "working class White males," and even the Devil for helping Democrats by using storms like Hurricane Sandy.

Almost a year after the 2012 election, Coulter continued to shift blame, explaining, "the reason Romney lost, well two reasons. There was this surprise enormous vote from elderly black women, they want to keep Obama in the White House, first African American President. So, they're not going to change their vote, they're still coming out. The other one was a deficit of working class white males in the upper Midwest."<sup>9</sup>

Coulter continues to exhibit the characteristics of addictive thinking as exemplified in her willful denial of the dynamics of the 2012 presidential election and the realities of potential 2016 candidates. Surprisingly, she blames Gingrich and Santorum for Romney's defeat (instead of Romney for being a poor candidate with a poor campaign) and regards Christie as a courageous, indeed, heroic Republican. Coulter refuses to admit her part in Romney's defeat and the GOP losses of 2012.

### The Blame Game



With the release of her 10<sup>th</sup> book, *Never Trust a Liberal Over 3 – Especially a Republican*, a reinvigorated Coulter renewed her attack on, well, just about everyone. The Blame Game was expanded to include four distinct yet overlapping groups:

- **Tea Party (Fake Ideological Purists).** "There is an element on the right often mistaken for Tea Partiers, whom I would describe more as dilettantes for whom politics is a matter of acquiring a sense of belonging -- usually a liberal trait. They choose candidates not based on who is the best candidate for the race, but to, say, announce to the world something about themselves: 'I am pure! I will not compromise my principles and vote for a pale pastel Republican!' That's great, a Democrat won because you wouldn't vote unless Christine O'Donnell was on the ballot."<sup>10</sup>
- **Greedy Consultants.** "As I also describe in the book, we have the greedy consultants and ego-driven candidates who run for office just to get a TV show or increase their speaking fees."<sup>11</sup>
- **Ego-driven Candidates.** "As I also describe in the book, we have the greedy consultants and ego-driven candidates who run for office just to get a TV show or increase their speaking fees."<sup>12</sup> "These are people looking for TV shows and looking to make money. I love Liz Cheney, but why should we have a primary against a good Republican senator other than for Liz Cheney's ego?"<sup>13</sup>
- **Establishment Republicans.** "And we have the 'establishment Republicans' – again, an imperfect label – pushing widely unpopular ideas on our candidates, such as amnesty."<sup>14</sup> Who is the establishment? "(Gingrich, Perry, Santorum and Paul Ryan – all of whom support amnesty.)"

<sup>9</sup> Ann Coulter, *Piers Morgan*, MSNBC, 10/31/13.

<sup>10</sup> "Ann Coulter: The 'Never Trust a Liberal over 3' Interview," *Kam Williams Show*, 11/18/13.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>13</sup> Ann Coulter, *Hannity*, FNC, 10/14/13.

<sup>14</sup> "Ann Coulter: The 'Never Trust a Liberal over 3' Interview," *Kam Williams Show*, 11/18/13.

With absolutely no sense of irony (and absent a mirror), Coulter complains, “The broader category I have is people helping themselves by hurting the Republican Party.”<sup>15</sup> But Coulter is foremost among those attacking Republicans!

A book tour spat yielded this response from Newt Gingrich, whom Coulter had labeled a shyster and enemy of the GOP:

That’s kind of weird. I helped lead us to the first Republican majority in the House in 40 years. I helped develop with Bill Clinton the first four – the only four – balanced budgets in her lifetime. We helped pass welfare reform. ... I would’ve thought all those would have counted against the number of books she’s sold ... but, you know, people have got to go out and say something to sell books and she’s found her shtick, it’s attacking conservatives and sort of being the odd person out.<sup>16</sup>

### Coulter’s Candidate Criteria – Electable

Having been wrong on Romney (twice), wrong on other presidential candidates, and wrong on congressional candidate Mark Sanford, Coulter deigns to dispense her superior wisdom to us mere mortals and insist that we embrace it.

#### How Bad Is It? Even Ann Coulter Has Turned On Conservatives

by Michelle Cottle | Oct 15, 2013 2:40 PM EDT

The right-wing gadfly is on the attack again—but this time she’s going after her fellow nutjobs. Michelle Cottle on what the freak-out reveals about the GOP’s splintered base.

She began her 2013 book tour issuing fatwas:

I’m like the conservative ayatollah. Okay, I’m issuing a fatwa: We have to win elections! ... But we need someone who can *win*. We need to see how sneaky, manipulative, and single-minded Dems are about winning elections.<sup>17</sup>

Coulter began her latest book tour lambasting Republicans for failing to run the right candidates for office. Instead of standing for *principles*, she contends that the GOP should run *electable* candidates. Pragmatism over principle. “All that matters is winning, winning, winning.”<sup>18</sup>

With convoluted reasoning, she still claims that Romney was the best candidate for 2012, that neither he nor she is an establishment Republican, that the Tea Party was wrong to stand up for its principles, and, well, you get the idea: Ann Coulter is not to blame.

Some of these elections to the United States Senate were lost by what you might call the Tea Party, some by the establishment, a lot by Republican consultants. My argument is, in chapter one here, is that the problem we have hucksters, shysters, people running off the Republican party for their own self-aggrandizement, for their own egos, to make money.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>15</sup> Ann Coulter, Book Party, *Daily Caller*, 10/22/13.

<sup>16</sup> Josh Feldman, “Newt Gingrich responds to Ann Coulter Calling Him ‘Shyster,’ Enemy of the GOP,” *Mediaite*, 10/19/13, <http://www.mediaite.com/online/newt-gingrich-responds-to-ann-coulter-calling-him-shyster-enemy-of-the-gop/>.

<sup>17</sup> Andrew Kirell, “Ann Coulter Talks to Mediaite About Issuing a ‘Fatwa’ for Conservatives, and Why She Mostly Watches MSNBC,” *Mediaite*, 10/15/13.

<sup>18</sup> Ann Coulter, *Glenn Beck Radio Show*, Premiere Radio Networks, 10/15/13.

<sup>19</sup> Ann Coulter, *Hannity*, FNC, 10/14/13.

## Choosing the Winning Candidate (will Coulter be right this time?)

Coulter has anointed herself “the conservative ayatollah” to issue “fatwas” in order to orchestrate electoral victory for Republicans in 2014 and 2016. Centralized planning from her home in Palm Beach? (Ann, clever as you are, you’re just not that smart!)<sup>20</sup>

Coulter’s strategy for winning future elections is fraught with convoluted reasoning. Indeed, she gets it backwards! On *Hannity*, Coulter explained her strategy: “My point is, and these Republicans looking ahead, I’m talking mostly about Senate and House elections, in 2016 we are not going to be nominating a congressman, an inspirational leader, a businessman, only look at governors and senators.”<sup>21</sup>



Coulter clearly articulated the primary thrust of her candidate selection process: she would nominate only governors and senators for president. But, wait, what does recent history tell us?

Senator McCain and Governor Romney each lost – on *multiple* occasions (two for Romney, three for McCain) – their bids for President of the United States. By Coulter’s current criteria, they should have won. They lost because they were *moderates*!

Ironically, Coulter expressly does *not* support Governor Palin, who is a Tea Party conservative, even though she once penned an essay praising Palin as Conservative of the Year (2008). What changed? Coulter!

Also, throughout the 2008 and 2012 presidential campaigns, Coulter castigated *Senator* Rick Santorum, *Governor* Mike Huckabee and *Governor* Rick Perry. Why? Because they did not fit her Northeastern elite, establishment Republican criteria.



## Vignette – CPAC 2013

A chastened Coulter entered 2013 more quietly than usual. Her presidential candidate (Romney) was decisively defeated and her credibility was in tatters. Then, in early March, her fortunes began to return with the announcement of a two-book deal with Regnery. Still, with less than a week to go, Coulter remained excluded from CPAC for the first time in 16 years.

She was notably not invited to speak and visibly distraught when, on *Geraldo at Large*,<sup>22</sup> her close friend and fellow guest expressed that she was sure Ann had been invited to speak at CPAC. A few days later – demonstrating Coulter’s comeback qualities notwithstanding the enormities of her ungodly behavior – she suddenly appeared on an updated speaking agenda for a 10-minute slot on the closing day of the conference. Those 10 minutes turned into 23 minutes, significantly more than many of the illustrious speakers who graced the stage before her.

<sup>20</sup> See Chapter 4: “... Brains ...,” *The Beauty of Conservatism*, 2011, available as a free download at [www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf).

<sup>21</sup> Ann Coulter, *Hannity*, FNC, 10/14/13.

<sup>22</sup> *Geraldo at Large*, FNC, 3/9/13.



Left unchanged, Coulter's pride, arrogance, and fervent contradictions. These were unmasked in her speech and in subsequent commentary. At the outset of her speech, Coulter praised her own books ("author of nine massive *New York Times* best sellers" and her "latest smash best-seller, *Mugged*").<sup>23</sup>

Coulter profusely praised Romney, yet admitted to other flawed candidate choices ("Pete Dupont, Pat Buchanan, Steve Forbes, Duncan Hunter") but still offered rules for candidate selection and pontificated on who should and should not be candidates for the 2016 election. Yes, with her disastrous track record on presidential picks, Coulter *insists* on *shaping* the 2016 election.

In her CPAC speech, Coulter insisted America is a center-right nation seeking genuinely *conservative* candidates, yet she continues to fall for the siren call of *moderate* candidates.

At CPAC and elsewhere, Coulter stressed that her *single* issue is *amnesty*, but her speech significantly addressed abortion and homosexuality, issues in which her conservative views play well with Catholic Hispanics, thus contradicting the urgency of the amnesty debate. The following week, on *Geraldo at Large*,<sup>24</sup> Coulter segued a debate about New York Mayor Bloomberg's nanny state into one on homosexuality. What happened to amnesty?

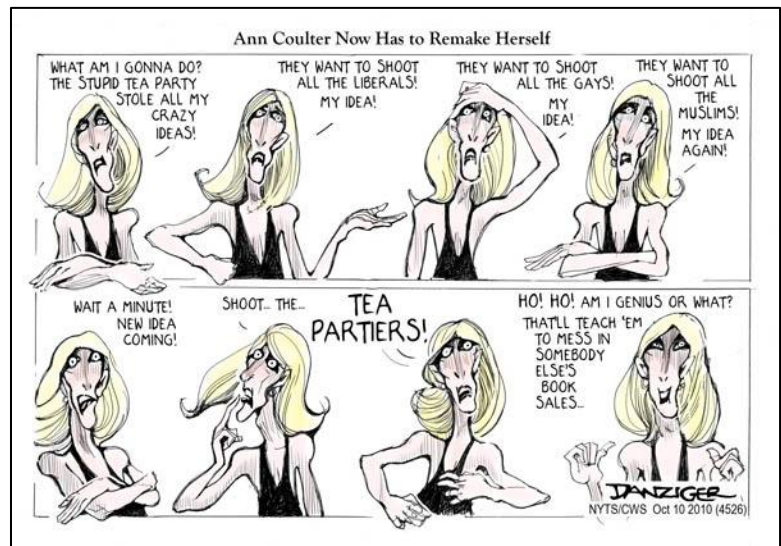
## Gov. Chris Christie

At CPAC, Coulter clearly stated, "I no longer support Christie in 2016. I'm a one single voter against amnesty. So, Christie is off the list." But then, just days later, Coulter surprised Sean Hannity by saying, "I'm waiting for [Christie] to switch on amnesty, and I have confidence in his high I.Q."<sup>25</sup> Her shocked friend blurted out, "Good grief. So you're back with Christie again? Now you're obsessed with him?"

The ever-confident Coulter replied, "We have to run somebody who is going to win or the country is going to be finished, Sean." Surprising, just hours before on Hannity's radio show, Coulter cautioned listeners: "Don't let your heart get stolen [by a particular candidate like Christie]"<sup>26</sup>

Yet, two months later, Coulter reiterated, "I've told you before: I have eyes only for Chris Christie."<sup>27</sup> Then she amazingly claimed, "There seems to be a concerted movement by both liberals and conservatives to lie about Christie and make him seem more liberal than he really is." Conservative author and TV host Eric Bolling succinctly expressed what most of us know: "[Chris Christie] wants to be a Republican but he wants to act like a liberal."<sup>28</sup>

A *Townhall* reader agrees: "In spite of Ann Coulter's infatuation with him, I always saw Christie for what he is. As New Jerseyites go, he is fairly conservative. But that is not saying much."<sup>29</sup>



<sup>23</sup> Ann Coulter, speech, CPAC 2013, 3/16/13.

<sup>24</sup> *Geraldo at Large*, FNC, 3/23/13.

<sup>25</sup> Ann Coulter, *Hannity*, FNC, 3/25/13.

<sup>26</sup> Ann Coulter, *Sean Hannity Radio Show*, Premiere Radio Networks, 3/25/13.

<sup>27</sup> Ann Coulter, *Sean Hannity Radio Show*, Premiere Radio Networks, 5/2/13.

<sup>28</sup> Eric Bolling, *The Five*, FNC, 5/24/13.

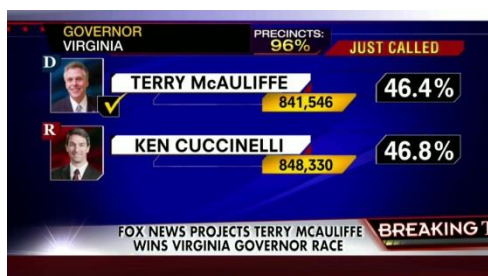
<sup>29</sup> Dave M, letter to the editor, *Townhall*, May 2013, pg. 13.

## Coulter's Tea Party

In past years, Coulter attacked the Tea Party.<sup>30</sup> Yet, recently, she has latched onto a few notables within the Tea Party movement as true conservatives, saying, “Much easier to have a circular firing squad and attack Republicans – whether that is RINO's attacking conservatives or Tea Partiers attacking RINOs.”<sup>31</sup> Still, her ambivalence about the Tea Party is evident in her commentary, but – get this! – she considers herself part of the Tea Party.

In interviews just last month, Coulter said, “I speak at a lot of Tea Parties, know a lot of them, and I think I am one”<sup>32</sup> and “I suppose I consider myself a Tea Partier.”<sup>33</sup> In her book, Coulter claims to want to unify the GOP and end the bickering between the Tea Party and RINOs.

## Virginia's 2013 Gubernatorial Race



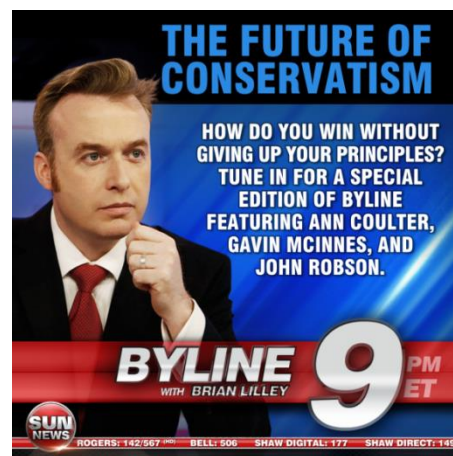
With Ken Cuccinelli's nail-biting defeat for governor of Virginia in 2013, Coulter blamed Cuccinelli for picking a Christian, conservative, pro-life running mate.<sup>34</sup> Why? Her contention dovetailed neatly with the thesis of her book and her most recent ideological makeover. The one constant in her criteria for a conservative candidate is that they not be *too* pro-life.

Contrary to Coulter's spurious claims, Cuccinelli was defeated (by a razor-thin margin) not because his running mate was too Christian, but due to four primary factors: 1) the GOP establishment did not support his campaign, 2) the government shutdown damaged him among Northern Virginia residents, 3) as a consequence of the shutdown and the delayed reporting of growing ObamaCare fiascos, he was unable to fully take advantage of that issue prior to the election, and 4) the Third Party candidate garnered 7% of the vote.<sup>35</sup>

## Ann Coulter is the Solution

“No. I am the solution.”<sup>36</sup>

In a remarkable interview about winning – promoted with the question: “How do you win without giving up your principles?” – Coulter concentrated on “electability.”<sup>37</sup> She began with this



<sup>30</sup> See Randall Hoven, “Blame the Tea Party? Use Your Memory,” *American Thinker*, 10/21/13, [http://www.americanthinker.com/2013/10/blame\\_the\\_tea\\_party\\_use\\_your\\_memory.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2013/10/blame_the_tea_party_use_your_memory.html), for an excellent refutation of Coulter's attacks upon the Tea Party.

<sup>31</sup> Ann Coulter quoted by Matthew Boyle, “Exclusive – Q&A with Ann Coulter on New Book, Amnesty, Washington Republicans,” *Breitbart*, 10/22/13.

<sup>32</sup> “Ann Coulter: The ‘Never Trust a Liberal over 3’ Interview,” *Kam Williams Show*, 11/18/13.

<sup>33</sup> “Ann Coulter on Winning: Political pundit Ann Coulter discusses the importance of winning elections over simply maintaining ideological purity,” *Byline with Brian Lilley*, Sun News, 11/29/13.

<sup>34</sup> Ann Coulter, *Hannity*, FNC, 11/6/13.

<sup>35</sup> See Jonathan Moseley, “A 2014 U.S. Senate Run for Ken Cuccinelli?” *American Thinker*, 11/12/13, [http://www.americanthinker.com/2013/11/2014\\_us\\_senate\\_run\\_for\\_ken\\_cuccinelli.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2013/11/2014_us_senate_run_for_ken_cuccinelli.html).

<sup>36</sup> “Ann Coulter: The ‘Never Trust a Liberal over 3’ Interview,” *Kam Williams Show*, 11/18/13.

<sup>37</sup> “Ann Coulter on Winning: Political pundit Ann Coulter discusses the importance of winning elections over simply maintaining ideological purity,” *Byline with Brian Lilley*, Sun News, 11/29/13.

baseline for electability: “the conservative position is part of electability,” but then immediately qualified that baseline: “but you have to look at other things, and not to the exclusion of everything else.”

Coulter then launched into her usual attacks, castigating three GOP principled pro-life candidates for being, you guessed it, too pro-life. Yet, seemingly oblivious to her own contradictions, she heralded the “huge majorities” of Americans supporting various pro-life positions. To prove her point, she said, “Ronald Reagan won New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, being a pro-lifer. Christie just won two weeks ago. ... he is pro-life and will not waver on it. Al Damato, used to win in New York, he was pro-life.”

But, Coulter is all about winning, and, despite her positive pro-life talking points, she immediately diminished the import of those points. Her very next words exposed her heart: “At the moment, it’s obviously a very important issue with a million babies being murdered every year, but, and I don’t dismiss it ...” – and Coulter went on to dismiss it by citing ObamaCare, immigration, and amnesty as more important criteria. More important than “a million babies being murdered every year.”



Coulter has a deep need to assert upper echelon political control, to receive personal praise and acclaim, and to feel professionally relevant. Her vanity – and insecurity – necessitate that she prove herself, but they also prevent her from acknowledging past fault and wrong behaviors. Ironically, the only way she can prove herself is by admitting that which she wants to keep secret from others and even from herself.

Coulter routinely besmirches the character and impugns the motives of good people, ascribing to them the self-centered egotistic traits she herself possesses.

Coulter urges the abandonment of principles for pragmatism – “win, win, win” – while failing to recognize that broken integrity is a defeat.

Ann Coulter cannot be trusted.<sup>38</sup>

## Ann Coulter thinks Mitt Romney was superior to Ronald Reagan, and she is embarrassing herself

November 22, 2012 at 5:27am

<http://dailycaller.com/2012/11/21/romney-was-not-the-problem/>

Really Ann? You mean Romney's one debate bests Reagan's decades of advocacy for conservatism, his battles with the Republican establishment, and his building a conservative movement? Fact is Romney has done nothing for conservatism. I repeat, nothing. No leadership. No grassroots efforts. No major policy initiatives. Nothing. Reagan won two landslides. Romney won nothing. Cherry-picking facts Ann, in some strange cult-like obsession, fools no one. Same with your cheerleading for Chris Christie.

<sup>38</sup> See “We Won’t Get Fooled Again,” [http://www.wontgetfooled.com/pdfs/WWGFA\\_AnneCoulter.pdf](http://www.wontgetfooled.com/pdfs/WWGFA_AnneCoulter.pdf).



## Chapter 3

# The Capitol is Under Attack

**“As for catching Osama, it’s irrelevant.  
Things are going swimmingly in Afghanistan.” – Ann Coulter<sup>1</sup>**

### Homeland Defense Expert

Although Coulter was a college history major,<sup>2</sup> you wouldn’t know that from her commentary. During the war on Bosnia, Coulter opined that “It is an *historical fact* that refugees never return.”<sup>3</sup> Immediately following war’s end, returning refugees flooded the borders of their homeland.

Debating the wisdom of Hitler fighting a two-front war, Coulter said, “I think that is *implausible* [that Hitler would have won the war had he invaded Russia before going west].” She added that she thought he would have “been *defeated* by Russia!”<sup>4</sup>



The assessment of most historians and military strategists is just the opposite: Fighting a one-front war, one enemy at a time, would have assured Hitler victory.

Since 9/11, Coulter has vigorously employed Orwellian propaganda techniques to further the war effort, becoming the Tariq Aziz of the Bush administration. Early in the war on terror – despite being YAF’s designated terrorism expert for its Homeland Defense Lecture Series – Coulter absurdly denied

the Reagan administration’s support of Iraq in the 1980s (“We didn’t support Saddam Hussein. That’s not true.”<sup>5</sup>) conveniently forgetting the Iran-Iraq War and who *our* “good guy” was. Did she jettison that entire decade down the memory hole to avoid addressing the sheer messiness of America’s Middle Eastern policies?

For Coulter, it is far simpler to blame everything on liberals.

### Peace Through Strength

As background, conservatives believe in peace through strength, recognize that evil regimes pose a threat to peaceful, freedom-loving nations, and that sometimes military force is necessary to secure peace. The Reagan Doctrine brought down the Berlin Wall and transformed the Soviet Union into a paper tiger.

<sup>1</sup> Ann Coulter, Hannity & Colmes, FNC, 8/24/06.

<sup>2</sup> Ann Coulter, Clare Boothe Luce Policy Institute’s Leadership Seminar, 6/12/00.

<sup>3</sup> Ann Coulter, *O’Reilly Factor*, FNC, 4/22/99.

<sup>4</sup> Ann Coulter, *Rivera Live*, CNBC, 9/27/99.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

Reagan, one of the truly great American presidents, was not without flaws. While boldly facing Communist threats and demonstrating the hollowness of that evil system, Reagan was less consistent in meeting terrorist threats. His invasion of Grenada was textbook liberation in October 1983,<sup>6</sup> and his bombing of Libya in April 1986<sup>7</sup> served to cage the crafty terrorist-dictator. But his administration sent a mixed message in dealing with international terrorism.

In many ways, American foreign policy for decades has been a mixed-bag, due to many factors, including the changing policies of different administrations, allegiance to pragmatic realpolitik, and a failure to see the big picture. The Jewish Policy Center offers a failure of the Reagan administration.

A rash of Islamic violence ensued. America's embassy in Beirut was bombed on September 20, 1984. Hizbullah was again involved. In December 1984, on a hijacked plane in Tehran, Islamic extremists tortured and murdered two Americans. Radicals abducted more than a dozen Americans in Beirut between March 1984 and January 1985. Finally, in June 1985, Islamic militants hijacked another flight with more than 100 Americans aboard, killing one of them. America did not respond, other than to place Iran on the State Department's list of state sponsors of terrorism in 1984.<sup>8</sup>

Conservatives contend that George W. Bush's Reaganesque "peace through strength" anti-terrorist policy kept America safe in a post-9/11 world. Bush quickly routed the Taliban in Afghanistan, toppled Saddam Hussein's evil regime (one which had perpetrated a 9/11-scale attack daily on its own people) and demonstrated that principled leadership is necessary to combat the evils of our era.

Here, again, Coulter rewrites history. Superb invasion tactics (with remarkable military success and equally remarkable limited civilian casualties) was followed by poor post-invasion strategy. Failure to fully secure the borders to prevent additional terrorists from wreaking havoc internally, foolishly retaking time-and-again the same cities, and failure to root out the enemy all impeded reconstruction efforts and made more difficult the establishment of a functioning democracy in the Arab world. Political successes – several elections – were undercut by civil strife.

While the mainstream media fails to tout those successes in Iraq and the war on terror, Coulter refuses to acknowledge its failings and flaws.

## **The Capitol Is Under Attack**

Nevertheless, following 9/11, Coulter's foundational worldview – liberals are evil traitors and conservatives are patriotic heroes – quickly became the predominate conservative paradigm. In reality, Coulter's paralytic paradigm has a fundamentally-flawed foundation. Moreover, it is also bereft of truth in many of the details.

Coulter is widely regarded as the conservative queen of sound-bites and her colorful rhetoric catches the imagination. Snappy sound-bites and clever comparisons catch one's attention and beguile readers. Over the years, The Federalist Society (as but one example) has often commended Coulter's commentary, extracting – as examples of brilliancy – her most inane views. Just as other fans, the Federalist Society often accepts Coulter's words without examination when they are actually without merit.

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<sup>6</sup> See [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Invasion\\_of\\_Grenada](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Invasion_of_Grenada), accessed 12/3/13.

<sup>7</sup> See [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation\\_El\\_Dorado\\_Canyon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_El_Dorado_Canyon), accessed 12/3/13.

<sup>8</sup> Jonathan Schanzer, "Why the Threat of War Doesn't Scare Iran," *In Focus*, Jewish Policy Center, Summer 2007, pg. 26.

The following example exemplifies Coulter's technique.

The U.S. military has had considerably more success in turning Iraq around than liberals have had in turning the ghettos around with their 40-year "War on Poverty." So far, fewer troops have been killed by hostile fire since the end of major combat in Iraq than civilians were murdered in Washington, D.C., last year (239 deaths in Iraq compared to 262 murders in D.C.). How many years has it been since we declared the end of major U.S. combat operations against Marion Barry's regime? How long before we just give up and pull out of that hellish quagmire known as Washington, D.C.?<sup>9</sup>

Many neoconservatives latched onto Coulter's analogy with relish, treating nonsense as genius. This analogy formed the centerpiece for Coulter's defense of America's reconstruction in Iraq. Coulter's analogy sparkles, but it is deceptive and is, indeed, a lie.

*Nothing* in it is, in fact, *true*!

Considered bold and brilliant, Coulter's analogies *are* bold and they *do* sparkle, yet their brilliance is as deceptive as fool's gold. Far from profound, this analogy is profoundly meaningless. Let's examine this nugget to discover its true worth.

### Different "Wars"

Let's break down that paragraph from Coulter's essay item by item.

The U.S. military has had considerably more success in turning Iraq around than liberals have had in turning the ghettos around with their 40-year "War on Poverty."

Coulter *defends* the neoconservative war in Iraq by *attacking* the bipartisan "War" on Poverty. Par Coulter, more questions are raised than answered.

Were only "liberals" involved in the War on Poverty? Are only conservatives involved in the War in Iraq? Are there no liberals in the "U.S. military?"

The cost of the war on poverty at that time was an estimated \$5 trillion.<sup>10</sup> Is Coulter suggesting we should spend that much in Iraq and other nations worldwide? Perhaps. She lauds the Marshall Plan and the reconstruction in post-World War II Japan. As of Coulter's writing, the invasion and occupation of Iraq already cost \$120 billion.

Also, the war on poverty was socio-economic, not military. How many civilians – or cops – were killed in 2003 due to the war on poverty? Coulter doesn't say.

Moreover, why does Coulter use the arguably racist term "ghettos," especially in this context? (Coulter often refers to inhabitants of Third World countries as "uncivilized," "savages," and "barbarians" – terms she also applies to terrorists.)

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<sup>9</sup> Ann Coulter, "'The Plan,'" 11/05/03.

<sup>10</sup> Estimates vary widely, but whatever the figure, it is huge. See "The American Welfare State: How We Spend Nearly \$1 Trillion Dollars a Year Fighting Poverty – and Fail," *Cato Policy Analysis No. 694*, Cato Institute, 4/11/12, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/88767476/The-American-Welfare-State-How-We-Spend-Nearly-1-Trillion-a-Year-Fighting-Poverty-And-Fail-Cato-Policy-Analysis-No-694>.



## Death Statistics.

Coulter continues:

So far, fewer troops have been killed by hostile fire since the end of major combat in Iraq than civilians were murdered in Washington, D.C., last year (239 deaths in Iraq compared to 262 murders in D.C.).

Coulter's statement is false in both *quantity* and *kind*.

Her figure of 262 murders is incorrect. The correct number of civilians killed in the District in 2003 is 248. (She used a 2002 figure.) Further, Coulter's time frame is skewed, comparing military losses (beginning March 20<sup>th</sup>) with civilian homicides (beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>).

Moreover, Coulter's analogy excludes other coalition fatalities and casualties. As of November 2003 (the time frame of her column), approximately "10,000 U.S. troops have been killed, wounded, injured or become ill enough to require evacuation from Iraq since the war began." Additionally, Americans fielded approximately 130,00 troops<sup>11</sup> in contrast to the District's estimated population of 563,384.

And why this comparison between troops and *civilians* when a more apt comparison would be between troops and *cops*? Perhaps because it would prove her analogy ludicrous. The cumulative tally of D.C. policemen killed since 1792 is 116. That's right, **116** policemen killed in 211 **years**.

Are American troops in Iraq really safer than American citizens in the District of Columbia? Safer than Washington cops?

Have foreign businesses, organizations, and embassies fled D.C. due to chaotic violence? Do D.C. residents experience daily terrorist attacks? Are they plagued by fear that oil and gas pipelines will explode or water supplies be destroyed? Do American combat helicopters crash on a weekly basis in and around the District?

Are Iraqis *really* safer than Washingtonians?

## Combat Operations?

Coulter continues:

How many years has it been since we declared the end of major U.S. combat operations against Marion Barry's regime? How long before we just give up and pull out of that hellish quagmire known as Washington, D.C.?

When, exactly, did a "major U.S. combat operation" begin in Washington, D.C.? Are federal troops really occupying a war-torn capitol? Coulter seems to think so. More importantly, do we *want* D.C. transformed into a military-occupied police state?



<sup>11</sup> See <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/Default.aspx?id=3540766&p1=0>, accessed 12/3/13.

Isn't blaming "Marion Barry's regime" for the current state of D.C. like blaming Ronald Reagan for current budget deficits? Moreover, is Coulter suggesting a moral equivalence between Marion Barry and Saddam Hussein? (Did the Department of Defense target Barry as they did Hussein?)

Finally, what is Coulter's definition of "hellish quagmire" and how can she possibly apply it to the District of Columbia? Is Washington, D.C. really "hellish?" Has Coulter ever been in combat?

### **Sophistry Without Substance**

Although superficially sparkling, Coulter's analogy is a factually-flawed and inept comparison which actually disproves her contention. But conservatives continue to praise her insight.

Conservative paralysis will continue as long as conservatives extol Coulter as their "exemplar." The Coulter Model – CPAC 2004's "Woman of the Year" – is deeply flawed. Coulter is wrong in the big picture and she is wrong in the details.

Coulter's analogies, rhetoric and worldview sparkle as brilliantly as fool's gold, but are worth far less.

### **Baghdad – Safer Than Washington, D.C.**

Still, Coulter resumed her propagandistic claims the following year. This dialogue from the *O'Reilly Factor* is particularly revealing:<sup>12</sup>

**COULTER:** But it's pretty darn safe over there.

**O'REILLY:** Our Fox correspondents in Baghdad won't go out of the hotel. That's not a good sign, Ann.

**COULTER:** I wouldn't go out of the hotel in Washington, D.C. This is the Middle East. This is a country that's been under a brutal dictator for 30 years, and on top of that, now they see ...

**O'REILLY:** Let me answer a couple of other things. They said there's not enough boots on the ground, number one. We don't have enough people providing security. This is the military people, not me. Number two...

**COULTER:** Not my military people. My military people are [Defense Secretary Donald] Rumsfeld.

**O'REILLY:** The weapons of mass destruction fiasco when they couldn't find them.

**COULTER:** Wait. We have found weapons of mass destruction...

**O'REILLY:** No we didn't, not to any great extent.

**COULTER:** That is an important point. We have found weapons of mass destruction. That is something the media is repeatedly lying about. We have not found stockpiles. We found the plants for manufacturing, we found the experiments, we found the room for human experimentation labs. We found lots of weapons of mass destruction.

**O'REILLY:** But not enough to justify what [Secretary of State Colin] Powell said at the U.N. ...

Yes, Coulter really *did* dis-favorably compare Washington, D.C. to Baghdad, *did* deny the military reality on the ground, and *did* claim weapons of mass destruction had been found in Iraq.

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<sup>12</sup> *O'Reilly Factor*, FNC, 5/27/04, <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,121262,00.html>, accessed 12/3/13.

Clifford D. May, President of Foundation for the Defense of Democracies, pointed out why the world may have been mistaken about Hussein's WMDs and the shortcomings of the Iraq War.

Saddam Hussein was the weakest of America's Middle Eastern enemies. Perhaps to camouflage that he made it appear – to all the world's major intelligence agencies – that he retained dangerous stockpiles of Weapons of Mass Destruction. Toppling Saddam turned out to be a relatively easy mission to accomplish. But the Bush administration's strategic planning for what would come next was obviously – and sorely – deficient.<sup>13</sup>

## Afghanistan is Going Swimmingly

In August 2006, *Hannity & Colmes* again asked for Coulter's expertise on the war on terror and Coulter willingly gave them this doozy of an observation: "As for catching Osama, it's irrelevant. Things are going swimmingly in Afghanistan."<sup>14</sup>

At the time of Coulter's pronouncement, the situation in Afghanistan was *deteriorating*.

Lieutenant General David Richards, head of Nato's international security force in Afghanistan," said that the situation in Afghanistan is "close to anarchy," with coalition forces facing challenges as widespread as

Somewhere Over Afghanistan  
Columnist Ann Coulter, enraged after being fired last week by the National Review, takes matters into her own hands.



resolving "feuding foreign agencies and unethical private security companies," combating local corruption, pacifying warring religious and secular factions, alleviating military equipment shortages, and eradicating the production of illegal drugs.

Helmand province alone at the time was "probably the biggest single source of heroin in the world."<sup>15</sup> "Opium cultivation in Afghanistan has hit record levels – up by more than 40 percent from 2005 – despite hundreds of millions in counternarcotics money. The

increase could have serious repercussions for an already grave security situation, with drug lords joining the Taliban-led fight against Afghan and international forces."<sup>16</sup>

<sup>13</sup> Kathryn Jean Lopez, *Standing Athwart History 24/7: One Year in the Life of National Review Online*, 2007 Edition, National Review, 2008, pg. 176.

<sup>14</sup> Ann Coulter, *Hannity & Colmes*, FNC, 8/24/06.

<sup>15</sup> Richard Norton-Taylor, "Afghanistan close to anarchy, warns general," *Guardian Unlimited*, 7/21/06, <http://www.guardian.co.uk/afghanistan/story/0,1826303,00.html>, accessed 12/3/13.

<sup>16</sup> "Opium hits record in Afghanistan," CNN, 8/17/06.



In addition, “After months of widespread frustration with corruption, the economy and a lack of justice and security, doubts about President Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan, and by extension the American-led effort to rebuild that nation, have led to a crisis of confidence.”<sup>17</sup>

But, for Coulter, things were going swimmingly in Afghanistan. Regular viewers of *Hannity & Colmes* may recall that it was on this occasion that Coulter walked off the set in the middle of the program because she could not defend her views.

(Having favored a troop surge in Iraq under Bush, a few years later, Coulter called Obama’s surge in Afghanistan “insane,” arguing it would create a new Vietnam.)<sup>18</sup>

## No American Deaths in Iraq

In January 2007, Coulter’s grasp of the military reality on the ground in Iraq remained unrealistic. Consider this dialogue on *Hannity & Colmes*:<sup>19</sup>

FLEMING: We are losing Americans and Iraqis every day.

COULTER: No, we aren’t.

FLEMMING We’re not losing Americans every day, Ann?

COULTER: No, we aren’t at all.

That month alone saw 83 American fatalities.

Coulter also claimed, “The number of American deaths have been going down every year,” when, in fact, the trend was upwards until July 2007 (see accompanying chart). According to the ISG Report, “October 2006 was the deadliest month for US forces since January 2005, with 102 Americans killed. Total attacks (against Americans) in October 2006 averaged 180 per day, up from 70 a day from January 2006 ... Violence is increasing in scope, complexity and lethality.”

**U.S. Deaths By Month/Year:**

| Year | Jan       | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Total |
|------|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 2003 | 0         | 0   | 65  | 74  | 37  | 30  | 48  | 35  | 31  | 44  | 82  | 40  | 2489  |
| 2004 | 47        | 20  | 52  | 135 | 80  | 42  | 54  | 66  | 80  | 64  | 137 | 72  | 2853  |
| 2005 | 107       | 58  | 35  | 52  | 80  | 78  | 54  | 85  | 49  | 96  | 84  | 68  | 2851  |
| 2006 | 62        | 55  | 31  | 76  | 69  | 61  | 43  | 65  | 72  | 106 | 70  | 112 | 2828  |
| 2007 | <b>83</b> | 81  | 81  | 104 | 126 | 101 | 78  | 84  | 65  | 38  | 37  | 16  | 2901  |

<sup>17</sup> Carlotta Gall, “Nation Faltering, Afghan’s Leader Draws Criticism,” *New York Times*, 8/23/06, <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/08/23/world/asia/23karzai.html>, accessed 12/3/13.

<sup>18</sup> Laura M. Holson, “Outflanked on Right, Coulter Seeks New Image,” *New York Times*, 10/8/10.

<sup>19</sup> Ann Coulter and Jane Flemming, *Hannity & Colmes*, FNC, 1/17/07.

Also in 2007, Coulter made yet another one of her sparkling comparisons, saying, “Basically, it is like California with Baghdad as LA with Hispanics, whites and blacks. You have the Crips and the Bloods in Baghdad. That’s where all the fighting is.”<sup>20</sup>

### **Iraq – Safer Than Detroit or Chicago?**

In September 2008, Coulter again insisted that Iraqis are safer than Americans, this time targeting Chicago and Detroit, suggesting residents in the Great Lakes region live in war zones. In her lauded column, Coulter claimed:

Monthly casualties in Iraq now come in slightly lower than a weekend with Anna Nicole Smith. According to a CNN report last week, for the entire month of May, there were only 19 troop deaths in Iraq. (Last year, five people on average were shot every day in Chicago.) With Iraqi deaths at an all-time low, Iraq is safer than Detroit – although the Middle Eastern food is still better in Detroit.<sup>21</sup>

Although there were 19 U.S. troop deaths in Iraq in May; there were 52 in April and 29 in June. More importantly, Coulter’s analogy breaks down in monumental ways. Again, she compared *troop* deaths in Iraq with *civilian* deaths in Chicago.

Coulter adroitly deceived readers by suggesting five people were *murdered* every day in Chicago. Of those five people shot every day, how many were *killed*? According to the FBI, the total number of murders in Chicago declined in 2007, down to 443 – less than *two* per day. What about Coulter’s claim that “Iraq is safer than Detroit?” In reality, the number of murders in Detroit declined from 421 in 2006 to 383 in 2007. Yes, that’s less than the civilian death total for the month of May 2008 in Iraq.

According to Coulter, “five people on average were shot every day in Chicago.” Five per day x 365 days = 1,825 victims, a rather large figure. But FBI crime statistics for 2007 reveal that Chicago had only 443 murders.<sup>22</sup> Why the discrepancy? Coulter compared troop *deaths* with Chicago *shootings*. As it turns out, in 2007, Chicago had the *lowest* murder rate since 1965. Taking Coulter’s chosen month of May 2008, there were 197 American *casualties* (6 ½ per day). During that same month of May, Iraqi troops lost 110 soldiers and 396 Iraqi civilians were killed.

Iraq’s population of 26,783,383<sup>23</sup> suffered 17,108 civilian deaths in 2007. In contrast, Chicago, with a population of 2,824,434, experienced only 443 murders.<sup>24</sup> Similarly, Detroit, with a population of 860,971, had 394 murders and non-negligent manslaughters.<sup>25</sup>

Let’s recap statistics for 2007: Chicago murders<sup>26</sup> (443), Detroit murders<sup>27</sup> (394), U.S. troop deaths in Iraq (904), Iraqi troop deaths (1,830), Iraqi civilian deaths (17,108), and Coalition deaths in Baghdad (403).

Despite Coulter’s nonsense, distorted reasoning, false comparisons, and deliberately deceptive use of statistics, many conservatives considered this one of her best columns.

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<sup>20</sup> Ann Coulter, *Hannity & Colmes*, FNC, 1/17/07.

<sup>21</sup> Ann Coulter, “Bush’s America: 100% Al-Qaida Free Since 2001,” 6/11/08.

<sup>22</sup> Table 8 of the FBI’s 2007 “Crime in the United States.”

<sup>23</sup> See “Iraq Population,” Maps of the World, 11/11/08.

<sup>24</sup> Table 8 of the FBI’s 2007 “Crime in the United States.”

<sup>25</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>26</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*

But Coulter is correct on one point: “Only in an environment of ideological fanaticism can a tautology be passed off as analysis.”<sup>28</sup>



<sup>28</sup> Ann Coulter, *Slander: Liberal Lies Against the American Right*, Crown Forum, pg. 172.



## Chapter 4

# War Heroes & Villains

**“These people are not only traitors, they are gutless traitors.” – Ann Coulter<sup>1</sup>**

### Coulter Enraged! Why?

In November 2013, an enraged Ann Coulter vilified a guest in an utterly astonishing exchange on the *Sean Hannity Show*, and Hannity did nothing to intervene.

Hannity had asked Erica Payne, Founder of the Agenda Project, to provide examples of conservatives who have engaged in hate speech. Payne immediately proffered Coulter as an example, citing Coulter’s defamation of a disabled Vietnam veteran in 1997 – remarks which prompted Coulter’s permanent firing from that network.

As the words were leaving Payne’s mouth, Coulter launched her attack, repeating, “That’s a lie! That’s a lie!” Amplifying her defense, Coulter said, “A. That’s a lie. B. It was a lie that was told about something I allegedly said in 1996.<sup>2</sup> And it’s a lie.” Moments later, she dismissed the source of Payne’s words, asserting, “As *Time* magazine reported. So you either have lies or jokes on me.”

Later in the broadcast, Payne asked her a question and Coulter blurted, “If you go around telling lies, I am not interested in what you have to say.”

What were Payne’s lies?  
Why was Coulter enraged?

### Defamed Vietnam Veteran in 1997

In October 1997, Coulter was debating Bobby Muller, President of Vietnam Veterans for America, over the efficacy of banning landmines. Muller said to Ann, “In 90 percent of cases that U.S. soldiers got blown up – Ann, are you listening? – they were our own mines.” Coulter derisively replied, “No wonder you guys lost.”<sup>3</sup> Coulter blamed Muller, a disabled Vietnam veteran, for losing the Vietnam War.

In context, the veteran advocated a global land mine ban because land mines destroy indiscriminately (like the carpet bombing Coulter would champion years later) and can blow up decades after that particular war has ended. His observation that many American troops were blown up by their own land mines precipitated Coulter’s derision.

Almost exactly one year later, in a *Washington Post* profile, Howard Kurtz extensively quoted Coulter in a lengthy interview and attempted to verify the MSNBC quote noted above. The (incorrect) version verified by Coulter was “People like you caused us to lose that war.”<sup>4</sup> For whatever reason, Coulter verified an *inaccurate* quote and she now vilifies those who reference it.

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<sup>1</sup> Ann Coulter, “New Idea for the Abortion party: Aid the Enemy,” 1/23/05.

<sup>2</sup> Coulter gave the wrong year: it was 1997, not 1996.

<sup>3</sup> Ann Coulter, MSNBC, 10/11/97.

<sup>4</sup> Howard Kurtz, “The Blonde Flinging Bombshells at Bill Clinton,” *Washington Post*, 10/16/98, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/politics/special/clinton/stories/coulter101698.htm>.

However, in 2002, Coulter *denied* disparaging that disabled Vietnam veteran:

Howard Kurtz made up a quote about a Vietnam vet, which he knows he made up, which has now run twice in the *Washington Post*, once in *Talk* magazine, once in *People* Magazine, once in the *Washingtonian*. It's something I allegedly said on TV. Why doesn't somebody produce a tape of that?<sup>5</sup>

Coulter denied the incident entirely: "made up a quote" ... "something I allegedly said."

Upon hearing of Coulter's dilemma, I offered to provide her with the requested tape. Three years later, a fawning *Time* magazine profile attempted to resolve the disputed quotation:

Muller was misquoting a 1969 Pentagon report that found that 90 percent of the components used in enemy mines came from U.S. duds and refuse. Coulter, who found Muller's statement laughable, averted her eyes and responded sarcastically: "No wonder you guys lost." It became an infamous – and oft-misreported – Coulter moment. The *Washington Post* and others turned the line into a more personal attack: "People like you caused us to lose that war."<sup>6</sup>

What was Payne's lie? That she cited the inaccurate quote – "People like you caused us to lose that war" – instead of the accurate one – "No wonder you guys lost." In my opinion, Coulter's actual words are worse than those attributed to her. She was flippant and condescending toward the veteran.

What should Coulter have done? *Not* repeatedly call Payne a liar! Instead, correct the error.

Still, in 2013, Coulter remains in denial.

### Defamed Yet Another Disabled Vet

MSNBC fired Coulter for defaming that disabled Vietnam veteran, Bobby Muller, in 1997. Seven years later, she repeatedly defamed yet *another* disabled Vietnam War veteran, Max Cleland, and *Human Events* has done nothing about it.

In 2004, two back-to-back Coulter polemics denied the recognized heroism of Vietnam veteran and triple-amputee Max Cleland. She would compound her defamation later that year by publishing four chapters on Cleland in her book, *How to Talk to a Liberal (If You Must)*.<sup>7</sup> For the purposes of this book, it is sufficient to address only her first two essays.

Before delving into the errors contained in both columns, a comparison of the two would prove useful.



<sup>5</sup> Ann Coulter, *Counterspin*, FAIR, 8/9/02.

<sup>6</sup> John Cloud, "Ms. Right: Ann Coulter, *Time*, 4/25/05, <http://content.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1050304,00.html>.

<sup>7</sup> *How to Talk to a Liberal (If You Must): The World According to Ann Coulter*, Crown Forum, 2004.

On February 11,<sup>8</sup> Coulter lashed out at Cleland:

Max Cleland is the Democrats' designated hysteric ... basking in the affection of liberals who have suddenly become jock-sniffers for war veterans, and working himself into a lather about President Bush's military service. ... Cleland testily remarked ... what Cleland sneeringly calls ... maybe Max Cleland should stop allowing Democrats to portray him as a war hero.

But Cleland *is* a war hero!



On February 18,<sup>9</sup> a somewhat chastened but still combative Coulter continued to defame Cleland (albeit more tactfully). In her first essay, Coulter denied any bravery at all, claiming, "There was no bravery involved in dropping a grenade on himself with no enemy troops in sight." In the second she acknowledged bravery but pointed it towards George W. Bush, writing, "And yet the poignant truth of Cleland's own accident demonstrates the commitment and bravery of all members of the military who come into contact with ordnance. Cleland's injury was of the routine variety that occurs whenever young men and weapons are put in close proximity – including in the National Guard."



Cleland's was the "routine" variety?

### Errors in First Column

NOTE: The column title on Coulter's website and syndication is "Max Cleland Drops Political Grenade."

**Dropped grenade on himself.** "He saw a grenade on the ground and picked it up. He could have done that at Fort Dix. In fact, Cleland could have dropped a grenade on his foot as a National Guardsman. ... Indeed, if Cleland had dropped a grenade on himself at Fort Dix rather than in Vietnam, he would never have been a U.S. senator in the first place. ... There was no bravery involved in dropping a grenade on himself with no enemy troops in sight."

**REALITY:** Cleland did *not* drop the grenade on himself. It exploded as he was picking it up off the ground. Moreover, Cleland was returning from a battlefield, having been in combat for which he was awarded the Silver Star. His bravery was proven in battle!

**About to drink.** "Cleland lost three limbs in an accident during a routine noncombat mission where he was about to drink beer with friends."

**REALITY:** Coulter gave the false impression that Cleland had a beer in his hand ready to drink and clumsily dropped the grenade. Cleland had just jumped down from a helicopter. The grenade was on the ground and it exploded as he picked it up. Coulter's phraseology is again designed to deceive, writing

<sup>8</sup> Ann Coulter, "Democrats Bash Bush for Serving in Guard," *Human Events*, 2/11/04, <http://www.humaneventsonline.com/article.php?id=3031>.

<sup>9</sup> Ann Coulter, "File Under 'Omission Accomplished,'" *Human Events*, 2/18/04, <http://www.humaneventsonline.com/article.php?id=3082>.





about his “routine noncombat mission.” There is nothing routine in a combat zone in which any person can become engaged with the enemy at any time.

**Lucky to lose limbs.** “Luckily for Cleland’s political career and current pomposity about Bush, he happened to do it [drop grenade on himself] while in Vietnam.”

**REALITY:** Lucky? Whatever personal and political successes Cleland may have achieved, assuredly he does not regard himself lucky to have lost three limbs. And, again, Cleland did *not* drop the grenade.

**Bush Investigation.** “Bush’s National Guard service is the most thoroughly investigated event since the Kennedy assassination. ... This confirmed what has been confirmed 1 million times before.”

**REALITY:** Clearly hyperbolic, Coulter ignores Whitewater, Monica Lewinsky and other Clinton scandals that she and *Human Events* have extensively (even religiously) covered. Why bring this up? To belittle and dismiss Cleland’s heroism.

**1973?** “When Bush left the National Guard in 1973 to go to business school, the war was over.”

**REALITY:** The Vietnam War ended in 1975.

**Vietnam war crimes.** “To put this in perspective, by 1973, John Kerry had already accused American soldiers of committing war crimes in Vietnam ...”

**REALITY:** Coulter knows some Americans committed some war crimes in Vietnam but seems to regard them as inevitable, even necessary. On *Politically Incorrect*, Coulter defended the Mai Lai Massacre.

Even on the worst version, I think it’s a little scurrilous to sit back and attack [Bob Kerrey] – when so many people didn’t go at all. I mean, 600,000 civilians were killed in Germany in World War II, and people aren’t worried about that. ... Sorry, that’s why they say war is hell. Civilians get killed.<sup>10</sup>

In fact, Coulter’s first post-9/11 column demanded the indiscriminate slaughter of innocent civilians as a just response to that event:

This is no time to be precious about locating the exact individuals directly involved in this particular terrorist attack. Those responsible include anyone anywhere in the world who smiled in response to the annihilation of patriots like Barbara Olson. ... We should invade their countries, kill their leaders and convert them to Christianity. We weren’t punctilious about locating and punishing only Hitler and his top officers. We carpet-bombed German cities; we killed civilians. That’s war. And this is war.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Ann Coulter, *Politically Incorrect*, ABC, 4/26/01.

<sup>11</sup> Ann Coulter, “This is War,” 9/12/01.

**Routine mission?** “Cleland lost three limbs in an accident during a routine noncombat mission where he was about to drink beer with friends. ... routine ... no enemy in sight.”

REALITY: There was no such thing as a “routine” mission in Vietnam. At the time of the accident, the battle of Khe Sanh was still ongoing, ending a week later. The area of the accident was, at one time, part of that battle.

**Didn’t give his limbs.** [Coulter’s concluding paragraph.] “[Cleland] didn’t ‘give his limbs for his country,’ or leave them ‘on the battlefield.’ There was no bravery involved in dropping a grenade on himself with no enemy troops in sight. That could have happened in the Texas National Guard – which Cleland denigrates while demanding his own sanctification.”

REALITY: Max Cleland did indeed lose his limbs in service to his country on a battlefield. There was no sanctimony on Cleland’s part. Coulter’s comparison of *training* for combat in America with engaging in *actual* combat in Vietnam is ludicrous.

## Errors in Second Column

Despite having a week to ferret out the truth, Coulter’s sequel continued to defame an honorable man. In her rebuttal essay, Coulter admitted to one – and only one – error: “(OK, I got that wrong: I said he’d probably be a pharmacist.)”

In that essay, Coulter continued to condemn the Left:

With their Clintonesque formulations, my detractors make it a little difficult to know what “lie” I’m supposed to be contesting, but they are clearly implying – without stating – that Cleland lost his limbs in combat. ... Liberals are not angry because I “lied”; they’re angry because I told the truth. ... [Liberals] ought to stick to their specialty – hysterical overreaction. The truth is not their forte.

The patterns of addictive thinking – denial, rationalization and projection – are evident in full in the above paragraph and the entirety of her essay. Let’s examine Coulter’s errors in her second essay.

**Cleland not a hero.** “In Cleland’s own words: ‘I didn’t see any heroism in all that. It wasn’t an act of heroism. I didn’t know the grenade was live. It was an act of fate.’ That is why Cleland didn’t win a Purple Heart, which is given to those wounded in combat.” AND “Cleland spoke only honorably and humbly about his accident. ‘How did I become a war hero?’ he said to The Boston Globe reporter in 1997. ‘Simple. The grenade went off.’”

REALITY: Coulter cited Cleland’s own humble words without mentioning a subsequent pivotal moment when Cleland discovered that *he was not to blame for his injuries*. “For 30 years, Cleland had blamed himself for his injuries.” “Max Cleland didn’t see himself as a war hero. He always thought he had blown himself up.” In 1999, he learned that it wasn’t his grenade that exploded, but the grenade of a comrade who had foolishly tampered with it and dropped it.<sup>12</sup> [A simple Google search would have uncovered this truth.]

**Cleland not at Khe Sanh.** “[Cleland] was not in the battle of Khe Sanh.”

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<sup>12</sup> See <http://www.savannahnow.com/stories/113000/LOCbooksigning.shtml>.

REALITY: Cleland earned a Silver Star for bravery in the battle of Khe Sanh. The battle at Khe Sanh began on January 20<sup>th</sup> and continued until April 14<sup>th</sup>, long after Cleland was wounded.

**Routine mission.** “He picked up an American grenade on a routine noncombat mission and the grenade exploded. ... Cleland’s own accident ... Cleland’s injury was of the routine variety ... [injured] in a freak accident.”

REALITY: Coulter stresses ad nauseum the theme of routine and non-combat, as if somehow that changes the sacrifice or diminishes Cleland’s stature as a patriot, and as if in time of war, within earshot of combat, *anything* is routine.

**Sexing up the truth.** Coulter declared her intent to provide us with the truth:

And yet the poignant truth of Cleland’s own accident demonstrates the commitment and bravery of all members of the military who come into contact with ordnance. Cleland’s injury was of the routine variety that occurs whenever young men and weapons are put in close proximity – including in the National Guard.

Cleland’s true heroism came after the war, when he went on to build a productive life for himself. That is a story of inspiration and courage. He shouldn’t let the Democrats tarnish an admirable life by “sexing up” his record in order to better attack George Bush.

REALITY: Coulter keeps “sexing up” Bush’s National Guard service at the expense of genuine war heroes. “Cleland’s true heroism” was exhibited on the battlefield of Vietnam as well as afterwards. He was awarded the Silver Star for heroically saving the lives of his fellow soldiers in combat – not for losing his limbs.

### Denies War Hero His Heroism



Both of Coulter’s columns explicitly and implicitly deny the truth that Max Cleland was a Vietnam war hero. Terry McAuliffe praised Cleland as **“a triple amputee who left three limbs on the battlefield of Vietnam.”** *Coulter denies this indisputable truth.*

Cleland was awarded the Silver Star (Army General Order 4361): “For gallantry in action ... exceptionally valorous action ... disregarding his own safety ... gallant action” for bravery four days before losing his limbs. As one contemporary observer notes, “The whole surrounding area was an active combat zone (some might call the entire country of Vietnam a combat zone). ... everyone was in harm’s way.”<sup>13</sup>

Contrary to Coulter’s columns, McAuliffe’s statement is rhetorically accurate and literally true. His phraseology is actually poetry for the soul. Cleland did indeed leave his limbs on the “battlefield of Vietnam” – a literal battlefield at Khe Sanh and part of the three-decades-long battlefield of Vietnam.

<sup>13</sup> See “The True Story of Max Cleland’s Vietnam Injuries,” <http://www.buzzflash.com/contributors/04/02/con04074.html>, last accessed 12/4/13.



No one should diminish the heroism and valor of any American patriot for partisan gain. To do so is abominable. Nevertheless, in *How to Talk to a Liberal*, published long after her claims were proven false, Coulter devoted thirteen pages to denouncing Cleland.

## No Heroic Democrats

In the 2004 presidential election cycle, Coulter maligned two other decorated Vietnam veterans, Gen. Wesley Clark and Sen. John Kerry. To Coulter, they are both “phony Americans.” “Clark was supposed to be the phony American to stop Dean, but Kerry is the even better phony American! And he’s already stopped Dean in Iowa!”<sup>14</sup>

Coulter charged Clark with both being a phony American and a phony patriot:

Now [Democrats] need phony military guys [like Clark].<sup>15</sup>

Democrats are so delirious about finding a general who is a pacifist sacredly-cat that no one seems to have bothered to investigate whether Wesley Clark is insane. ... Clark is crazier than a March hare. They are so happy to have a pacifist in uniform, they ignore his Norman Bates moments.<sup>16</sup>

In 2004, Coulter regaled a largely neoconservative audience at CPAC with these words: “[Democrats manufactured] Wesley Clark – palpable opportunistic phony. ... authentic phony patriot.” Her most applauded line should stop anyone in their tracks: “*At least Clark is getting the hang of being a Democrat – he’s starting to blame everything on the Jews.*”

In 2005, Coulter attacked Congressman John Murtha, a decorated war hero, calling him a “gutless traitor”:

It is simply a fact that Democrats like Murtha are encouraging the Iraqi insurgents when they say the war is going badly and it’s time to bring the troops home...[T]hey long to see U.S. troops shot, humiliated, and driven from the field of battle. They fill the airwaves with treason...These people are not only traitors, they are gutless traitors.<sup>17</sup>

One suspects Coulter does not grasp the significance of her words. Demoralization of the troops can put American lives in harm’s way.

You will recall that during the 2000 presidential cycle, Coulter similarly bashed – in column after column – Sen. John McCain (R-AZ), again questioning his *character* and his *sanity*. (Is there a pattern here?)



<sup>14</sup> Ann Coulter, “What Happened to Your Queer Party Friends?” 1/21/04.

<sup>15</sup> Ann Coulter, *Hannity & Colmes*, FNC, 6/17/03.

<sup>16</sup> Ann Coulter, “The Democrats’ Idea of a General,” 1/14/04.

<sup>17</sup> Ann Coulter, “New Idea for the Abortion party: Aid the Enemy,” 1/23/05.

## Homeland Defense – Neo Conned

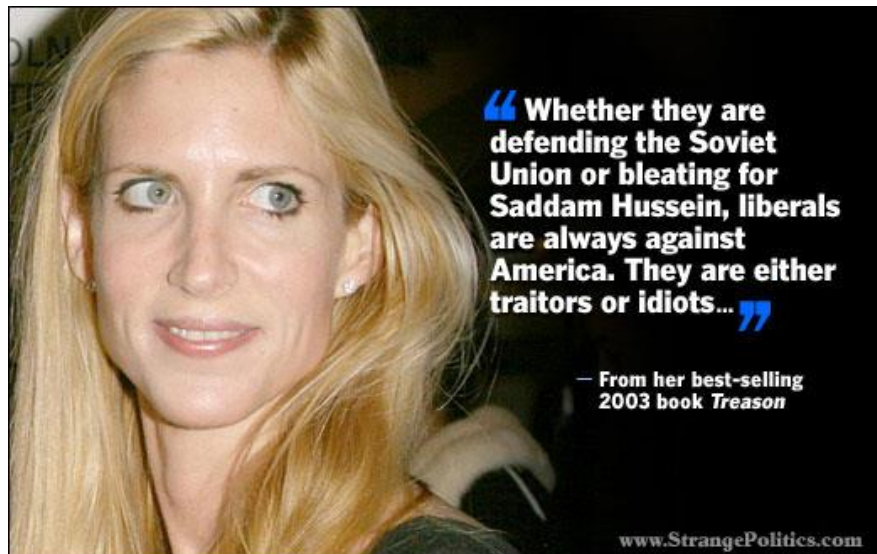
Conservatives needed expertise on war, so naturally they sought out Ann Coulter. In the immediate wake of 9/11, Young America's Foundation (YAF) selected Coulter as one of its premiere spokesmen for its Homeland Defense Lecture Series. Neoconservatives rushed to Coulter in droves. Few conservatives publicly object to either her paradigm or her prose.

Coulter's paradigm, indeed, her entire worldview, requires that *her* side be the embodiment of good and the *other* side the embodiment of evil. As noted in my previous books, Coulter's calculus is premised on two equations: **liberalism = terrorism = treason** and **conservatism = McCarthyism = patriotism**. Those twin equations give justification for Coulter and her colleagues to denigrate the character, integrity, and patriotism of American war heroes who are on the other side of the political aisle.

For Coulter, there are no liberal patriots, no liberal war heroes. She ferociously denied that world-renown war hero Pat Tillman could *possibly* be a liberal. A visit to Arlington Cemetery or the Vietnam Memorial leaves one head-scratching in wonder. Where are the Rs and Ds on the tombstones and crosses or next to their names? How can we determine which soldier was a "real" American and "real" patriot without knowing their party affiliation?

Even before 9/11, Coulter *defined* patriotism and love of country as a peculiarly *Republican* prerogative. In her words, anyone who objects to any facet of the Republican agenda is patently un-American.

Thus, Coulter, and others like her, feel at home demonizing Bobby Muller, Max Cleland, Wesley Clark, John McCain, John Murtha, and other American patriots who bravely served their country but do not subscribe to Coulter's ideological beliefs.



Coulter has re-instituted the McCarthyite concept of "litmus tests" for Americanism. Clearly, some patriots need not apply.

## Chapter 5

# Paint Chip Profiling

**“They all look *identical*! They could be *brothers*!  
It’s like there’s a *paint chip* for their skin color!” – Ann Coulter<sup>1</sup>**

### They All Look Identical

With the terrorist attacks on 9/11, jihadists dramatically demonstrated their intent to destroy American Civilization. Within weeks, we knew Muslim extremists seek to invade our countries, kill our leaders, and either convert us to Islam or kill us in the process.<sup>2</sup> As usual, the usual suspects blamed America and denied the reality of evil. Coulter, on the other hand, took a different approach.



Coulter introduced yet another novel concept utterly devoid from reality: paint chip profiling. Coulter declares that all terrorists “look alike” – are “identical” – and share the exact same skin color. Hence, her “paint chip” profile.

Just as every American hero looks like a conservative to Coulter, all terrorists looks alike. According to Coulter, “they all look identical!” She would use “a paint chip for their skin color” to determine their guilt or innocence. In reading and listening to her commentary on terrorist profiling, it’s as if Coulter knows of only two paint chips: white and non-white.

Coulter’s obsession with racial profiling began in mid-September, 2001. By March of the following year, she had developed her bizarre, viscerally-offensive, and self-evidently false paint chip theory. Paint chips to profile? Coulter’s own unique contribution to racial demagoguery – paint chips – exceeds even South Africa’s apartheid which incorporated a complex system of racial categories.

For several years, Coulter peppered her speeches and debates with her near-infamous “paint chip” slogan, antagonizing audiences and offending some of her own conservative supporters. (Sadly, others, more extreme, relish her rhetoric.)

More than offensive, Coulter’s paint chip paradigm is wrong. Do they all really “look alike?” Are they all “identical” as Coulter claims? (This is reminiscent of a bygone era when all Orientals or Hispanics looked alike to Caucasians and when the phrase “He doesn’t look Jewish” was culturally de rigueur.)

To reiterate, Coulter’s paint chip profile is one of the most racist and repulsive concepts ever conceived. Ascribing character traits – terrorism, of all things – based on skin color (and a particular *shade* at that) is ludicrous (and lethal). Coulter’s inflammatory rhetoric only serves to divide Americans and marginalize conservatives.

<sup>1</sup> Ann Coulter, *Michael Medved Show*, Salem, 3/18/02.

<sup>2</sup> In establishing a worldwide Caliphate, these jihadists would require that we 1) die, 2) convert to Islam, or 3) submit to sharia law and pay a special tax as unbelievers.

Ironically, Coulter claims to be opposed to racial discrimination and cites her service at the Center for Individual Rights as proof. Yet, in word and deed, Coulter denies the Declaration of Independence’s creed that we are all created equal , just as she further denies in practice the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King’s vision of an America in which a person is judged by the content of his character, not the color of his skin.

**The 19 hijackers and the roles they played**

| AMERICAN AIRLINES 11   | UNITED AIRLINES 175   | AMERICAN AIRLINES 77  | UNITED AIRLINES 93   |
|--|---|---|--|
| <b>BOSTON-LOS ANGELES</b><br>Crashed into North Tower of the World Trade Center at 8:48 a.m. EDT.  | <b>BOSTON-LOS ANGELES</b><br>Crashed into South Tower of the World Trade Center at 9:03 a.m. EDT.   | <b>WASHINGTON-LOS ANGELES</b><br>Crashed into the Pentagon at 9:45 a.m. EDT.  | <b>NEWARK-SAN FRANCISCO</b><br>Crashed in Pennsylvania at 10:10 a.m. EDT.  |
| <br><b>Mohamed Atta</b><br>NATIONALITY: United Arab Emirates<br>ROLE: Plot mastermind, pilot and leader | <br><b>Marwan Al-Shehhi</b><br>NATIONALITY: United Arab Emirates<br>ROLE: Pilot and leader | <br><b>Hani Hanjour</b><br>NATIONALITY: Saudi<br>ROLE: Pilot and leader      | <br><b>Ziad Jarrah</b><br>NATIONALITY: Lebanese<br>ROLE: Pilot and leader |
| <br><b>Abdulaziz Alomari</b><br>NATIONALITY: Saudi<br>ROLE: Soldier                                     | <br><b>Fayed Ahmed</b><br>NATIONALITY: Saudi<br>ROLE: Soldier                              | <br><b>Khalid Al-Midhar</b><br>NATIONALITY: Saudi<br>ROLE: Logistics         | <br><b>Ahmed Alhaznawi</b><br>NATIONALITY: Saudi<br>ROLE: Soldier         |
| <br><b>Waleed M. Alshehri</b><br>NATIONALITY: Saudi<br>ROLE: Soldier                                    | <br><b>Ahmed Alghamdi</b><br>NATIONALITY: Saudi<br>ROLE: Soldier                           | <br><b>Nawaf Alhazmi</b><br>NATIONALITY: Saudi<br>ROLE: Logistics            | <br><b>Ahmed Alnami</b><br>NATIONALITY: Saudi<br>ROLE: Soldier            |
| <br><b>Wali Alshehri</b><br>NATIONALITY: Saudi<br>ROLE: Soldier   | <br><b>Hamza Alghamdi</b><br>NATIONALITY: Saudi<br>ROLE: Soldier                           | <br><b>Majed Almoqel</b><br>NATIONALITY: Saudi<br>ROLE: Logistics or soldier | <br><b>Saeed Alghamdi</b><br>NATIONALITY: Saudi<br>ROLE: Soldier          |
| <br><b>Satam Al Suqami</b><br>NATIONALITY: United Arab Emirates<br>ROLE: Soldier                        | <br><b>Mohaid Alshehri</b><br>NATIONALITY: Saudi<br>ROLE: Soldier                          | <br><b>Salem Alhamzi</b><br>NATIONALITY: Saudi<br>ROLE: Soldier              |  |

New York Times Graphics

In a speech at Harvard in 2002, Coulter said, “After Manhattan is nuked by Muslims, then should we give an extra look to swarthy Middle Eastern men? ... They have all had the same eye color, hair color, skin color and half of them have been named Muhammad. This is not racial profiling; it’s a description of the suspect.”<sup>3</sup> Her speech title: “Liberalism and Terrorism: Different Stages of the Same Disease.” (Yes, Coulter *equates* liberalism and terrorism.)

Anyone with eyes to see can see that Coulter is wrong. Even a casual glance at the Department of Defense’s photo of the 19 hijackers reveals stark differences in skin color and facial features. From the *particular* (those 19 hijackers) – where she is wrong – Coulter extrapolates to a *universal* paint chip profile for identifying *all* terrorists.

## Racial Profiling

In one column, Coulter provided a seemingly convincing list of terrorist attacks by “Muslim extremists.” Coulter’s terrorist list used selective citations and truncated chronologies. In attempting to enact racial profiling, Coulter *excluded* inconvenient data, namely terrorist attacks by *non-Arabs* and *non-Muslims*, and she began her list with the takeover of the American embassy in Iran in 1979, thereby eliminating a host of domestic terrorist activities detrimental to her conclusion. (Does Coulter know that Iran is a *non-Arab* nation?)

Coulter continually conflates race and religion, alternately denouncing “Muslim terrorists” and demanding “racial profiling,” all the time ignoring the non-Arab traits of John Walker Lindh, Robert Reid, and Jose Padilla, to name a few. Coulter’s plan mandating passports for domestic travel, with flags for people from “terrorist-producing nations,” would have done absolutely nothing to stop those three terrorists.

Still, Coulter seeks “*racial* profiling,” spotlights “*Muslim* extremists” and then asks “What does the Muslim religion have to do with this?” Even though a growing number of jihadists do not fit *any* recommended racial profile, Coulter insists we profile anyway, just to be safe.

Even though the racial profile doesn’t fit, Ann Coulter wants others to wear it.

One particular gaffe is worthy of note. Coulter wrote, “(This is excluding Sirhan Sirhan, the first Muslim to bring the classic religion-of-peace protest to American shores, when, in support of the Palestinians, he

<sup>3</sup> Ann Coulter, Harvard University, 10/26/02. Contrary to Coulter, a “description of the suspect” should focus on behavior, not appearance. Do they subscribe to jihadist ideology, frequent jihadist websites, sympathize with terrorists? These behaviors are more important than appearance. Yes, Islamic jihadists (not Arabs) seeks a worldwide caliphate based on jihadist ideology, not racial attributes.



assassinated Robert Kennedy.)”<sup>4</sup> Of course, Coulter undermined both of her major points – the necessity for racial (religious) profiling and the Islam-is-inherently-evil paradigm – since Sirhan Sirhan was not a Muslim but a Christian.

### **Racial Profiling for Religious Extremists**

From the onset of the war on terror, Coulter has religiously promoted *racial* profiling – for *religious* extremists! Once again, she seeks implementation of *racial* profiling to catch *religious* extremists. Did you catch that? *Racial* profiling for *religious* extremists? In Coulter’s mind – or at least, in her commentary – race and religion are synonymous.



President George Bush, Attorney General John Ashcroft, and Ambassador Alan Keyes – conservatives one and all – rejected racial profiling for the simple reason that it doesn’t work. They grasped the simple fact that race does not equal religion.

Consider the facts as they were around the turn of this century. Most Muslims are not Arabs at all. Moreover, most of the 3.5 million Arab Americans were Christian (77%). Further, the Muslim population worldwide was approximately 1.7 billion in 2003. Are they **all** really terrorists?

Still, Coulter writes that profiling Arabs will prevent Muslims from terrorizing Americans. Her essays regularly interchange “Arab” and “Muslim,” as if they are identical. Failure to accept this fact – *race does not equal religion* – suggests either a willful ignorance or an obliviousness to reality.

Nevertheless, **race = religion** (actually, **Muslim = terrorist**) is fast becoming a conservative canard commensurate with Coulter’s twin ideological equations: **liberalism = terrorism = treason** and **conservatism = McCarthyism = patriotism**.

### **Just Us WASPs Here**

Coulter humorously refers to “Amish terrorists,” the “Swedish bikini team,” and “Suzy Chapstick” as potential terror suspects, all to highlight extreme or absurd cases for airport security profiles, while overlooking the gray areas, the murky middle of the spectrum. Notice how Coulter *invented* a *non-existent* category (“Amish terrorists”) while totally ignoring the very real threats of terrorism from non-Arab and non-Muslim countries.

Coulter continually refers to herself, to Connecticut WASP women, to blue-eyed blondes, etc., as people who are unnecessarily hassled by airport security personnel. Is the primary emotional basis for her obsession with racial profiling a desire on her part to avoid personal searches of her own person?



<sup>4</sup> Ann Coulter, “Bush pays homage to the rituals of liberalism,” 6/20/02.

Is that the whole point of racial profiling – to cease inconveniencing *Coulter*?

It may be annoying, but the rash of hijackings by Connecticut WASP girls surely explains the time-consuming – but still somehow completely useless – examination of my personal effects. We all have to make sacrifices for airline safety.<sup>5</sup>

Apparently Coulter wants much stricter security as long as it doesn't personally inconvenience *her*. With crystal-clear clarity, Coulter said, "I can tell which ones don't need to be looked at, I can tell you that: old ladies, old black men, little children, blondes, blue eyed."<sup>6</sup> She suggested, "Do this experiment, I've done it many times. Go around wherever you are, and you can always exclude about 80% of the people there."



In 2003, Coulter wrote, "European barbarism baffles Americans, since they look like us."<sup>7</sup> How do Europeans "look like us?" White? The following year, Coulter again accentuated race: "When we were fighting communism, OK, they had mass murderers and gulags, but they were white men and they were sane. Now we're up against absolutely insane savages."<sup>8</sup>

Coulter commended the FBI efforts against Islamic terrorism in *Treason*: "The FBI had been on the Arab community like white on rice with wiretaps, informants, arrests, and interrogations. By the end of

2002, the Department of Justice had disrupted terrorist cells in Buffalo, Portland, and Detroit."<sup>9</sup> What Coulter failed to mention is that a number of *those* suspects were *non-Arabs* and women. Terrorist cells in other locations (Newburgh, Miami, North Carolina) similarly included *non-Arab* jihadists.

## Targeting Behavior

Coulter contends, "There is no principled basis for opposition to using Arab appearance as a factor in airport screening procedures."<sup>10</sup> Except, ... it does not work.

The authors of *An End to Evil*, disagree with Coulter. They conclude, "What investigators need to profile is not *ethnicity* – it is *behavior*."<sup>11</sup> They explain why:

In our view, ethnic profiling – looking for people with Muslim-sounding names or Middle Eastern facial features – is a divisive and humiliating waste of time. As the cases of Johnny Walker Lindh, Richard Reid, and José Padilla demonstrate, Islamic terrorism can be born in any country and can belong to any race. Nor should we exclude the possibility that Islamic terrorism may begin to make cause with Western political extremism of the far Left and far Right.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Ann Coulter, "Where's Janet Reno When We Need Her?" 9/19/01.

<sup>6</sup> Ann Coulter, *Michael Medved Show*, Salem, 3/18/02.

<sup>7</sup> Ann Coulter, *Treason: Liberal Treachery From the Cold War to the War on Terror*, Crown Forum, 2003, pg. 288.

<sup>8</sup> Ann Coulter, quoted by Sholto Byrnes, "Ann Coulter: The blonde assassin," *The Independent*, 8/16/04.

<sup>9</sup> Ann Coulter, *Treason: Liberal Treachery From the Cold War to the War on Terror*, Crown Forum, 2003, pg. 270.

<sup>10</sup> Ann Coulter, "If the profile fits ...," 1/9/02.

<sup>11</sup> David Frum and Richard Perle, *An End to Evil: How to Win the War on Terror*, Random House, 2003, pg. 81.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, pg. 80.

What do on-the-ground professionals say? “There is no useful profile to assist law enforcement or intelligence to predict who will follow this trajectory of radicalization. Rather, the individuals who take this course begin as ‘unremarkable’ from various walks of life.”<sup>13</sup>

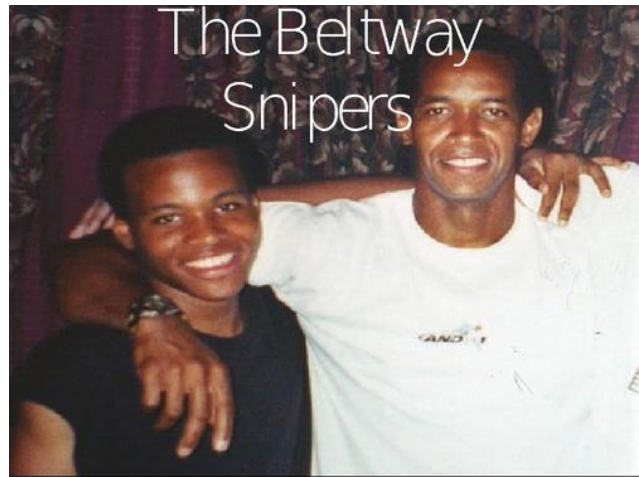
Author Pamela Geller, one of the foremost authorities on jihadists, admonishes those – like Coulter – who have a monochromatic viewpoint on terrorism. Geller explains:

We are not at war with Muslims, we’re at war with an ideology. Just as we weren’t at war with Germans during World War II; we were at war with National Socialism. Once the Nazi government was gone, we began helping Germany get back on its feet. If Muslims sincerely and genuinely renounce jihad, Islamic supremacism, the oppression of women, and the rest of the elements of Islam that contradict American freedoms, we have no problem with them.<sup>14</sup>

Though terrorists have and will adapt their *methods* to achieve their goals, their *motives* remain the same, motives derived from their jihadist ideology – not their race!

### Beltway Snipers

The Beltway Snipers terrorized the D.C. for some time. Coulter castigated Homeland Security and the politically correct liberal media during and after the shootings took place, correctly linking the terrorists to the jihadist mentality that inspired the 9/11 attacks. Yet, Coulter continued to promote *racial* profiling to prevent *religious* extremists from committing evil. (Apparently, she is really is colorblind, not noticing the Beltway snipers were black.)



Coulter emphasized the sniper’s *religion* and ignored his *race*, writing, “He is a Muslim. He converted to Islam 17 years ago. He changed his name to John Muhammad. He belonged to Louis Farrakhan’s Nation of Islam. He cheered the terrorist attack of Sept. 11. He registered his getaway vehicle with the DMV on the anniversary of Sept. 11 – writing down the time of registration as 8:52 a.m.”<sup>15</sup> Coulter failed to mention that his accomplice was a Jamaican.

In that same essay, Coulter pounded away at his religion – “He’s a Muslim. That’s his condition *and* his diagnosis. It may be time to update the DSM-IV by adding ‘Jihad Impulse-Control Disorder’ to its index of official diagnoses” – but she ignored the inconvenient truth that this terrorist is a non-Arab.

The Beltway snipers – two *black* Muslim men (*non-Arabs!*) – *could not* have been apprehended using Coulter’s racial profiling paradigm.

<sup>13</sup> “Radicalization in the West: The Homegrown Threat,” NYPD Intelligence Division, 2007, pg. 82, <http://www.investigativeproject.org/documents/testimony/344.pdf>.

<sup>14</sup> Pamela Geller, *Stop the Islamization of America: A Practical Guide to the Resistance*, WND Books, 2011, pg. 45.

<sup>15</sup> Ann Coulter, “Media Muslim makeovers!” 10/30/02.

## Other Non-Arab Muslim Terrorists

Since 9/11, terrorism experts have highlighted the complexity of creating a terrorist profile, particularly with a widening variance of physical, cultural, and racial characteristics. Author and expert Paul Williams provided numerous examples in his 2007 book, *The Day of Islam*:

- “Adnan Gulshair el-Shukrijumah is a naturalized American citizen who speaks flawless English, Spanish, and Arabic. He is an experienced pilot and skilled nuclear technician. And, according to FBI officials, he is the most dangerous person in the Western world.”<sup>16</sup>
- “[Adnan el-Shukrijumah] has posed as an Italian American, a Mexican American, a Canadian, a Saudi, a Jamaican, and a Latino from Trinidad.”<sup>17</sup>
- “Adam Yahye Gadahn (aka Adam Pearlman), a convert to Islam who grew up on a goat ranch in Riverside County, California ...”<sup>18</sup>
- “In 1980, Pakistani cleric Sheikh Mubarak Ali Gilani began forming gated communities ‘to serve as havens where young Muslims – primarily inner-city black men who became converts in prison – could begin a new life.’ Current compounds include Hancock, New York; Deposit, New York; Hyattsville, Maryland; Red House, Virginia; Falls Church, Virginia; Macon, Georgia; York, South Carolina; Dover, Tennessee; Buena Vista, Colorado; Talihina, Oklahoma; Tulane County, California; Commerce, California; and Onalaska, Washington.”<sup>19</sup>



## Norman Mineta’s “Assassination”

In pursuing her Paint Chip Profiling Paradigm, Coulter’s offensive included wishing for the assassination of U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta. Although not a war hero per se (see chapter 4), Mineta served in the military as an Army intelligence officer in Japan and Korea, was mayor of San Jose, and served honorably in Congress for 20 years. But Coulter was on a rampage.

Shortly after CPAC, after threatening liberals with death, Coulter’s obsession with racial profiling prompted her death wish for Mineta, who opposed racial profiling (following President Bush’s own policy). That essay generated substantial fallout. Coulter began her essay with these words:

According to initial buoyant reports in early February, enraged travelers rose up in a savage attack on the secretary of transportation. Hope was dashed when later reports indicated that the irritated travelers were actually rival warlords, the airport was the Kabul Airport, and Norman Mineta was still with us.<sup>20</sup>

<sup>16</sup> Paul L. Williams, *The Day of Islam: The Annihilation of America and the Western World*, Prometheus Books, 2007, pg. 157.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, pg. 160.

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid.*, pg. 166.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*, pg. 201.

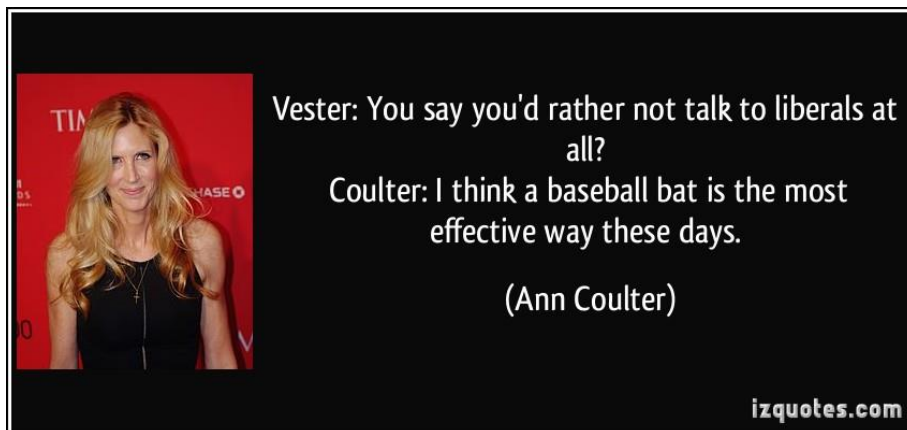
<sup>20</sup> Ann Coulter, “Mineta’s Bataan Death March,” 2/27/02.



In her diatribe against Mineta, Coulter employed six stereotypical techniques: hate speech, demonization, trivialization, exaggeration, mind-reading, and unsubstantiated allegations. Let's look at examples of each from this column:

- *Hate Speech*. This is exemplified by Coulter's death wish as expressed in Coulter's opening paragraph cited above.
- *Demonization*. "Almost instantly, dreary, wrathful federal bureaucrats conceived of methods to make air travel still worse. Even those of us who burn with an all-consuming hatred for federal bureaucracies had to tip our hats." AND "Let the record reflect that among President George Bush's dazzling team of advisers, the only stink-bomb is the one Democratic holdover from the Clinton administration. It is absolutely contemptible that Bush will not rid us of this scourge."
- *Trivialization*. [Trivializes or minimizes the significance of situations, events or experiences.] "He has taken the occasion of the most devastating attack on U.S. soil to drone on about how his baseball bat was taken from him as a child headed to one of Franklin Roosevelt's Japanese internment camps."
- *Exaggeration*. [A variation of trivialization.] "Good God! A guard took Mineta's baseball bat as a child, and as a result he's subjecting all of America to the Bataan Death March! Someone please give him a baseball bat."
- *Mind Reading*. [Imports to reader what the writer thinks the subject is thinking or feeling.] "Transportation Secretary Mineta is angry and he wants America to suffer." AND "Secretary Mineta is burning with hatred for America."
- *Unsubstantiated Allegations*. "It is safe to assume that it was not Mineta's stellar accomplishment of having sat on the House Public Works and Transportation Committee for 18 years that has led both Republican and Democratic presidents to seek his services so ardently. He is given plumb government jobs solely and exclusively because he is a minority."

Just a few weeks later – despite considerable controversy of Coulter's columns – Neil Cavuto, author and television talk show host, was enraptured by Coulter, describing her as a "Republican strategist extraordinaire" to which Coulter responded, "First of all, if I were a Republican strategist, Republicans would be doing a lot better. I wish they'd take my advice"<sup>21</sup>



<sup>21</sup> Ann Coulter, *Cavuto Business Report*, FNC, 3/23/02.

## Chapter 6

# Amanda Knox Convicted by Coulter After Being Exonerated by Court

**“Sometimes people are innocent of the crime they were sentenced to death for, but perhaps not all crimes.” – Ann Coulter<sup>1</sup>**

Ann Coulter will say whatever she wants about whomever she wants irrespective of the truth. From almost the beginning of the sensational murder case in 2007 Coulter defamed Amanda Knox, “an innocent American girl,” whom Coulter turned into a poster child for her thesis of left-wing leniency in the criminal justice system (“criminal apologists,” to use her words). Coulter needed a *face*, a *cause célèbre*, to represent her grandiose theory – liberals are evil, love criminals, and hate the police – and Knox fit the bill.

At the time, Coulter friend and radio talk show host Kevin McCullough astutely observed serious character flaws in his friend, particularly regarding Coulter’s slander of Amanda Knox and her defenders [emphasis added].

Often she throws *rhetorical temper tantrums* over issues she has no relationship to. In the Amanda Knox case she *sided against an innocent American girl, who had wrongfully been skillfully framed for the murder of a roommate*. In doing so she called Knox’s defenders “liberals and progressives” doing so from a framework of *ignorance or negligence* – neither an attractive quality. But she was materially and expressly false in those assumptions and *refused to apologize* to the conservative, Christian, Republican families she *slandered* in the process.<sup>2</sup>

Nevertheless, Coulter insists “that Amanda Knox was guilty of murder, in spite of an almost complete absence of evidence or motive tying Knox to the crime.”<sup>3</sup> It is Coulter’s impenitence which prevents her from apologizing or admitting error.

Coulter’s defamation continues to the very present – defaming not only Knox, but all her defenders and those who believe in the rule of law. To date, Coulter has written a series of essays condemning Knox, given scores of interviews on the subject, and repeated her defamation in *Never Trust a Liberal Over 3*.



<sup>1</sup> Ann Coulter, MSNBC, 11/9/96.

<sup>2</sup> Kevin McCullough, “No! Ann Coulter, you couldn’t be more wrong!!!” *Hot Air Green Room*, 11/17/11, <http://hotair.com/greenroom/archives/2011/11/17/no-ann-coulter-you-couldnt-be-more-wrong/>.

<sup>3</sup> “Ann Coulter’s Continuing Error on Amanda Knox and My Rebuttal,” *SaberPoint*, 9/10/11, <http://saberpoint.blogspot.com/2011/09/ann-coulters-continuing-error-on-amanda.html>. The blogger adds, “The prosecution’s “evidence” has been thoroughly debunked by former FBI agent Steven Moore and Forensic Engineer Ron Hendry, Mark Waterbury, PhD, among others.”

## Coulter's History of Convicting Innocent People

As I noted in *The Gospel According to Ann Coulter*,<sup>4</sup> Coulter defended the execution of prisoners for crimes they did not commit! Ignorant of the meaning of “exact justice,” constitutional attorney Coulter once declared, “Sometimes people are innocent of the crime they were sentenced to death for, but perhaps not all crimes.”<sup>5</sup>

In the press, Coulter subtly but quickly convicted Rep. Gary Condit (D-CA) of murdering his intern, Chandra Levy, and disposing of her body. Years later, the real murderer was caught. The truth matters little to Coulter. She will do whatever it takes to get those nasty Democrats and to promote her worldview – and herself – in the process.

Yes, Coulter will even besmire an innocent American who served four years in an Italian prison for a crime she did not commit – just to sell more books and prove the thesis of those books. Coulter claims liberals “defend the guilty and impugn the innocent,” which is precisely what Coulter has done to Amanda Knox.

Coulter is so intent on believing what she wants to believe, regardless of the facts, that she is immune to the truth. An avowed Christian, Coulter would even reject a divine revelation from God in order to maintain her worldview: “If God himself came down from heaven and told me these cops intentionally murdered Amadou Diallo knowing he was unarmed, I would not believe it.”<sup>6</sup>

Such is Coulter's arrogance that she has turned herself into God.

### Timeline of Events in Amanda Knox Case

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| 11/2/07  | The body of Kercher, 21, is found in her apartment in Perugia, Italy. Investigators say she was killed the night before.   |
| 11/6/07  | Knox is arrested with then-boyfriend Raffaele Sollecito and Diya "Patrick" Lumumba, the Congolese owner of pub where Knox occasionally worked.   |
| 11/20/07 | Lumumba, implicated by Knox statements to police, is released from jail for lack of evidence.  |
| 12/6/07  | Ivory Coast national Rudy Hermann Guede is extradited from Germany and jailed on arrival in Italy.   |
| 10/28/08 | Judge indicts Knox and Sollecito on murder and sexual assault charges. Guede, who was granted a fast-track trial, is convicted of murder and sexual assault and sentenced to 30 years in prison. |
| 1/16/09  | Trial of Knox and Sollecito opens in Perugia.  |
| 6/12/09  | Knox takes stand; tells court she was shocked by Kercher's death, offers alibi, says police beat her into making false statement.  |

Associated Press, “A Timeline of the Amanda Knox Case,” *The Oregonian*, 3/26/13.

<sup>4</sup> See Daniel Borchers, *The Gospel According to Ann Coulter*, 2012, available as a free PDF download at [www.coulterwatch.com/gospel.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/gospel.pdf).

<sup>5</sup> Ann Coulter, MSNBC, 11/9/96.

<sup>6</sup> Ann Coulter, “A liberal lynching,” 2/16/00.

Let's begin with Coulter's first column which was written in the midst of the Knox trial, just days after the testimony of the accused. Remember, the whole point of her essay – and her stance on Knox's guilt – is to strengthen her narrative: "Liberals always want to defend the guilty and prosecute the innocent."<sup>7</sup>

### **NYT: Duke Lacrosse Players Killed Meredith Kercher<sup>8</sup>**



*[This section consists of extracts from Coulter's 2009 column indented and followed by my analysis.]*

*In her essay, Coulter presumes the guilt of Knox just as she presumes that Knox's defenders are all liberals. Much of her essay presents forensic (and other) evidence which was disputable at the time and has since been disproven or dismissed. Much of her essays addresses the pros and cons of that evidence. In this section, I address Coulter's political and ideological mindset behind her analysis.*

*Coulter's obsessive desire to convict Knox is predicated upon her partisan paradigm equating liberals with treason and demonic forces, all the while using Knox as the face of that evil, and Coulter's desire taints her case.]*

Coulter begins:

Whether it is Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the Weather Underground, Central Park rapists, Mumia Abu-Jamal, Jim Jones and the People's Temple, welfare recipients, Palestinian terrorists, murderers, abortionists, strippers or common criminals – liberals always take the side of the enemies of civilization against civilization.

Typical of her post-9/11 commentary, Coulter consistently condemns liberals as virtually the embodiment of evil. Strikingly, Coulter places on par with one another crazed dictators, foreign and domestic terrorists, abortionists, murderers and welfare recipients. Welfare recipients? Liberals *always* defend the guilty and attack the innocent?

In the view of *The New York Times*, every criminal trial is a shocking miscarriage of justice – except the ones that actually are shocking miscarriages of justice.

Thus, in last week's Times, Timothy Egan wrote about a shocking miscarriage of justice ...

... flacking for the accused ...

... the "outside investigator" is Paul Ciolino of the "Innocence Project," whose investigations always seem to conclude that the accused is being railroaded. ...

... the defense has tried to minimize all the evidence by throwing out the old "contamination" chestnut ... is just a boilerplate defense ...

<sup>7</sup> Ann Coulter, *O'Reilly Factor*, FNC, 12/11/09.

<sup>8</sup> Ann Coulter, "NYT: Duke Lacrosse Players Killed Meredith Kercher," 6/17/09.



... The reason this is important is that this is how the *Times* portrays all criminal prosecutions: Ruthless prosecutor railroads innocent bystanders for mysterious reasons. (Unless the victim is a late-term abortionist or the accused is a Duke lacrosse player.)

It's as if Coulter *wants* Knox to be guilty so that Coulter can attack the *New York Times* and all liberals everywhere for crimes against humanity.

#### Timeline of Events in Amanda Knox Case

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| 12/4/09  | Court finds Knox guilty of murder and sexual assault, sentences her to 26 years in prison. Sollecito is convicted of same charges and sentenced to 25 years. |
| 12/22/09 | Appeals court upholds Guede's conviction but cuts sentence to 16 years.  |
| 11/24/10 | Appeals trial for Knox and Sollecito opens in Perugia.   |
| 12/16/10 | Italy's highest criminal court upholds Guede's conviction and 16-year prison sentence.   |
| 6/29/11  | Independent forensic report ordered by the appeals court finds much of the DNA evidence used to convict Knox and Sollecito is unreliable.                    |

Associated Press, "A Timeline of the Amanda Knox Case," *The Oregonian*, 3/26/13.

#### "Amanda Knox: The New Mumia!"<sup>9</sup>

[This section consists of extracts from Coulter's 2011 column indented and followed by my analysis and that of Knox's attorney Anne M. Bremner.<sup>10</sup> Frankly, I knew little of the Knox case until Coulter's second column. My curiosity was aroused by her unusual interest in a murder case on foreign soil. What was her interest in this case involving Italian jurisprudence? Her essay title referencing Mumia suggested Coulter's focus was on American politics. Initials differential between my observations and those of Ms. Bremner.]

Coulter begins:

Despite liberals' desperate need for Europeans to like them, the American media have enraged the entire nation of Italy with their bald-faced lies about a heinous murder in Perugia committed by a fresh-faced American girl, Amanda Knox.

The American media never outraged the Italians. – AB

Typically, Coulter impugns the *motives* of those with whom she disagrees, and, in typical fashion, she stretches exaggeration to its zenith. [All] liberals have a "desperate need" to be liked and "the entire nation of Italy" was enraged at the American press. – DB

<sup>9</sup> Ann Coulter, "Amanda Knox: The New Mumia!" 9/7/11.

<sup>10</sup> Ms. Bremner acted as legal counsel and a spokesperson for Friends of Amanda.

The facts aren't elusive: In December 2009, the Italian court released a 400-plus page report detailing the mountains of evidence that led the judges and jury to conclude that Knox, along with her Italian beau, Raffaele Sollecito, and a petty thief of her acquaintance, Rudy Guede, had murdered Knox's English roommate, Meredith Kercher, on the evening of Nov. 1, 2007.

The evidence was fully examined in a de novo appeal in Italy. A team of independent experts appointed by the JUDGE said the evidence was inadmissible, unreliable, and tainted. It was ALL thrown out. Every bit of it. – AB

Now liberals are howling that the DNA evidence was “contaminated,” but they always say that. It wasn't. And the DNA was already thoroughly vetted at trial.

The DNA was never vetted at trial. – AB

... Knox's first-of-several alibis for the night of the murder was that she was at her boyfriend (and co-defendant) Sollecito's house all night, sound asleep until 10 a.m. the next morning.

A few days later, when that was proved false by telephone records, eyewitnesses and Sollecito's admission that it was a lie, Knox claimed she was in the house during Meredith's murder ... and she knew who the murderer was!

Amanda gave one alibi. She was at Raf's. There was no phone evidence that contradicted this. – AB

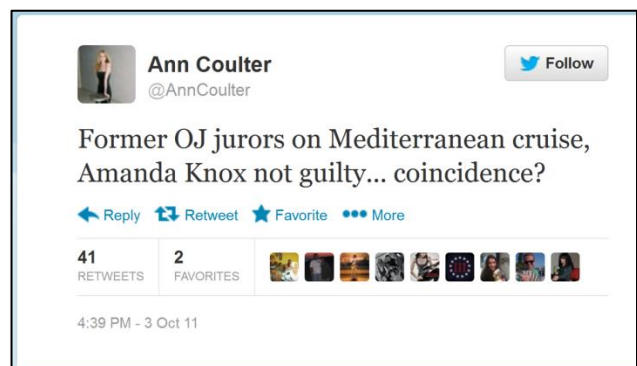
She said it was her boss, Patrick Lumumba, the owner of a popular bar in town:

She never blamed Patrick. The police did. They kept saying they had found a negroid hair. – AB

He wanted her. ... Raffaele and I went into another room and then I heard screams. ... Patrick and Meredith were in Meredith's bedroom while I think I stayed in the kitchen. ... I can't remember how long they were together in the bedroom, but the only thing I can say is that at a certain point I remember hearing Meredith's screams and I covered my ears. ... I can't remember if Meredith was screaming and if I heard thuds but I could imagine what was going on.

She had texted with him ... her employer “see you later” which the Italians took to mean “see you later so we can rape and kill Meredith together.” The interrogation was in Italian. Amanda didn't speak it, didn't have a certified interpreter, and didn't have a lawyer. – AB

And she never claimed she was in the house. Never claimed she saw the murder. Never claimed she heard screams. Never said she knew there was a sex assault. – AB



By now, the only people who believe Knox and Sollecito are the usual criminal apologists and their friends in the American media.

The article states Amanda committed the crime. Yet she was completely exonerated. She came home to the biggest heroine's welcome this country has ever seen. Mountains of evidence? Try zero evidence. Nada. A dearth. That is why she is rightfully free. – AB

From Tawana Brawley, Mumia and the Central Park rapists, to the Duke lacrosse players and Karl Rove, liberals are always on the wrong side of a criminal case. A few times could be a coincidence; every time is evidence of a psychological disorder.

As described in “Demonic,” liberals defend the guilty and impugn the innocent not only because they side with barbarians, but because a fair and just system of law challenges their hegemony as judges of the universe.

This isn't about liberals supporting the guilty. All of the cites are inapposite. The last two paragraphs of the piece are really offensive. And let me state for the record, I am one of the only conservative female lawyers in Seattle. In fact I may be the only one. I am no liberal wringing their heads and trying to free the guilty. Free Amanda Knox (at least from this type of diatribe). She is innocent. – AB

We at the FOA [Friends of Amanda] took on the Herculean task of turning the supertanker of false and salacious information in the media in this case that came from leaks of false info in the year-long closed preliminary hearings. The media turned around completely. Here and there. She was dubbed an innocent abroad, a victim of the Mignini Express, of Fellini forensics. – AB

Throughout her essay (as in her previous one), Coulter lists a number of high-profile cases to prove liberal complicity with evil on a grand scale, declaring “they side with barbarians,” due to a “psychological disorder,” and they regard themselves “as judges of the universe.” Coulter's pronouncements are, as usual, *universal* in scope, extrapolating from a few *particular* instances. – DB

#### **Timeline of Events in Amanda Knox Case**

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 10/3/11 | Appeals court clears Knox, Sollecito of murder convictions, orders them freed immediately   |
| 3/26/13 | Italy's highest criminal court overturns acquittal of Knox and Sollecito, orders new trial. |

[Associated Press, “A Timeline of the Amanda Knox Case,” The Oregonian, 3/26/13.](#)

#### **“Don’t Knox This ‘Serious Network,’”<sup>11</sup>**

*[This section consists of extracts from Coulter's 2013 column indented and followed by my analysis. Coulter regurgitates much of the already disproven evidence from her previous essays, hence, my analysis ignores those portions. And she seizes the opportunity to bash CNN and the rest of the liberal media.]*

<sup>11</sup> Ann Coulter, “Don’t Knox This ‘Serious Network,’” 4/3/13.

*Coulter fails to ask how a court can overturn an acquittal and retry the previously exonerated accused. In America, double jeopardy is prohibited. Coulter doesn't care. Amanda's innocence doesn't fit Coulter's paradigm.]*

Coulter begins:

Just days after the Turner Broadcasting System CEO claimed that CNN “is a serious news network,” it aired a childish report on “Anderson Cooper 360” about convicted murderer Amanda Knox, which appears to have been written by Amanda’s parents. Next up: “The Charles Manson story, reported by Squeaky Fromme.”

As with her other essays, Coulter uses guilt by association. In her first essay, she drops the names of notorious individuals and groups: “Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the Weather Underground, Central Park rapists, Mumia Abu-Jamal, Jim Jones and the People's Temple, ... and Palestinian terrorists. From second essay: “Tawana Brawley, Mumia Abu-Jamal and the Central Park rapists.” Here, she invokes Charles Manson and Squeaky Fromme.

What relevancy do they have regarding Knox’s guilt or innocence? None! Rather, her lambasting the Left and using such non-sequitur examples is designed to create a tone, an atmosphere of guilt, irrespective of the truth. Later in her essay, in order to cement these associations in the readers’ minds, Coulter quotes “Lumumba’s lawyer [who] called her ‘Lucifer-like, demonic, satanic, diabolic,’ pursuing ‘borderline extreme behavior’ and ‘devoted to lust, drugs and alcohol.’”

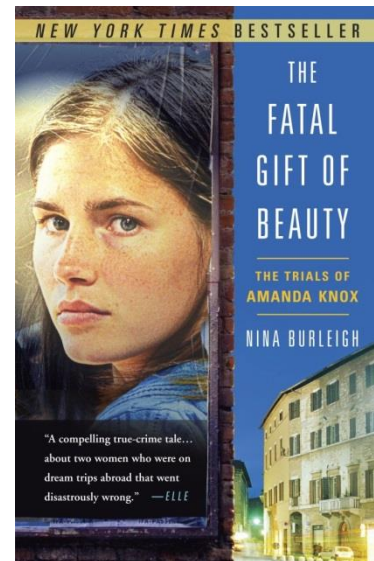
Coulter was clearly trying to prejudice the minds of her readers.

CNN’s case for Knox’s innocence consists primarily of making snarky remarks about the prosecutor. This is going to be a long series if CNN plans on vindicating Knox by smearing all those who say she is guilty – the judges, forensic scientists, police, the other man also convicted of the murder – as well as the man falsely accused of the murder by Amanda.

Except, the court threw out all of the evidence as inadmissible, signed off by the judge. But Coulter is so zealous to prove Knox’s guilt – and thus her overriding ideological paradigm – that the evidence (or lack of it) matters not.

Griffin: “She tells her parents she broke under stress. In court, she would tell jurors how **a police officer struck her from behind, how she was denied water, food, a translator, and how she says under pressure by police she was asked repeatedly to dream up, imagine scenarios for how it could have happened.**” ... [emphasis added]

No. 2: Is CNN aware that there have already been lengthy proceedings in this case? Had they checked the record, they would have discovered that Amanda dropped her claim in court about the police hitting her, her lawyers never filed a complaint about it, and Amanda is currently being sued for slander by the police for ever having made the allegation. (Maybe it was Lumumba who hit her!)



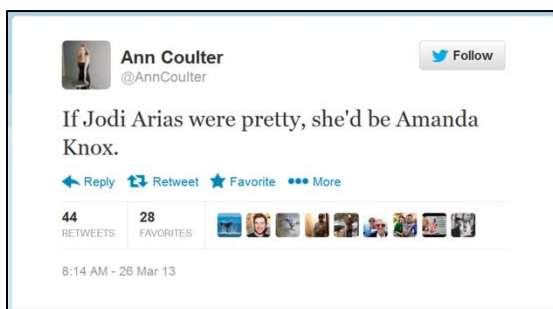


Of all the allegations made by Knox (see emphasized extract above), the only one Coulter disputes is the assault by the police. All of the rest – denied water, food, and a translator; being asked to imagine scenarios – these are apparently normal police procedure to Coulter.

## Using Humor as a Weapon

While promoting her book, *Demonic*, Coulter appeared on *The Insider*,<sup>12</sup> joking, “I wouldn’t want to be her roommate.”

In a series of tweets, Coulter compared Knox to Casey Anthony, O.J. Simpson, Jodi Arias, and Mussolini.



## Ann Coulter Tweets

If Amanda Knox gets off today, CNN is pairing her with Casey Anthony for “Knox/Anthony” to replace the “Parker/Spitzer” slot. – 10/3/11

Amanda Knox not guilty, Casey Anthony rolls eyes, says; “we’ll, duh ...” – 10/3/11

Amanda Knox begins search for real killer. – 10/3/11

Mussolini family challenges il Duce’s guilt. Claims DNA evidence was contaminated. – 10/3/11

Former OJ jurors on Mediterranean cruise, Amanda Knox not guilty ... coincidence? – 10/3/11

If Jodi Arias were pretty, she’d be Amanda Knox – 3/26/13

Coulter sarcastically writes, treating Knox like O.J. Simpson: “Amanda Knox begins search for real killer.” But of course there *is* a real killer who has already been found. Thus Coulter, along with all the liberals, along with the Kercher family, has blocked out Rudy Guede from her consciousness. Guede, who was convicted, whose guilt no one questions, and who is in prison now, *doesn’t exist*.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>12</sup> Len Brown, “Ann Coulter Would Never Room with Amanda Knox,” *The Insider*, 10/7/11.

<sup>13</sup> “Coulter still believes in Knox and Sollecito’s guilt,” View From the Right, 10/4/11, <http://www.amnation.com/vfr/archives/020638.html>.

## Chapter 7

# Embracing Liberty

“These are fake Christians trying to get publicity.”—Ann Coulter<sup>1</sup>

### Coulter Defends Alec Baldwin

Alec Baldwin’s antics were all over the news during the latter half of 2013. Coulter defended him in an essay and a series of television and radio interviews. She wrote:

I’m with Alec Baldwin on punching aggressive paparazzi photographers. I’m with him against the word police. I’m with him on the stalker. I’m with him on using an electronic device on a plane before takeoff. I’m with him on Kim Basinger playing visitation games with their daughter.<sup>2</sup>

Coulter then justified Baldwin’s often bizarre, extremely aggressive, over-the-top behavior, saying his anger (“exploded in rage”) is “justified,” and that often his words are taken out of context. To her, all of his behavior is justifiable because of stress. (A variant of the old, “The devil made me do it” excuse.)



Moreover, according to Coulter, Baldwin deserves a pass on his immoral and hostile behavior because he agrees with Coulter on some issues: he “is also a warrior against colossally useless government regulations.” Hers is a prescription for hypocrisy, but then, she has never cared about conservative hypocrisy.

Coulter’s seemingly inexplicable defense of Baldwin’s atrocious behavior makes perfect sense when you realize she is justifying her *own* behavior, not his. That is why she has defended other controversial figures (e.g., Don Imus) in the past and will likely do so in the future.

Coulter’s principal concern is that “careers are ended over a *word*” and she fears “conservatives are validating the Left’s next attack on a conservative.” “[Liberals] bully everyone with the threat of losing a career because of a word.” Coulter fears someday being held to account for her *many* inexcusable words.

Coulter concluded her essay pretending that she cares about conservative principles: “We apply our principles even to people whose politics we dislike.” Which principles is she talking about? Honesty? Personal and professional integrity? Decency?

<sup>1</sup> Ann Coulter, *Red Eye*, FNC, 8/20/10.

<sup>2</sup> Ann Coulter, “Alec Baldwin vs. Liberal Bullies,” 11/20/13.

Coulter fears being held accountable and wants to maintain the freedom to misbehave to her heart's content. The problem is that the content of her heart is flawed and the freedom she seeks merely enslaves her to her own craven desires. Justifying Baldwin's – and her own – wrong behavior psychologically enables the offenders to remain trapped in those very behaviors.<sup>3</sup> Coulter justifies Baldwin behavior by claiming "he was provoked" and "it was a spur of the moment thing."<sup>4</sup> In contrast, Coulter's words are usually unprovoked and premeditated.

### Addictive Thinking

As noted in my previous books, Coulter is a victim of addictive thinking.<sup>5</sup> She *denies* to herself and to the world that she behaves immorally. She *projects* her own faults and failings onto others. She *rationalizes* her behavior to avoid being confronted with having to make a choice to change that behavior.



Her close friend, Sean Hannity (chief enabler of Coulter's waywardness and hypocrisy) said that some people enter politics to *feed their egos* and they become *addicted to the attention*.<sup>6</sup>

Let's keep this simple:

- Addicts lie. They lie to themselves and they lie to others.
- Coulter is an addict.
- Coulter lies.
- That's what addicts do.

Coulter will continue to engage in immoral, unchristian, and un-conservative behavior as long as she remains an addict. (Ann Coulter *really* cannot be trusted.)

### Coulter – A Purposefully Offensive Attention Seeker

Coulter enjoys being offensive, claiming she'd be "disappointed if liberals did not spit their drinks out when they heard [her] name."<sup>7</sup> She says that's what she's "shooting for." Being offensive is her goal. In doing so – in justifying herself in her own eyes – she tries to disassociate herself from her actions: "But that does not relate to the reality of me. It relates to me creating a reaction in godless traitors." Just what is the meaning of "is?"

At the Nixon Library in 2009, Coulter said, "If I've offended anyone, my work is done."

<sup>3</sup> It is a question of *morality*, not political correctness. It is not about a "word," but "because in the public eye, this is obscene and should never be tolerated." – "Ann Coulter – It's Not The 'Word Police' But A Policy Of Non Acceptance Of The Obscene," *RightPunditry*, 11/21/13, <http://rightpunditry.wordpress.com/2013/11/21/ann-coulter-its-not-the-word-police-but-a-policy-of-non-acceptance-of-the-obscene/>.

<sup>4</sup> Ann Coulter, *Howie Carr Show*, WRKO, 11/22/13.

<sup>5</sup> See Chapter 2: "The Cuckolding of Conscience," *The Beauty of Conservatism*, 2011, available as a free PDF download at [www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf).

<sup>6</sup> Sean Hannity, *Sean Hannity Show*, Premiere Radio Networks, 7/23/13.

<sup>7</sup> Laura M. Holson, "Outflanked on Right, Coulter Seeks New Image," *New York Times*, 10/8/10.

She seeks to enrage the Left and then excoriates the Left for being enraged (yet Baldwin gets a pass). Coulter said, “Normally, when I write columns I am specifically baiting liberals and I know exactly which line they are going to scream blue murder about.”<sup>8</sup> She later provided an example: “In retrospect, that phrase [‘affable Eva Braun’] was a one-punch knockout. I think that a lot of people really hate her and I was just the first one to pop her.”<sup>9</sup>

Indeed, Coulter *enjoys* being hated. It’s fun! “Most of the time, I just think of Chairman Mao’s saying that it’s a good thing to be attacked by the enemy. The more vicious they are, the happier I am.”<sup>10</sup>

“[Political discourse] is littered with ad hominem landmines,”<sup>11</sup> Coulter affirmed. “When they call me [Coulter lists names], I find it like the first sip of champagne. I enjoy nothing so much as being attacked by liberals.”



Responding to a query from a friend asking “How do you get used to being hated by so many people?” Coulter said that her “first paragraph was bubbling over with how fun it was to be hated by liberals,” but then she realized “at the end of it, maybe I am getting too into being hated by liberals.”<sup>12</sup>

But she absolutely hates being criticized by conservatives. When Coulter abandoned Christian conservative principles to promote homosexuality, she castigated those who criticized her:<sup>13</sup> “These are fake Christians trying to get publicity.”<sup>14</sup>

Joseph Farah responded to Coulter’s remarks, saying, “Ann is angry. I hope she calms down and there can be some restoration, repentance and forgiveness. She said some mean things about me, but I can sleep at night knowing I did the right thing in God’s economy.”<sup>15</sup>

## Never Apologize

As is widely-known, Coulter has difficulty with apologies and with repenting.<sup>16</sup> As far back as 1997, Coulter said, “I’ve never backed off anything.” Her fourth rule in her 2005 book, *How to Talk to a Liberal (if you must)*, is “never apologize.” In 2013, she affirmed her convictions, declaring, “I am *strongly* anti-

<sup>8</sup> Ann Coulter, quoted by Toby Hamden, ‘I love to pick fights with liberals,’ *The Telegraph*, 7/19/02, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/1401932/I-love-to-pick-fights-with-liberals.html>.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>11</sup> Ann Coulter interview with Bill Thompson, *Eye on Books*, August 2002.

<sup>12</sup> Laura M. Holson, “Outflanked on Right, Coulter Seeks New Image,” *New York Times*, 10/8/10.

<sup>13</sup> “WND Drops Ann Coulter From Miami Event Over Homo Conflict,” *WorldNetDaily*, 8/17/10, <http://www.wnd.com/2010/08/192405/>.

<sup>14</sup> Ann Coulter, *Red Eye*, FNC, 8/20/10.

<sup>15</sup> “Ann Coulter on WND: ‘They’re a Bunch of Fake Christians,’” *WorldNetDaily*, 8/21/10, <http://www.wnd.com/2010/08/194229/>.

<sup>16</sup> See Chapter 5: “... and Balls!” *The Beauty of Conservatism*, 2011, available as a free PDF download at [www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf).



apology.”<sup>17</sup> At that time she even affirmed her unwillingness to forgive by adding, “I think [apologies] should never be accepted.”<sup>18</sup>

In commenting on the various Baldwin outbreaks, media analyst Lauren Ashburn observed, “[Baldwin] at least apologized. I think that in our society, and in our culture, people are very willing to throw bombs at other people and no one says, ‘Hey, you know what, I went too far and I’m sorry.’”<sup>19</sup> Ashburn added, “In a personal relationship, when you offend someone, you say, ‘You’re sorry,’ and the other person says, ‘you’re forgiven.’” Coulter apparently missed that crucial lesson from Human Relationships 101.

As psychologist Sylvia Hart Frejd notes, people with a good Emotional Quotient can more easily discern how other people are feeling, while those with a low EQ have greater difficulty. When they make a mistake or wrong someone they are quick to apologize and repent.<sup>20</sup>

Typical reasons for not apologizing include 1) fear of feeling foolish, 2) embarrassment and shame, 3) fear of vulnerability, and 4) apathy.<sup>21</sup> For Coulter, one can add the need for control.

As we have seen, Coulter has an obsessive need to control every aspect of her life, to be the god of her universe.<sup>22</sup> In Coulter’s mind, to apologize is to relinquish control and power. Apologies involve vulnerability. The one apologizing loses – or *thinks* they lose – control of the situation. Those like Coulter who fear apologies do not recognize the *power* of a repentance heart.

Ann fears exhibiting emotional vulnerability and experiencing public embarrassment and humiliation. She finds herself in the denial dilemma. She is in denial to others and to self. But that very fear of admitting a *need* for help prevents her from *getting* the help she needs. Remember, Ann despises weakness of any kind, so she cannot admit it in herself.

For narcissists and Type A power brokers like Coulter, apologies are anathema. For them, apologies reflect (and expose) weakness and cede control to another. Moreover, apologies admit faults which narcissists seek to hide. Ironically, those who refuse to apologize or repent are actually enslaved to their wrong behaviors – and to the guilt and shame they generate.

## Apologies Make Relationships Work

When Coulter presumed Gary Condit was guilty of killing Chandra Levy, she said, “What he is supposed to be doing is groveling and he did not grovel, he was not apologetic. ... he’s showing a personality that shows a somewhat sociopathic personality.”<sup>23</sup>

### The Five Languages of Apology

- Expressing Regret – “*I apologize*”
- Accepting Responsibility – “*I was wrong*”
- Making Restitution – “*What can I do to make it right*”
- Genuinely Repenting – “*I’ll try not to do that again*”
- Requesting Forgiveness – “*Will you please forgive me*”

<sup>17</sup> Ann Coulter, *Red Eye*, FNC, 6/22/13.

<sup>18</sup> Repentance and forgiveness have always co-existed in an intricately intertwined symbiotic relationship. Repentance compels forgiveness and forgiveness entreats repentance. The impenitent rarely forgive others while the unforgiving rarely seek forgiveness. In that regard, repentance and forgiveness are complementary measures of the state of one’s heart.

<sup>19</sup> Lauren Ashburn, *Media Buzz*, FNC, 11/30/13.

<sup>20</sup> Sylvia Hart Frejd, “Protecting Your Family From the Digital Invasion,” *Focus on the Family*, WAVA, 8/27/13.

<sup>21</sup> See “How to Apologize: Asking for Forgiveness Gracefully,” *Mind Tools*, 8/23/13, <http://www.mindtools.com/pages/article/how-to-apologize.htm>.

<sup>22</sup> See Chapter 5: “The Pursuit of Power,” *Vanity: Ann Coulter’s Quest for Glory*, 2012, available as a free PDF download at [www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf).

<sup>23</sup> Ann Coulter, *Hannity & Colmes*, FNC, 8/24/01.

Apparently, Coulter thinks apologies are appropriate for others, but not for herself. In reality, apologies benefit not only the recipient but the giver of the apology.

The authors of *The Five Languages of Apology*<sup>24</sup> explain the nature of apologies, noting five different aspects as to how they are expressed and received. Components of an apology include one or more of the following: 1) expressing regret, 2) taking responsibility, 3) making restitution, 4) genuinely repenting, and 5) requesting forgiveness.

Apologies are the simplest expression of sorrow for the wrong words and actions which have wounded others and damaged relationships. Apologies convey regret, remorse, a resolve to improve, and hope for the future.

People willing to apologize to others are more likely to be repentant toward God and people willing to surrender to God are more likely to apologize to others, when appropriate. Those who refuse to acknowledge wrong-doing to others seldom admit sin to God.

## Repentance

One could reasonably conclude that a person who *won't* repent *can't* be a Christian. Repentance is crucial to salvation and to living a Christian life. Both Old Testament prophets and New Testament apostles called people to repentance. Repentance is, after all, a *requirement* for salvation. Strikingly, both John the Baptist and Jesus Christ used identical words early in their ministries: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand [Matthew 3:2; 4:17]."

Repentance is, indeed, the *starting* point for salvation and the catalyst for a transformed life. In contrast, impenitence is a deadly spiritual condition and a symptom of deep psychological dysfunction.

Repentance should be a regular part of a mature Christian's life, as noted by Christian psychologist Tim Kimmel, "If you've been a follower of Jesus for decades, you should be the most humble person out there. The older we get, the more aware we should be aware of our own feet of clay and how much we've been saved from. And I think that by the time we get to the age of grand-parenting we should be able to write a cookbook on eating crow. I mean, we should be able to eat it fast and take responsibility."<sup>25</sup> *Humility is a hallmark of a Christian.*



## Repentance and Forgiveness

Many people find repentance difficult because they feel comfortable with who they are where they are in life. Sin is enjoyable, and people enjoy the sins they enjoy. Change can be difficult. Giving up a sinful

<sup>24</sup> Gary Chapman and Jennifer Thomas, *The Five Languages of Apology: How to Experience Healing in All Your Relationships*, Moody, 2006.

<sup>25</sup> Dr. Tim Kimmel, "Grace-Based Grand-parenting," *Focus on the Family*, WAVA, 9/13/13.

habit can be daunting. Turning one's back on a cherished sin can seem impossible. But the immediate and long-term benefits of doing so are astonishing.

In her *Breaking Bad* essay,<sup>26</sup> Ann frequently mentions forgiveness (from God, not from herself),<sup>27</sup> but she never speaks of repentance – something which should *precede* forgiveness. As evangelist and biblical scholar John MacArthur writes, “Genuine repentance always involves a confession of wrongdoing and a willingness to make things right. An apology often takes the form of an excuse.”<sup>28</sup>

MacArthur explains, “The word *apology* comes from the Greek *apologia*, which literally means “a speech in defense of.” Apologies are often nothing more than self-defense: ‘I’m sorry if you took offense, but ...’ Genuine repentance is properly expressed in an admission of wrongdoing and a plea for forgiveness: ‘It was unthoughtful of me to say that. Will you forgive me?’

He offers a warning for the discerning soul: “Be wary of using merely apologetic language in place of genuine repentance.”

Evangelist George Whitefield exhorted his congregation, “True repentance will entirely change you; the bias of your souls will be changed, then you will delight in God, in Christ, in His Law, and in His people.” If your life hasn’t changed, you haven’t repented.

Spiritual and emotional freedom requires obedience to God. Jesus said, “*If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free (John 8:31-32).*” Those who abide in (keep) His word – those who do what He says to do – are His disciples and, because they are disciples who are keeping His word – they know the truth and they are set free.

Unless we *keep* His word, we are *not* free. When we know the right thing to do and do not do it, we have rejected Jesus and become slaves to sin (John 8:34-36, 44-47).

### (Not) To Be Mocked

Rush Limbaugh believes liberals like Obama think they are above being criticized and mocked.<sup>29</sup> Some conservatives, like Coulter, feel the same way those liberals do.

Christian apologist C.S. Lewis said, “Above all else, the Devil cannot stand to be mocked.”

Throughout human history, shame has been used to bring people to their senses. In 1997, Coulter lamented, “there is a problem



<sup>26</sup> See Appendix 1: “Is *Breaking Bad* Breaking Good for Ann Coulter?”

<sup>27</sup> See Chapter 4: “Forgiveness: Required For All Believers,” *The Gospel According to Ann Coulter*, 2012, available as a free PDF download at [www.coulterwatch.com/gospel.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/gospel.pdf).

<sup>28</sup> John MacArthur, “Answering the Hard Questions About Forgiveness,” *Grace to You*, <http://www.gty.org/resources/positions/P05/answering-the-hard-questions-about-forgiveness>.

<sup>29</sup> Rush Limbaugh, *Rush Limbaugh Show*, EIB, 8/17/13.



with people becoming less and less *capable of being* shamed.”<sup>30</sup> She added, “There is one sort of type of criminal that a public humiliation might work particularly well with are the juvenile delinquents, a lot of whom, you know, consider it a badge of honor to be sent to juvenile detention. And it might not be such a cool thing, you know, in the Hood, to be flogged publicly.”

Coulter made it explicitly clear, “I have to say I’m all for public flogging” and insisted, “I’m all in favor of punishment being something unpleasant.” The express purpose of the public flogging is to instill *shame* in the person behaving immorally and criminally.

General Patton, in the movie *Patton* (1970), explained, “If one can shame a coward, I felt, one might help him to gain his self-respect.”

*Newsbusters* once asked why anyone should mock Coulter.<sup>31</sup> Arrogant people need to be mocked in order to shame them, to cause them to wake up to who they’ve become, and to lead them to repentance and liberty – freedom from their patterns of wrong behavior.

Arrogant people are unrepentant people and Ann Coulter is surely arrogant, unrepentant, and unforgiving.

Coulter needs to be mocked, to be embarrassed, to be shamed, to be brought to her knees before God for forgiveness, for restoration, for liberty.<sup>32</sup>

God always forgives the returning prodigal.



<sup>30</sup> Ann Coulter, MSNBC, 3/22/97.

<sup>31</sup> Tim Graham, “Fox’s Glee Mocks Ann Coulter, Makes Femiist Wage Claims,” *Newsbusters*, 4/20/10, <http://newsbusters.org/blogs/tim-graham/2010/04/20/foxs-glee-mocks-ann-coulter-makes-feminist-wage-claims>.

<sup>32</sup> Spiritual, emotional, and intellectual healing is my hope for Coulter. Though she is impenitent, she is not irredeemable. See Chapter 20: “It Really *IS* a God Thing,” *The Gospel According to Ann Coulter*, 2012, available as a free PDF download at [www.coulterwatch.com/gospel.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/gospel.pdf). May Ann one day accept the liberty that God offers her in Jesus Christ.



## Appendix 1

### Is *Breaking Bad* Breaking Good for Ann Coulter?

**“But it seems to me it's a much worse thing to go around saying that it isn't a sin to commit a sin. I mean – at least feel guilty about it.” – Ann Coulter<sup>1</sup>**

*[A few weeks prior to Coulter's 10<sup>th</sup> book tour, Ann wrote a remarkable review of the series finale of the hit crime drama, Breaking Bad.<sup>2</sup> Her words exposed a more thoughtful and theological side, one well worth delving deeply into for examination. Before examining Coulter's remarkable essay on Breaking Bad as a Christian parable, we should look again at Ann's own theology and also briefly look at the series she views as that parable.]*

At varying times throughout her career, beginning as a talking head on MSNBC in 1996, Coulter has freely expressed her faith, often sublimely, sometimes ineptly. She asserts “Christianity fuels everything” she writes, advocates the forced conversion of Muslims to Christianity, says Christians are “perfected Jews,” and admits to being a “mean Christian.”

Coulter's heart was exposed in a 2000 essay in which she declared that her last act on earth – prior to the annihilation of the world – would be to burn down her neighbor's house for revenge.<sup>3</sup>

Yet, less than two years later, she claimed, “You know, that is why Christians are the most tolerant people in the world – because we know there's original sin. We know people do bad things.”<sup>4</sup> Then she added, “But it seems to me it's a much worse thing to go around saying that it isn't a sin to commit a sin. I mean – at least feel guilty about it.”

Does Coulter feel guilty about her own sin? Why does she defend the sin of conservatives?

#### Coulter's Favorite Scriptures

So do not be afraid of them. There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. – Matthew 10:26-28

Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven. – Matthew 10:32-33

All men will hate you because of me, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved. – Matthew 10:22

If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. – John 15:18

A third angel followed them and said in a loud voice: "If anyone worships the Beast and his image and receives his mark on the forehead or the hand, he, too, will drink the wine of God's fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of His wrath. He will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment rises for ever and ever. There is no rest day or night for those who worship the Beast and his image, or for anyone who receives the mark of his name." – Revelation 14:9-11

But the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and fornicators and sorcerers and idolaters and all the false, their part will be in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death. – Revelation 21:8

Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. – Matthew 10:34

...It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the Water of Life. – Revelation 21:6

<sup>1</sup> Ann Coulter, quoted by Toby Hamden, 'I love to pick fights with liberals,' *The Telegraph*, 7/19/02, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/1401932/I-love-to-pick-fights-with-liberals.html>.

<sup>2</sup> Ann Coulter, "Breaking Bad: A Christian Parable," 10/2/13.

<sup>3</sup> Ann Coulter, "I'd Burn Down My Neighbor's House," 9/22/00.

<sup>4</sup> Ann Coulter, quoted by Toby Hamden, 'I love to pick fights with liberals,' *The Telegraph*, 7/19/02, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/1401932/I-love-to-pick-fights-with-liberals.html>.

A few years later, she commended Mel Gibson's *The Passion of the Christ* in two back-to-back essays. However, at that time, she contended that "being nice to people is an incidental tenet of Christianity." A January 2009 essay eloquently expressed some important theological truths.<sup>5</sup> In her biggest blockbuster, *How to Talk to a Liberal (If You Must)*, Coulter included a rejected *Good Housekeeping* essay which superbly addressed a real Christian parable (or, more accurately proverb).<sup>6</sup>

Her latest book contains a reprint of a *BeliefNet* interview from 2006,<sup>7</sup> which, again, demonstrates a fluidity in her theology. Hence my interest in her *Breaking Bad* review.

A quick look at Coulter's favorite scriptures (see inset on previous page) from her BeliefNet interview, reveals her fragmented spiritual perspective, one in which she selectively quotes Scriptures to justify her own ungodly behavior, clothe herself in the righteousness of the saints, and reinforce her own self-image as a heroic-martyr.

Of the eight favorites cited by Coulter, the first encourages fear of the Lord, the second acknowledgement of God, the next two address Christian persecution, three of the last four are from the Book of Revelation and the remaining verse is from the Gospel of Matthew ("Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword").

Before looking at *Breaking Bad*, it is worth noting that Coulter's fascination with serial killers extends back before the new millennium. In 1999, she spoke of her "studies of serial killers," saying "I actually am sort of interested in it."<sup>8</sup>

Coulter seems more interested in the dark side of humanity than in the bright light of Jesus Christ.

### ***Breaking Bad***

Many people are puzzled by Coulter's contention that *Breaking Bad* is a "Christian parable" since Christ is absent from the series and no one is redeemed.

Author Chuck Klosterman provided a relevant analysis of the series in the summer of 2011.<sup>9</sup> According to Klosterman, "The central question on *Breaking Bad* is this: What makes a man 'bad' – his actions, his motives, or his conscious decision to be a bad person?" In the case of *Breaking Bad*, "the answer is No. 3." Klosterman continues, "[the antagonist] is a person who started as one type of human and decides to become something different." He made a *choice* for evil: "the main character has actively become evil, but we still want him to succeed." In her own essay, Coulter would note the viewer's dilemma in rooting for the "bad person" despite his evil deeds.



Source: <http://i.imgur.com/w69SNaV.jpg>.

<sup>5</sup> See Daniel Borchers, "It's a God Thing," at <http://www.coulterwatch.com/files/It%27s%20a%20God%20Thing.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> See Chapter 19: "Confessions of Faith," *The Gospel According to Ann Coulter*, 2012, available as a free PDF download at [www.coulterwatch.com/gospel.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/gospel.pdf).

<sup>7</sup> "Church Militant: Ann Coulter on God, Faith, and Liberals," BeliefNet, August 2006, <http://www.beliefnet.com/News/Politics/2006/08/Church-Militant-Ann-Coulter-On-God-Faith-And-Liberals.aspx>. A list of some of her favorite Scriptures is provided at <http://www.beliefnet.com/Faiths/Christianity/2006/08/Ann-Coulters-Favorite-Bible-Verses.aspx> (see sidebar).

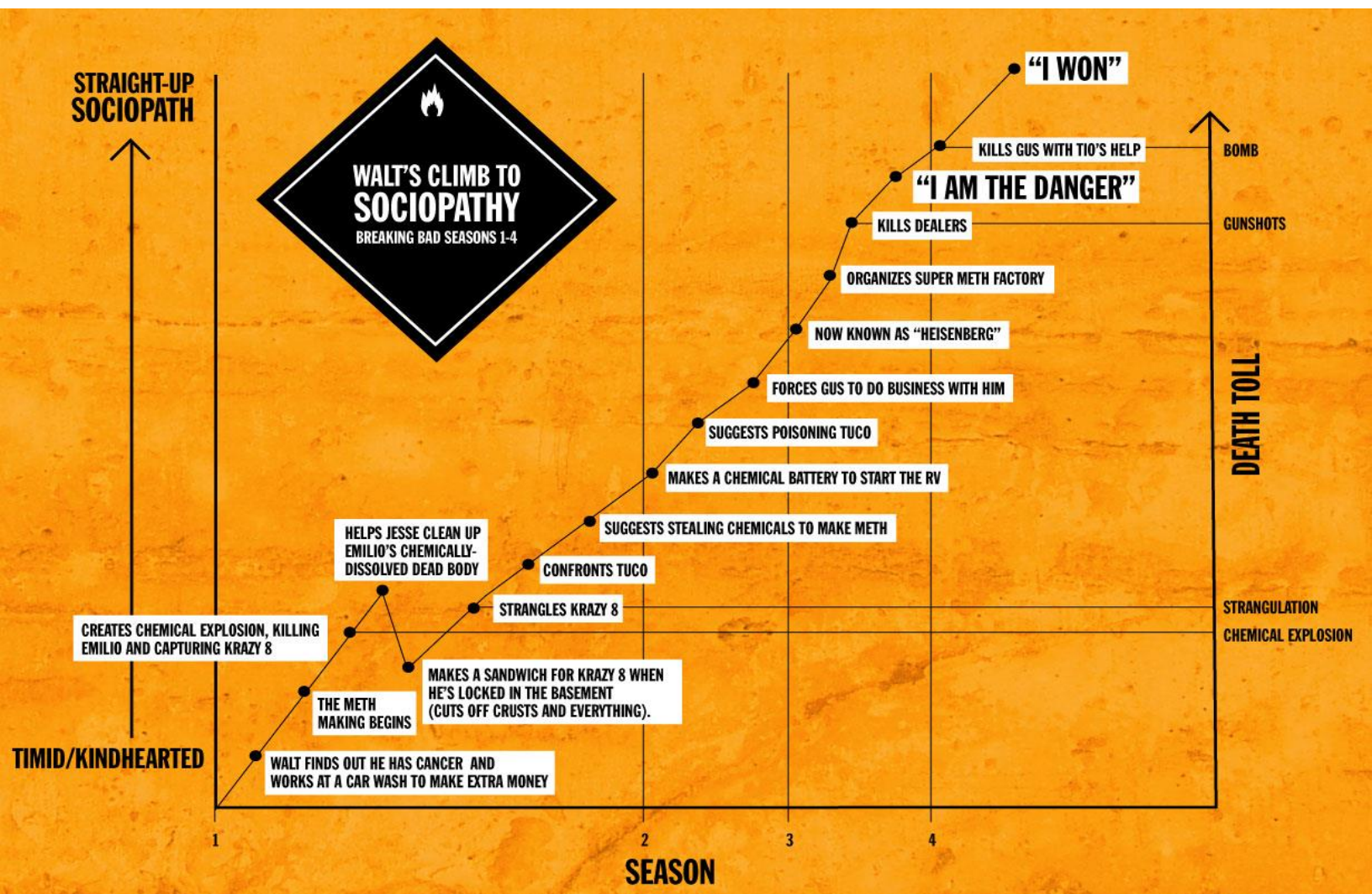
<sup>8</sup> Ann Coulter, *Rivera Live*, CNBC, 7/28/99.

<sup>9</sup> Chuck Klosterman, "Why AMC's *Breaking Bad* beats *Mad Men*, *The Sopranos*, and *The Wire*," 7/12/11, [http://www.grantland.com/story/\\_/id/6763000/bad-decisions](http://www.grantland.com/story/_/id/6763000/bad-decisions).

Klosterman puts it this way: “At this point, Walter White could do *anything* and I would continue to support his cause. In fact, his evolution has been so deft that I feel weird describing his persona as ‘evil,’ even though I can’t justify why it would be incorrect to do so.”

*Breaking Bad* was intended to show the dark side of human nature spiraling downward in its descent to depravity, raising the question of whether it truly is a Christian parable. (The accompanying graphic depicts Walt’s increasing depravity in his descent to madness – in just the first four seasons!)

If *Breaking Bad* is Coulter’s theological benchmark and framework for morality, then that explains much regarding her personal and professional conduct over the last couple of decades.



Source: <http://breakingbadworld.tumblr.com/post/29347082474/waltsclimb>.



[Following is my essay examining Coulter's views on *Breaking Bad*.]

## Is *Breaking Bad* Breaking Good for Ann Coulter?<sup>10</sup>

Ann Coulter's essay<sup>11</sup> on "AMC's smash TV series," *Breaking Bad*, is a must read – for perplexed fans and for practicing Christians.

Having seen neither the series nor the finale, I cannot comment on the show itself.<sup>12</sup> But Ann's articulated theology – and the psychological dynamics underlying so much of her public life – are readily discernible in her paean to God. (Sadly, Ann's tweet advocating Second Amendment rights drew the attention of the media, thus detracting from the theology in her essay.)

Stylistically, I found her essay exquisitely written, smoothly flowing, and enjoyable to read.<sup>13</sup> Her reverence for God and His Word appears genuine and is expressed with zeal. Yet, Ann's doctrines are not entirely Scriptural. Moreover, Ann's most emphatic and pertinent points seem to reveal more about Ann than about the subject of her essay.

### Promoting Christianity

From her second sentence onward, Ann extols the God of the Bible, forgiveness, and the godly character His children should be developing. Strangely, she ignores repentance and how to actually live a godly life.<sup>14</sup>

Ann begins by equating *Breaking Bad* with Mel Gibson's *The Passion of the Christ*,<sup>15</sup> claiming that *Breaking Bad* contains both conservative and Christian themes,<sup>16</sup> and exhorting her readers to "READ



<sup>10</sup> Series creator Vince Gilligan defines "Breaking Bad" as "to raise hell." Has the series "raised heaven" in Ann's life?

<sup>11</sup> Ann Coulter, "Breaking Bad: A Christian Parable," 10/2/13.

<sup>12</sup> My analysis deals exclusively with Ann's expressed theology and in no way, shape, or form validates anything she claims about the show itself.

<sup>13</sup> I also found Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code* and some of his other books highly entertaining despite their theological heresy (which was soul-wearying). One major drawback to books like his, and essays like Ann's, is the blurring of fact and fiction, the merging of orthodoxy and heresy. Unless one is careful, discerning the truth can become extremely problematic.

<sup>14</sup> See my (audio) sermon, "Living the Resurrected Life," at <http://www.brotherwatch.com/files/Living%20the%20Resurrected%20Life.mp3>.

<sup>15</sup> It does seem strikingly odd (and "counterintuitive") that Ann would claim that a show which is seemingly (indeed, deliberately) irreligious is really religious, but, again, being unfamiliar with *Breaking Bad*, I must reserve judgment. Still, equating a television series devoid of God with a movie extolling Him does seem rather odd. See Andy Graham, "The Baptism of Breaking Bad," *caffeinatedthoughts.com*, 10/2/13, <http://caffeinatedthoughts.com/2013/10/baptism-breaking-bad/>.

<sup>16</sup> A posting on *Free Republic* disputes Coulter's contention: "It isn't [religious]. It's devoid of anything religious. Walt wasn't religious. The family wasn't. The extended family wasn't religious. This is the whole reason why *Breaking Bad* goes the way it does. To me, *Breaking Bad* shows what happens when people, faced with crises, who don't have God, and follow their own moral system, attempt to deal with their problems. The unthinkable in prior times now becomes a viable option, and they are more than willing to rationalize it away. Only when it's all about to end do we finally get someone to stop running away from their mess and stop rationalizing their bad decisions away. But not having God, they die without forgiveness, without genuinely being sorry for what they've done. They are sorry they didn't pull it off, they are sorry it's ending badly for them, sorry they got certain people killed, sorry they won't be with their family. They aren't sorry for all the junkies they hate who buy their product, and their lives that they've destroyed, the families they've screwed up from their product. They are sorry they got caught. Not repentant (10/8/13)."



THE BIBLE!” Knowing that human nature has not changed since the Bible was written, Ann observes: “It’s chockablock with gore, incest, jealousy, murder, love and hate,” thus proving the Bible’s relevancy for today and confirming that there truly is nothing new under the sun, but utterly failing to prove the Christian paradigm of *Breaking Bad*.

Ann also correctly observes – counter to the prevailing moral relativism pervading our culture – that “the Bible tells the truth, the lessons are eternal,” remarking that this “also marks the difference between great literature and passing amusements.”

Next, Ann forays into the realm of forgiveness, describing the show’s Jesse Pinkman as that “sweet, soulful druggie” who “illustrates – heartbreakingly – the monumental importance of the cross.”<sup>17</sup> Ann’s word choices are faultless.

### Forgiving Oneself

Having for years heralded the importance of the cross and the forgiveness upon which her salvation rests, Ann nevertheless departs from Christian orthodoxy by suggesting that Jesse should go to the cross *to be able to forgive himself*. Instead, Ann says he enters “some godless hippie rehab center” and, consequently, “is still unable to forgive himself.”

Ann contends that – *because* Jesse has been “unable to forgive himself” – he returns to an ungodly lifestyle which intensifies his descent into darkness. Ann writes, “Mayhem, murder and disaster ensue.”

Why? Because Jesse did not “forgive himself” and, instead, accepted that he’s “the bad guy.”

But is that what the cross is all about? No. It is about receiving forgiveness *from God* and then living a *transformed* life. The problem for Jesse was not a failure to forgive himself but a failure to *repent*, thereby receiving forgiveness from *God*.

But Ann continues with her nonsense, writing, “There’s only one thing in the world that ever could have allowed Jesse to forgive himself.” Except, once again, the cross *isn’t* about *self-forgiveness*. Indeed, even forgiven Christians – those who have genuinely repented with godly sorrow – should still feel a measure of *guilt* until they have done all they can do to right the wrongs they have committed (Matthew 5:23-24). (Making amends is one of the principal recovery steps, after all, in Alcoholics Anonymous and other addiction treatment programs.)

Ann is absolutely right “that God sent his only son to die for Jesse’s sins, no matter how abominable.” But she woefully misses the mark when she insists, “To not forgive himself after that would be an insult to God, dismissing what Jesus did on the cross as not such a big deal.”<sup>18</sup> Self-forgiveness is *not* biblical.



<sup>17</sup> To reiterate, these and subsequent references regarding *Breaking Bad* derive from Ann’s essay and her observations, perspectives, and paradigm – not mine.

<sup>18</sup> It is great that Ann deeply values the “monumental importance of the cross.” Sadly, many Christians diminish the significance of the cross and the One who sacrificed everything for us. But it is imperative to *accurately* grasp that significance.

Evangelist and biblical scholar John MacArthur observes, “I realize there are some who teach that a kind of self-forgiveness is necessary. I find this nowhere in Scripture.”<sup>19</sup>

With his over 40 years of ministerial experience, MacArthur has observed a commonality among those claiming and proclaiming self-forgiveness, traits which Ann ironically addresses later in her essay. MacArthur writes, “I’ve met many people who *claim* to be unable to forgive themselves, but on careful examination this usually turns out to be a kind of sinful pride exacerbated by modern self-esteem philosophy.”

He continues, “The person who complains about not being self-forgiving is often simply looking for flattering or consoling words from others as a way of salving the hurt that guilt has caused to their pride.” In essence, self-forgiveness salves the conscience without changing the behavior that caused the guilt in the first place. It is a way in which ego and pride can carry on without actually admitting to specific sins or repenting of those sins.

In essence, self-forgiveness is a placebo which does nothing to solve the underlying problem of sin. Only the cross cures the problem – with true repentance and forgiveness leading to spiritual transformation.

The external *behaviors* never change because the internal *heart* has not been changed. Repentance – not self-forgiveness – is the catalyst for that transformation. And God offers us His peace – His un-surpassing peace – as a consequence of yielding our lives to Him.

## **Walking with God**

Therein lies the dilemma for those seeking to do God’s will but still loving the sins to which they are addicted. Whom will they serve? Jesus and the disciples frequently asked that question. In the Old Testament, Joshua answered, “As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

Ann recognizes there is only one Master, yet she fails to place her own life into the biblical perspective of that reality. She introduces Jesse’s wife, Skyler, as a perfect illustration of “why Scripture instructs us to flee evil and admonishes: ‘You shall have no other gods before me.’”

Discovering Jesse’s criminal activities – and hating them – Skyler keeps his secret and even becomes a “partner in crime.” Ann writes, “Her husband and son have become her ‘gods,’ whom she values more than the one true God.”<sup>20</sup>

The one character in the series who *is* walking with God is Hank Schrader, “Walt’s DEA agent brother-in-law,” whom Ann describes as “something of a buffoon at the beginning of the series.” However, “because of his godly choices – the polar opposite of Walt’s – he ends up becoming not only an extremely likable person, but a deeply good and heroic one. Even his stupid jokes get funny.”

Ann emphasizes, in a five-word paragraph: “He is the manly one.”

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<sup>19</sup> John MacArthur, “Answering the Hard Questions About Forgiveness,” *Grace to You*, <http://www.gty.org/resources/positions/P05/answering-the-hard-questions-about-forgiveness>.

<sup>20</sup> The subject of idolatry is addressed in several chapters of *Vanity: Ann Coulter’s Quest for Glory*, available as a free PDF download at [www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf).

But why is Hank the godly and manly one? Ann's answer:

Along with some normal human imperfections, Hank embodies all the Christian virtues -- patience, diligence, humility, kindness.<sup>21</sup> Indeed, Hank is the only character who always seems to be helping everyone else with their problems – shoplifting, marital separation, cancer, “fugue” states – rather than burdening them with his own.

It is certainly admirable that Ann promotes godliness, however, the qualities contained in her short list of Christian virtues is suggestive and seem to be “the polar opposite” of Ann's own confrontational style.

## Pride



Then Ann segues to “the greatest sin of all: pride,” which she calls “the most incessantly proved lesson” of this television series, contending “there is no better study of the sin of pride than ... Walter White.”<sup>22</sup>

For Ann, “Walt starts out as a sympathetic character ... But throughout five seasons, we watch him become irredeemably evil because of his pride.”

Throughout the series, viewers witness “Walt's descent into darkness,” ostensibly with benevolent motives to help his family. But, as Ann noticed, “[Walt] hadn't made any of these increasingly depraved moral choices for ‘his family’ – as he finally admits in the last episode. It was for himself, to feed his pride.” Narcissism and pride.

The Bible repeatedly says, “God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.”

## Addictive Thinking

As Ann was writing her essay, I wonder if she realized she was writing about and to herself. And about and to those family, friends, and colleagues who have enabled her own wrong behaviors.

Remember Skyler? She *enabled* (and later *assisted*) her husband in his crimes. Why? To *hide the truth* from her son. She did her family no favors by compromising the truth and enabling her husband's sin. Beautifully understated, Ann notes the results of Skyler's cowardice: “It worked out badly for her.”

Ann writes, “What's so fabulous about Walt's descent into darkness is that the audience is tricked into joining Walt's temporizing – at least through his first few steps.” Ann provides several examples from the series to prove her point. The important thing for the fans was that Walt, portrayed as a sympathetic anti-hero/victim, “was safe.” Scene after scene, Ann shows the downward spiral of the viewers who are voyeuristically enabling Walt.

<sup>21</sup> Two virtues missing from Ann's short list: honesty and integrity. The Pauline virtues are faith, hope, and love (see 1 Corinthians 13). To those the Catholic catechism adds the four cardinal virtues of Greek philosophy: prudence, justice, temperance, and courage. The fruit of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5:22-23 include: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

<sup>22</sup> The subject of pride is addressed in several chapters of *Vanity: Ann Coulter's Quest for Glory*, available as a free PDF download at [www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf).

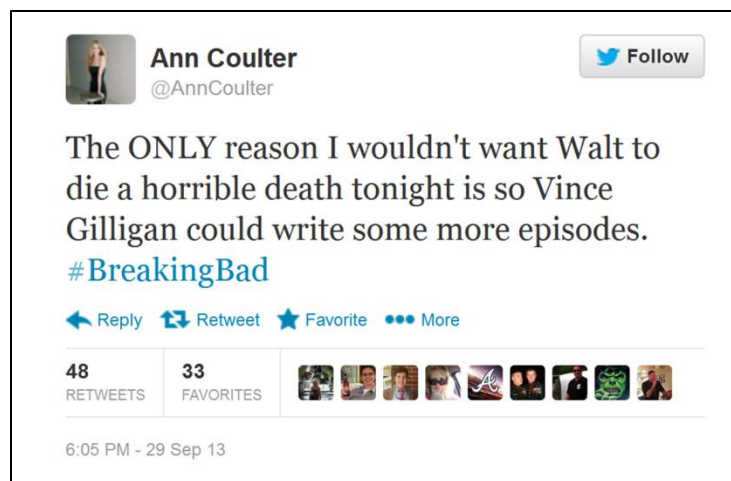
At this point, Ann makes another salient observation: “In this way, the viewers are tricked into being co-conspirators with Walt. But, luckily, we are only observers. We can escape Walt’s choices. He can’t.” Then Ann writes:

Soon, we begin to realize that Walt’s first malevolent acts – the ones we went along with! – made it easier for him to rationalize the next one and the next, until there’s no limit to what he won’t do, including violently attacking his wife, kidnapping his infant daughter, ordering the murder of his virtual-son, Jesse, and, perhaps most sinisterly, coldly informing Jesse that he had stood and watched as Jane choked to death.

Enabling, denial, rationalization, temporizing, co-conspirators – these are all traits of addictive thinking,<sup>23</sup> which keep an addict or a sinner from acknowledging their habit or sin, thus preempting any hope of liberation and healing.

### Walking by Faith

Notwithstanding my criticisms above, I wish more of Ann’s essays were like this one: confidently, conversationally, and confidently confessing her Christian faith.<sup>24</sup> It is obvious that she has considered the Christian themes she addresses while watching the series and also that she has been wrestling with those issues in her personal life. May God enlighten her and empower her to become the person God wants her to be.



Perhaps *Breaking Bad* was a good avenue for Ann to search her own soul and discern the reality of her own relationship with the God whom she professes to follow. Ann concluded her essay with a Proverb we should all take notice of: “*There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.*”

<sup>23</sup> Addictive thinking is addressed in both *The Beauty of Conservatism*, available as a free PDF download at [www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf), and *The Gospel According to Ann Coulter*, available as a free PDF download at [www.coulterwatch.com/gospel.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/gospel.pdf).

<sup>24</sup> Though rare, these essays are very worthwhile. See Daniel Borchers, “It’s a God Thing,” at <http://www.coulterwatch.com/files/It%27s%20a%20God%20Thing.pdf>.



## Appendix 2

# Ann Coulter's *Trust Busted*

**“The lips of a fool bring about his own undoing.” – Herbert Carl Leupold**

Controversialist Ann Coulter's 10<sup>th</sup> book was launched as her books typically are – in the midst of controversy. But, atypically, *Never Trust a Liberal Over 3 – Especially a Republican* is unique among her portfolio. It is the only one which failed to make the *New York Times* best-seller list.

Many factors account for this failure.

Personally, I was looking forward to this book. Her last, *Mugged*, was exemplary (with caveats noted in *Vanity: Ann Coulter's Quest for Glory*), and her written commentary over the past couple of years has, for the most part, dramatically improved. In fact, her essay on the series finale of “Breaking Bad” was exquisite (again, with caveats noted in *Is Breaking Bad Breaking Good for Ann Coulter?*).

However, with *Never Trust a Liberal Over 3*, Coulter reverts to her old self, perhaps necessarily so, as it is principally a collection of previously published material extending back more than a decade. Some of the new material (very little is really new) is fresh and well written (such as the first chapter and Acknowledgements), and her eulogies for her parents are poignant. However, calling this book “the Greatest of the Greatest Hits”<sup>1</sup> as she does is laughable – and just one reason for its failure.

Coulter does not live up to the hype.

Another failure factor is that many of Coulter's fans have discovered their goddess to be like the fabled emperor, wearing no clothes.

This third in her series of essay collections also ranks third in its successfulness, indicating, perhaps, that its author's cachet and clout are indeed dramatically diminishing among conservatives. Recently touted as “conservatism's darling”<sup>2</sup> by her journalistic home, *Human Events*, many of her most loyal fans have become disenchanted with their heroine due to her proclivity for prevarication and her inappropriate attacks against fellow conservatives.



<sup>1</sup> Ann Coulter quoted by Matthew Boyle, “Exclusive – Q&A with Ann Coulter on New Book, Amnesty, Washington Republicans,” *Breitbart*, 10/22/13, <http://www.breitbart.com/Big-Journalism/2013/10/22/Exclusive-Q-A-with-Ann-Coulter-interview-on-new-book-amnesty-Washington-Republicans>.

<sup>2</sup> Teresa Mull, “Ann Coulter Offers Advice to GOP on The View,” *Human Events*, 10/22/13, <http://www.humanevents.com/2013/10/22/ann-coulter-offers-advice-to-gop-on-the-view/>. The article title was mysteriously changed to “Coulter Charms Left-Leaning Ladies of the View.”

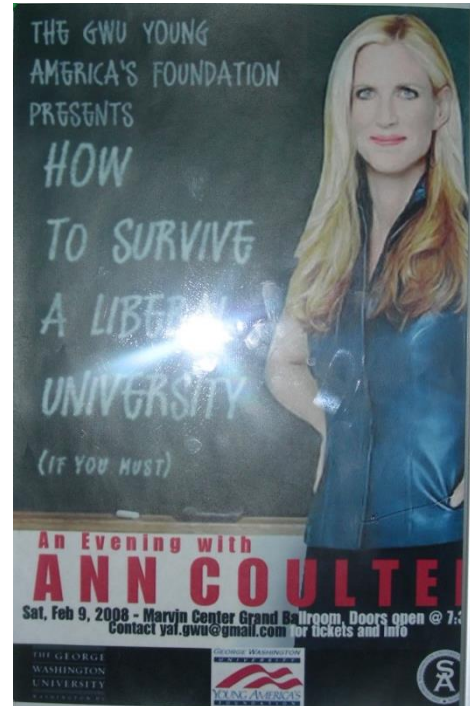
In recent years, Coulter has alienated *many* Libertarians, Tea Party members, establishment Republicans, and social conservatives. Columnist Debbie Schlusel's clever re-titling of Coulter's latest book says it all: *Never Trust an Ann Coulter Who Pimps Us on GOP Libs, Then Pimps Books Saying the Opposite.*<sup>3</sup>

### Coulter's Three Essay Collections

Comparing like to like, here we examine only three of Coulter's ten books – those which are essentially essay collections with additional material thrown in. All three, coincidentally, were published in the month of October in their respective years.

*How to Talk to a Liberal* contained a number of new essays and several previously-unpublished ones, while *If Democrats Had Any Brains* included interviews from a large number of domestic and foreign news outlets. *Never Trust a Liberal* includes very dated material which she tries desperately to promote as both descriptive in the past and predictive of the future.

In 2004, *How to Talk to a Liberal* populated the best-seller list for 16 weeks, more than any other Coulter book, but, just three years later, her second collection, *If Democrats*, appeared only four times. By then, tech-savvy fans knew they could read her columns in various archived collections sprinkled around the Internet. Moreover, even by that time, her credibility was in steep decline, suffering from credible allegations of plagiarism<sup>4</sup> in two of her books<sup>5</sup> and continual controversies (ad hominem attacks, hate speech, prevarication, etc.).



Now, six years later, too few people are interested in too many columns from too long ago. *Never Trust a Liberal Over 3* has little to offer, especially for those Coulter has alienated. Her own trust deficit now plagues her work.

Given that each of Coulter's previous nine books ranked at least six on the best-seller list, *Trust* is an abysmal failure. Even more so when you consider that, as of this writing, Charles Krauthammer's *Things That Matter* – a collection of his essays spanning three decades – is currently number one on that list. Krauthammer has credibility and gravitas. Coulter does not.

### Trust Deficit

Coulter suffers greatly from a credibility gap. Her trust deficit grows with each new controversy and each new flip-flop (she surpasses Romney in that area).

<sup>3</sup> Debbie Schlusel, "Never Trust an Ann Coulter Who Pimps Us on GOP Libs, Then Pimps Books Saying the Opposite," 10/21/13, <http://www.debbieschlusel.com/66624/never-trust-an-ann-coulter-who-pimps-us-on-liberal-gop-then-pimps-books-saying-the-opposite/>.

<sup>4</sup> Ron Brynaert, "In new book, Coulter 'cribs' stem cell list from right-to-life group," *Raw Story*, 6/14/06, [http://www.rawstory.com/news/2006/In\\_new\\_book\\_Coulter\\_cribs\\_stem\\_0614.html](http://www.rawstory.com/news/2006/In_new_book_Coulter_cribs_stem_0614.html).

<sup>5</sup> See Daniel Borchers, "The Plagiarism Trap," *BrotherWatch*, 2002, [http://www.coulterwatch.com/files/BW2-009-Plagiarism\\_Trap.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/files/BW2-009-Plagiarism_Trap.pdf).

What does Coulter have to say about her own books? During her most recent book tour, Coulter described them in similar ways:<sup>6</sup>

*How to Talk* “a fun book, covering everything under the sun – even dating in the nation's capital”  
*If Democrats* “fun and indexed Coulter quotes, with zippy introductions”  
*Never Trust* “a fun book (thus the snappy cover photo) to lure people into politics without having to read too much about politics. it's in part a ‘best of’ collection from the past decade, covering everything from Amanda Knox to Christianity, with lots of important new points.”

Referring to all of her books in a 2011 C-Span interview, Coulter rejoiced, “Zippy titles, aren’t they?”<sup>7</sup>

Fun. Zippy. Snappy.

But are they *credible*? A growing number of people don’t think they are worthwhile.

All of Coulter’s books from 2002-2006 appeared on the best-seller list at least a dozen times, while appearances on that list for her next four were in single digits. Her last book – despite a full book tour and heavy promotion by the usual suspects – did not even make the list.<sup>8</sup>



Townhall went to great lengths to promote her second essay collection (see accompanying screengrab), yet it was her worst selling book, until *Trust*.

A 2004 essay<sup>9</sup> formed the thematic basis for Coulter’s 2013 book, *Never Trust a Liberal Over 3 – Especially a Republican*. Surprisingly, what she wrote *then* she *now* refutes. Then, She lionized Ronald Reagan and eschewed RINOs; now, she claims RINOs (i.e., Romney) superior to Reagan. Then, she condemned selecting “electable” candidates; now that’s all she wants. Compare this paragraph from that 2004 essay with what she has said in the closing months of 2013:

Pay attention to what happened next: Reagan went on to win two landslide elections for president, transform the nation's politics, and dismantle the Democrats' favorite country, the USSR. He not only never lost a general election, Reagan also never won by less than a landslide margin. Reagan's triumph was then promptly jettisoned by Mr. "Electable," who broke his "read my lips" pledge and unceremoniously ended the Republicans' 12-year control of the White House.

Coulter has done an about face – using the exact same title: “Never Trust a Liberal Over 3.”

<sup>6</sup> Ann Coulter, REDDIT AMA, 10/21/13.

<sup>7</sup> Ann Coulter, *In Depth*, C-Span, 8/7/11.

<sup>8</sup> See Coulter book comparison chart at the end of this chapter.

<sup>9</sup> Ann Coulter, “Never Trust A Liberal Over 3,” 7/21/04.

## Marketing of Her Books

Perhaps she can blame her publicist.

All three of these books were marketed in similar ways. Each promoted her brilliance and polemics:

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <i>How to Talk</i>  | “incisive reasoning, refreshing candor, and razor-sharp wit” |
| <i>If Democrats</i> | “razor-sharp reasoning and biting wit”                       |
| <i>Never Trust</i>  | “ruthlessness and hilarity”                                  |

All three promoted her as a heroic victim of censorship:

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <i>How to Talk</i>  | “you’ll find the real, uncensored Ann Coulter. A special concluding chapter even includes the pieces that squeamish editors refused to publish – ‘what you could have read if you lived in a free country,’ says Coulter |
| <i>If Democrats</i> | “liberal elites denounce Ann, insisting that ‘She’s gone too far!’ and hopefully predicting that this time it will bring a crashing end to her career”   |
| <i>Never Trust</i>  | “Coulter is uncensored, unapologetic, and unflinching ... featuring irreverent and hilarious material her syndicators were too afraid to print!”   |

Each praised her outrageousness:

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <i>How to Talk</i>  | “No subject is off-limits, and no comment is left unsaid”            |
| <i>If Democrats</i> | “funniest, most devastating, and, yes, most outrageous book to date” |
| <i>Never Trust</i>  | “at her most incisive, funny, and brilliant”                         |

## Ann Coulter Cannot Be Trusted

Humor will not restore Coulter’s credibility.



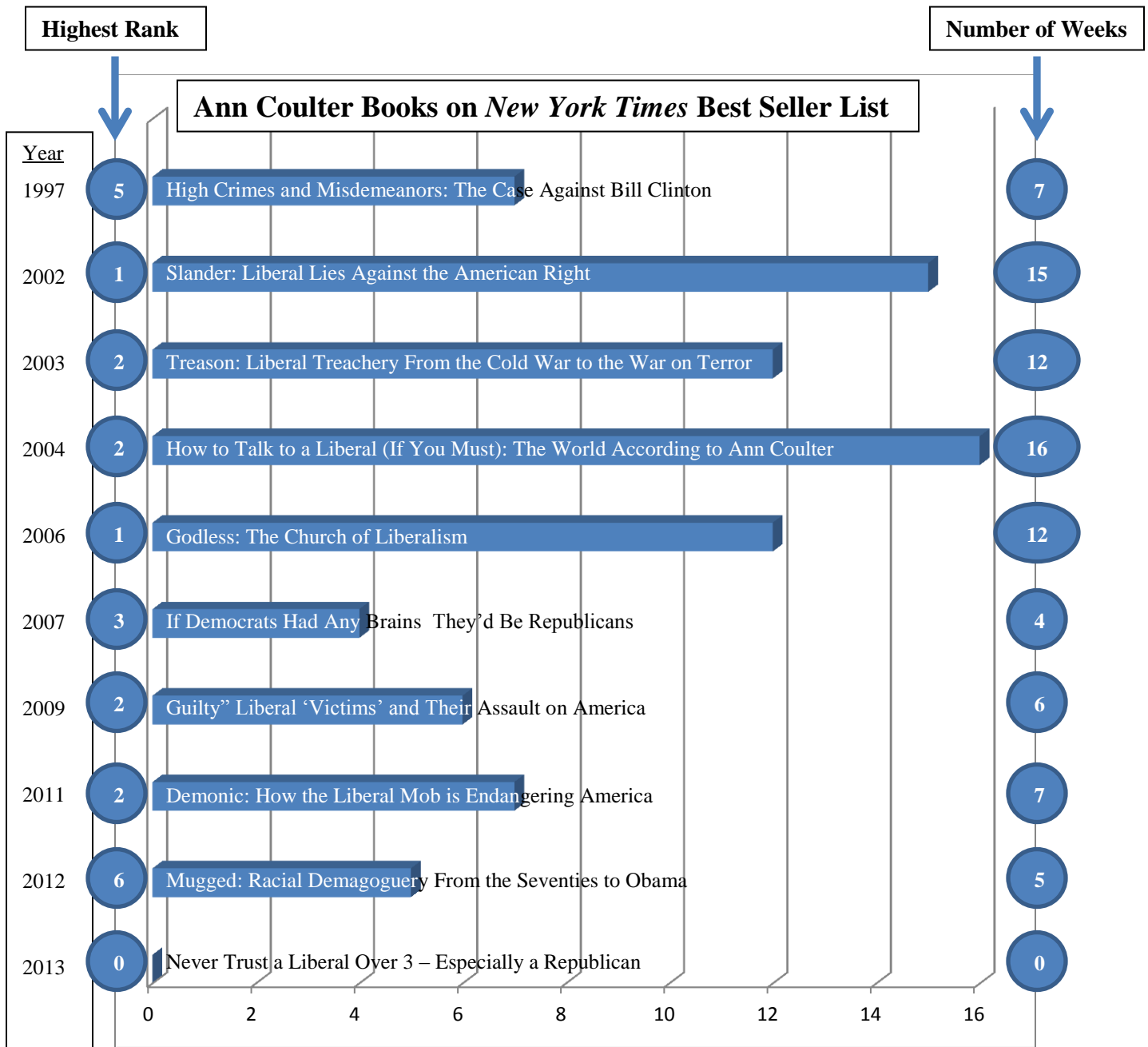
Each of Coulter’s books tries to outdo the last; each promotional campaign raises already superlative expectations that much higher. Coulter’s approach is to continually push the envelope, to extend the parameters of normative political dialogue, to top herself in order to stay relevant.

I suspect that a lot of people who would normally be predisposed to buy and promote her books are put off by the arrogance of her book title, it’s theme, and her current commentary. She’s back to her old self – untrustworthy.

Coulter crows that each time critics contend “this time she has gone too far,” she has survived and thrived. But her shtick is wearying and people are looking for someone to trust.

Since Coulter busted the trust of her readers, they have busted her *Trust*.





# WANTED

## The Truth About Ann Coulter



**Do you have an Ann Coulter story or anecdote?**

**Are you a friend, beneficiary, or victim of Ann?**

**Please share your stories and insights with us for our next book.**

Email [coulterwatch@yahoo.com](mailto:coulterwatch@yahoo.com)

*The Beauty of Conservatism*

[www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/beauty.pdf)

*The Gospel According to Ann Coulter*

[www.coulterwatch.com/gospel.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/gospel.pdf)

*Vanity: Ann Coulter's Quest for Glory*

[www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/vanity.pdf)

*Never Trust Ann Coulter – at ANY Age*

[www.coulterwatch.com/never.pdf](http://www.coulterwatch.com/never.pdf)

“[Ann Coulter is] the Abbie Hoffman of the Right” – **Ann Coulter bio**

“[Coulter] is to the 21<sup>st</sup> century what Lenny Bruce was to the 20<sup>th</sup>.” – **Brad Miner**

“Ann Coulter is the Miley Cyrus of political commentary.” – **Bernard Goldberg**

“[Ann Coulter is] the Maureen Dowd of conservatism.” – **Dorothy Rabinowitz**

To Coulter: “You’re out of your mind crazy.” – **Glenn Beck**

“Ann Coulter's behavior [is] harmful to, and unrepresentative of, the conservative movement.”  
– **Amy Ridenour**

“Maybe Ann is lazy. She is certainly disadvantaged. She definitely shrinks when challenged.”  
– **Kevin McCullough**

“This is fascinating to me. Ann, how do you make your income? You give speeches? Make extreme comments? Throw a lot of fists and elbows?” – **Mark Levin**

“People have got to go out and say something to sell books and [Coulter has] found her shtick, it’s attacking conservatives and sort of being the odd person out.” – **Newt Gingrich**

“The war is between good and evil, and [Ann Coulter has] been an accomplice for the enemy.”  
– **American Right to Life**



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“Ann Coulter engages in ad hominem attacks. Ann Coulter is insane.” – **Ann Coulter**,  
*Scarborough Country*, 7/7/03

“I’m kind of like Jack Nicholson in *The Shining*. It’s a little bit weird how utterly, laughably solitary I am.” – **Ann Coulter**,  
*New York Times*, 10/8/10

“I’m like the conservative ayatollah.” – **Ann Coulter**,  
*Piers Morgan*, 10/15/13