

BLUEGRASS 4-7 EVERY SATURDAY

**VOTED ST. LOUIS' #1 OPEN MIC
EVEN DOGS ARE WELCOME**

2 HAPPY HOURS 11-1 AND 4-7

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T H E S H A N T I

825 ALLEN @ 9TH IN SOULARD

ESSAY | True Lies

by Henry Nicolle

SOMEONE



LIED!

I'll admit that everything I write is a total fabrication. Words will never express the truth, even if the truth were capable of crawling into plain view. Lies are much more common and certainly, if experience has any truth to it, much easier to swallow. We live our lies.

We formed a society proclaiming that individual Rights and Liberty are ours at birth, equally endowed are we all. Race, religion, color, belief, whatever our attributes and professions, we each and all have a right to be here and to be left alone to pursue our own destinies. We formed the institutions necessary to preserve the individual from the masses. Then we began to lie.

Our institutions early abandoned the concepts of individual Liberty. We abandoned the concept of institutional protection of individual Liberty. Our leaders chose to build power instead of protection. They chose the lie. We chose to exchange Liberty for the baubles that abuse of power could bring us. We confirmed the lie and promoted the liars.

Lies have become so common that they are respectable. Our halls of government, religion and commerce are now filled with liars and their lies. The truth has fallen into disrespect and worse, into disregard. Speak the truth today and no ear will listen.

Think about the lies you tell or accept every day. Examples of lies you have made without quibbling over the truth would include any certification you signed under penalty of perjury. Applications for drivers' license, insurance, bank account, tax returns, passport, etc. You undoubtedly lied on every one of those without ever giving the lie a moment's thought or consideration. You probably asserted that the information you were providing was correct without any knowledge of correctness. With very few exceptions, the documents you prepared and certified likely had nothing to do with your conduct and simply submitting the application was an unauthorized lie. You perjured yourself with every certified lie.

Our police lie a dozen or more times each day of duty. Our judges accept those lies, knowing they are lies and in so doing propagate the lies and the consequences of the lies. The judges lie and the prosecutors lie. They are protected by our law from the consequences of lies. Seriously, a judge or attorney is protected by law from the lies they may make in court

and most other venues.

Our elected officials lie as a matter of course and custom. We lie when we say we will vote for some candidate based upon his lies or her promises. We don't elect the liars, we elect the benefits the lies will bring us after we re-elect the liars.

The lies and liars dwell beyond our institutions. They surround our every act. Our dentist and doctor will say, "This may hurt a little." when they know it will hurt like Hell on a bad day in Summer. Our religious trust-worthies will guarantee us a place of pleasure and leisure in the hereafter, if we will only believe their lies, propagate their lies and safe keep their institutions and persons in this world. If they've never been there and don't know exactly where it is, how can they assure you in truth that there is a place for you to go "after"? They lie. We love the lies. We pass the lie to our kids and acquaintances.

"The check is in the mail." "I never got the bill." "I'll still love you in the morning." "I promise, I won't cum in your mouth." "I'll never do THAT again!" We lie and we lie even when the truth would serve us better. (Thank you, Dave Champion.)

O.K. So, we lie. Lies are a part of successful survival as individuals and as humans. There have been traditions which held that newborns should not be named until they can fend for themselves. So we gave them "Nicknames" or false names to mislead ill-luck. We commonly use different names today for the same reason. We lie as a matter of course to preserve our personal security, prosperity and reputation. Lies are good; truth is dangerous on too many levels.

If one chooses silence over a lie when the truth is demanded, the silence presumes a reason to obscure truth. Offering a lie in the stead of truth relieves those aspersions and suppositions. Lies have gained a modicum of credibility in our society. We know the lies, but we cannot admit them. That would spoil the effect. We would have to pay our debts, keep our word and suffer the consequences of accountability. So, we lie and accept a lying society, bearing the resultant evils as payback for the benefits of self-deception.

The lie has become our truth. Our lies are cal-louses for our consciences.