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Poor Andy Rooney!

Last December, 60 Minutes star Andy Rooney asked if it wasn't about time that people took more responsibility for their own health and stopped such behavior as smoking, eating too much, drinking too much, and "homosexual unions."

The "gay community" went berserk at the suggestion that sodomy might cause AIDS, or that its practitioners might be in some way responsible for the consequences of their conduct. (I know it's hard to believe, but that's the official line in such places as New York City.)

Andy Rooney, in a hilarious (if imprudent) letter of explanation, said he was no more biased against gays than against smokers, he just didn't "want to be in a small room with either one."

Calling the Sensitivity Police! In 1990, big star or not, you're not supposed to express such sentiments about Official Victims. So CBS forced him into an apologetic interview with The Advocate, a homosexual magazine filled with classified ads for pervert prostitutes.

The reporter--who certainly had an axe to grind, and that's not easy with a limp wrist--claimed that Rooney said "I've believed all along that most people are born with equal intelligence, but blacks have watered down their genes because the less intelligent ones are the ones that have the most children." He is also charged with saying that blacks drop out of school, have illegitimate children, and use drugs out of all proportion to their numbers.

Rooney denied making the remarks (although only in today's crazed environment could such statements get you in trouble) and the gay reporter had no tape recorder, yet CBS took his word over their 41-year employee. Some charges these days smear just by being made.

Andy Rooney has been suspended without pay for three months, and my guess is that he is as dead as Jimmy the Greek. What an outrage! This is exactly the sort of conduct the liberals at CBS call McCarthyism, except when they do it.

The liberals promised us release from guilt, points out Murray N. Rothbard of the Ludwig von Mises Institute, and they did abolish sexual guilt (and gave us widespread sodomy, AIDS, promiscuity, illegitimacy, and abortion in the bargain). But they imposed a thousand new guilts over racism, sexism, speciesism, ageism, and homophobia (the dread belief that normal sexual conduct is superior to abnormal).

Even absent Christianity (or AIDS), natural law proves that sexuality ought to be restricted to marriage (between a man and a woman, I guess I have to say these days.) Approval of anything else means societal disintegration. No wonder America is falling apart morally.

And Speaking of Falling Apart Morally...

I bought my first copy of the men's fashion magazine GQ to read Michael Kelly's article on Sen. Teddy Kennedy (D-MA). It was well worth the price to see this drunken, philandering bum and icon of liberalism as he really is.

At an important Senate meeting, says Kelly, Teddy "walks with a nervous, cautious shuffle." Holding a piece of paper to read introductions of men he's known for decades, "it flutters and shakes in the still air."

"Up close, the face is a shock. The skin has gone from red roses to gin blossoms. The tracery of burst capillaries shines faintly through the scaly scarlet patches that cover the bloated, mottled cheeks. The nose that once was straight and narrow is now swollen and bulbous."

"Deep corrugations crease the forehead and angle from the nostrils and the downturned corners of the mouth. The Chiclet teeth are the color of old piano keys. The eyes have yellowed too, and they are so bloodshot, it looks as if he's been weeping."

This is the king of the Democratic Party, after decades of promiscuity and booze. Maybe the ghost of Mary Jo Kopechne haunts him from Chappaquiddick. It ought to.

In Washington, says Kelly, it seems as if "everyone knows someone who has slept with Kennedy, been invited to sleep with Kennedy, seen Kennedy drunk, been insulted by Kennedy."

GQ says Kennedy has a high-ranking aide whose only job is procuring women. A tax-paid pimp, in other words. People at Desiree, a Georgetown nightclub, talk about Kennedy's fondness