

Smart is Back?

To the Editor,

4-7-11

“Smart is Back”. That’s all that was on that bumper sticker. I’d have had no idea what it was in reference to if the person didn’t have another bumper sticker right below it that read: “Obama 08”.

I’ve heard elsewhere that his supporters believe he is the smartest man to have ever occupied the oval office. I’m not so sure about that.

Maybe he’ll release his IQ test results for us. Nah, that wouldn’t be too smart. If we were allowed to see his IQ test, but not his birth certificate, that would surely raise a few eyebrows.

So I guess we’ll have to accept the fact that his academic success is an indication of his intelligence. Well I’m not so sure of that either.

I used to debate a fellow about ideology and politics on a regular basis until one day when he noticed the MENSA membership plaque my wall. He nodded his head toward it and said: “I have a P-H-D after my name. Do you know what that means?” Without hesitation, I replied: “It means you learned what they taught you.” Well you’d have thought I had driven a stake through his heart by the expression on his face. He turned on his heel and left without a word and never came back. Which I consider a blessing because he used to suggest things like; Jesus’ birth made a good case for abortion.

After he left and I began to think about what my retort had implied, I realized I had inadvertently revealed a horrible truth to him. Academic success does not convey intelligence. You can have all the “knowledge” in the world memorized but you wouldn’t be able to use it without intelligence.

Intelligence means you can put two or more truths together and draw an accurate conclusion. But they have to be truths that you are dealing with. President Reagan once said: “It’s not that Liberals are ignorant. It’s just that they know so much that just isn’t so”.

That pretty much explains why liberal academics can’t think their way out of a wet paper bag, and why for all their efforts, the Obama presidency will continue to be an abysmal failure.

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