

Brilliant Propaganda

by Earl P. Holt III

The other night, *To Kill a Mockingbird* was shown on the *Turner Classic Movies* (TCM) cable channel. It is a brilliantly written, acted and directed film and quite faithful to the book by the same title. It may also be the most dishonest piece of propaganda ever fabricated outside the old USSR.

If all black men were like Tom Robinson, AMERICA WOULD NEVER HAVE HAD A "RACE PROBLEM." As his character is portrayed in the film, Tom Robinson is a dignified, honorable and hard-working family man, the sort who would have earned primarily the respect of rural and small-town Southern men. In contrast to the film's fraudulent portrayals of race in the South, chivalrous and law-abiding blacks rarely ran afoul of whites. That was true then and it's true now.

Equally important, by virtue of the greater concentration of blacks in the South and the greater frequency of their inevitable interactions with whites, Southern whites were infinitely better able to assess the individual characters of blacks than their Yankee "*cousins*" in the North. As a result, Southerners have always been in a far better position to distinguish the decent ones from the thieving and violent majority.

A perfect example of this is *Calpurnia*, Atticus Finch's housekeeper: Her relationship with Atticus Finch and his two kids was probably the most accurate relationship between whites and blacks portrayed in the film. Over the years, Calpurnia had earned the trust and respect of Atticus Finch, including significant amounts of authority and discretion to discipline his children when necessary. She essentially became "*family*."

A bright man raised in Memphis once told me that Southern whites are often capable of loving and accepting individual blacks into the bosom of their "*family*," while primarily feeling nothing but contempt for blacks in general. In contrast, Yankees tend to love blacks in the abstract, but rarely like them as individuals nor seek out their company. This seeming paradox stems from the contrasting levels of experience with blacks that distinguish the South from the North.

Another truly dishonest element in the film occurred in Atticus Finch's closing remarks at the end of Tom Robinson's criminal trial. He made the following statement in his summation: It is an "*evil assumption...that all negroes lie, all negroes are basically immoral beings, all negro men are not to be trusted around our women, an assumption that...is in itself, a lie that I do not need to point out to you.*"

I WISH Atticus Finch *HAD* taken the time to point out to the audience his evidence for rejecting what he termed all those "*evil assumptions.*" I'd really like to hear it. My conclusions are starkly different from his, and it's pretty obvious that MY evidence is pretty compelling.

The black race dominates the FBI's *Uniform Crime Reports* each year, particularly those categories involving the violent crimes of robbery, rape, murder and aggravated assault. Blacks also commit a majority of all property crimes. As I have pointed out in these pages numerous times, blacks OWN the murder statistics in the U.S., and probably commit 90% or more of all murders each year.

Another index of black immorality would be the black illegitimacy rate. It is over 80% nationwide, and over 90% in our large urban cesspools. That black illegitimacy rate is also pretty compelling evidence that -- contrary to the assumptions of Atticus Finch and other leftists -- most

blacks DO tend to be immoral beings. The black populations in our state prison systems reiterate this fact.

Moreover, blacks are approximately 50 times as likely to commit an inter-racial violent crime against a white as the reverse. The most recent evidence I have is for 2018, which is typical. That year blacks committed 537,000 violent crimes against whites, while whites committed only 56,400 inter-racial crimes against blacks.

Thus blacks commit TEN TIMES as many inter-racial crimes against whites as whites commit against blacks, even though the population of blacks in the U.S. is about one-fifth the white population. Thus, blacks are 50 times (5 X 10) more likely to commit such an offense as a white.

These numbers include the fact that black males rape about 40,000 white women each year, and those are merely the incidents that actually get reported. Most rapes of married white women are not reported for a variety of reasons. So much for Atticus Finch's insinuation that black men can be "*trusted around our women.*"

Another, particularly galling depiction to me was the idea that "*12 good men and true*" would sit by idly and allow an obvious miscarriage of justice to occur like the conviction of Tom Robinson in the film. Even "*hard-liners*" I have known in the ***Council of Conservative Citizens*** or ***Citizens' Councils of America*** would not have tolerated such an injustice as that done to an obviously innocent man.

While serving as jurors, they might have been particularly harsh with criminals -- both black and white -- but no one I've ever known was even close to the *hollow men* that are depicted as jurors in the film. Christianity and a strong sense of justice would have militated against such a thing.

***To Kill a Mockingbird* is a beautiful film from the standpoint of its artistic and aesthetic merits, but it is a very skewed and dishonest depiction of the interaction of blacks and whites in the South during the *Great Depression*.**

To rely on its "*straw-man*" portrayal of Southern whites as historically accurate would be to pile on just one more miscarriage of justice.