

considers himself superior to ordinary folks for two conflicting reasons: first, he constantly proclaims his belief in human equality, while they don't; and second, he has a high IQ, while they don't. Further, he believes his brains weren't the luck of his genes. No, he earned them—which in turn means he feels that dumb people deserve to be dumb.

Ivy League presidents aren't much worried that the left half of the bell curve will get themselves well enough organized to challenge the hegemony of the IQ overclass. What they fear is opposition to their use of IQ sorting mechanisms, such as the politically incorrect but crucial SAT, from those identity politics pressure groups which perform below average in a pure meritocracy, such as women, blacks, and Hispanics. They each boast enough high-IQ activists, like Nancy Hopkins, to make trouble for prestigious universities.

So Harvard, like virtually all famous universities, buys off females and minorities with "a commitment to diversity"—in other words, quotas. By boosting less competent women, blacks, and Hispanics at the expense of the more marginal men, whites, and Asians, Harvard preserves most of its freedom to continue to discriminate ruthlessly on the basis of IQ.

What is obviously in the best interest of Harvard and of the IQ aristocracy in general, is for everybody just to shut up about group differences in intelligence. Stifling arguments allows the IQ upper class quietly to push its interests at the expense of everyone else. So Summers bought peace fast.

Of course, he won't pay the price. Our sons will. ■

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# Republican Race Card

Conservatives learn the liberal game.

By **W. James Antle III**

A BLACK ACTIVIST GROUP issued an angry press release: some senators were trying to block the nomination of an African-American woman to a senior government position, engaging in what the organization described as "blatant racism." The minister who serves as the group's president referred to the senators as a lynch mob and likened them to Bull Connor, the infamous Birmingham police commissioner who used attack dogs and fire hoses against civil-rights protesters in the 1960s.

Many statements similar in tone and content regularly circulate on the newswires, but there were several things that made this one unusual. The outraged group, a 501c3 outfit called the Brotherhood Organization of a New Destiny (BOND), and its leader, the Rev. Jesse Lee Peterson, were conservative. The senators being criticized were all liberal Democrats. And the nominee in question was Condoleezza Rice, who in the end was confirmed by 85 to 13 in the Senate for the office of secretary of state in a Republican administration.

President Bush's frequently stated goal of creating a more inclusive GOP may have lasting effects on American racial politics. Although the party is still far from being truly competitive among minority voters, Bush has assembled a remarkably diverse cabinet and compiled an impressive list of historic firsts—the first black secretary of state, the first black woman secretary of state, and, at this writing, likely the first Hispanic attorney general. This has increasingly put liberals in the uncomfortable

position of criticizing minority Bush appointees and has prompted many conservatives to defend those nominees with equal vigor.

These conservatives often maintain that such appointees are treated particularly unfairly by the Left as punishment for wandering off the "liberal plantation." The contention is that liberals cannot accept that blacks, Hispanics, or Asian Americans could possibly be conservative Republicans. But critics counter that these arguments mirror the type of race-baiting once roundly condemned on the Right. *American Prospect* writer Sam Rosenfeld has labeled this tactic "the conservo-race card," which he described as "that unseemly knee-jerk imputation of racism and racial victimhood whenever a minority conservative is criticized."

Either way, during the Rice confirmation hearings the debate in some circles revolved around race as much as foreign policy. Reverend Peterson called the delay in her confirmation "a slap in the face to all black Americans." Many conservatives seized on Sen. Robert Byrd's (D-W. Va.) prominent role in extending the debate on Rice's nomination. Byrd was a recruiter for the Ku Klux Klan during the 1940s and remained a determined opponent of civil-rights legislation for decades afterward, though like the late Republican Strom Thurmond, he later disavowed his segregationist past.

"Whatever the reason," wrote columnist Mark Steyn in the *Chicago Sun-Times*, "the sight of an old Klansman blocking a little colored girl from Birm-