## You're Not Worth Dying For

We've all seen the evolving wokeness of the U.S. military. That wokeness is now growing so entrenched that *American Thinker*'s Andrea Widberg asks the question that many of us are wondering: "Is Biden deliberately destroying America's military defenses?"

Turning the attention of readers to a new program offered by the U.S. Air Force Academy for "gender minorities," Widberg shares the Academy's announcement for the Brooke Owens Fellowship:

If you are a cisgender woman, a transgender woman, non-binary, agender, bigender, two-spirit, demi gender, genderfluid, genderqueer, or another form of gender minority, this program is for you. If you are a cisgender man, this program isn't for you...but we encourage you to check out our spin-off programs, the Patti Grace Smith Fellowship and the Matthew Isakowitz Fellowship Program!

Two items from Widberg's article snagged my attention. The first has to do with that necklace of gender lingo, which brought a chuckle. You could catch me at the brightest moment of my day—around sunrise after I've downed a couple of mugs of coffee—put a gun to my head, demand I define those neologisms, and with one or two exceptions, all you'd get in reply would be a dumbfounded shrug. I don't know the meaning of that gobbledygook, and for the sake of my mental health I don't want to know.

The second attention-grabber was a thread, embedded in Widberg's article, in which a Twitter user, "Iraqveteran8888," explains why no one wants to join the military these days. He lists some excellent reasons, but the first sentence in his fifth point struck home: "You're not worth dying for."

To provide some context for that assertion, here's the entire paragraph:

You're not worth dying for. Think about it. Society has spent the last 4-6 years telling us how bad America is, how bad military and law enforcement members are, and how unfair life is in our Country. We've been told our masculinity is toxic and that we are racists.

If by society "Iraqveteran8888" means our government, its mouthpiece the corporate media, many of our institutions of indoctrination from kindergarten to medical schools, and the woke gangs that roam social media, then I'm on board with him. Whether deliberately or through almost unimaginable stupidity, the smug preening "elites" who have brought America to her knees deserve neither our loyalty nor our sacrifices. They and their policies are especially not worth the death of a single soldier.

So that you don't think I'm some old guy off on a rant, let me explain my anger.

Right now, I have 10 grandsons. The oldest is a high school senior, a bright, boisterous, and personable young man who excels in the classroom and on the rugby field. He's unsure of his plans after graduation, but enlistment in the military is an option on the table.

I intend to sit that kid down and ask some questions, including:

"Why do you want to enlist?" If he replies that the military will give him a chance to sort out his options for life and pay for his education, I'll understand. It's not the noblest of motives—I've known several young people who have joined the Army or the Navy for the same reasons—but I get it.

If, however, he answers "I want to serve my country," I would

throw out question number two: "What country is that?"

Is it the land of the free, the birthplace of the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights, the country that encourages individual initiative, morality, and responsibility? Or is it that place—it doesn't deserve the name of country—where woke ideology is now the official policy of government, where a two-tier system of laws caters to the wealthy and the progressive, where power and money count more than virtue and truth?

I'll have him read the above Air Force memo, or some of the other woke propaganda being distributed in service academies and on bases around the country, ideologies imposed from the top down. I'll then ask him if he really wants to serve in an organization that at present derides and denigrates straight white males, especially those of a conservative bent. Why would he want to belong to a group that despises him?

Those who have charge of America right now are unworthy of my grandson or a few million other young people like him.

As "Iraquiveteran8888" declares, "You're not worth dying for."

I'd put it more strongly: "You're not worth spit."

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