

Canada: Modern but No Longer Very Democratic or Western

by Geoffrey Clarfield



I lived in two developing African countries for 16 years: Kenya and Tanzania. Despite their countries having been wracked by tribalism, corrupting Marxist ideologies, and violence, when you get to know East Africans one on one and in small groups, you will find them looking for the joy of life, deeply appreciative of what they have, funny, down to earth, tolerant of strangers, yet loyal to family and clan and desirous of development.

What do they mean by development? They mean a “country that functions,” a modern country with proper roads, clean water, dependable electricity, and border security, where financial corruption is minimal and nepotism disappears among a growing middle class that slowly takes over representative government from the tribal oligarchs. They would tell me, “A country just

like yours—[has this to say](#) about our predicament:

“Several weeks after Canadian Heritage Minister Steven Guilbeault introduced Bill C-10, I started a 20 part blog post series called the [defend the indefensible](#): a gag order on committee review of the bill, the first such order in two decades. While the bill is in dire need of fixing, what occurred yesterday was far worse than a blunder. It was a betrayal. A betrayal of the government’s commitment to ‘strengthen Parliamentary committees so that they can better scrutinize legislation.’ A betrayal of the promise to do things differently from previous governments. A betrayal of Canada’s values as a Parliamentary [identity politics](#). This was before the trial even began. I was stunned. Collectivism of this nature is not the exception, it’s the rule, and it’s facilitated by the highest court in the land.

Recently, I read through the curriculum manual from the Toronto District School Board for the humanities and social sciences. The entire document is a thinly veiled endorsement of critical race theory and cultural Marxism. Here’s a choice quote:

“... correctly use terms relating to sex and gender equity (e.g., power relations, gender norms, intersectionality, gender representation, transgender, sexism).”

Intersectionality! The word “race” is mentioned 35 times in the document. In the 408-page document the word “liberty” is never mentioned. I searched the document a number of times looking for it and it did not come up.

I therefore conclude Canada is still modern—it has wonderful roads, communications, wealth, an educated citizenry—but it’s no longer democratic. The checks and balances of our once robust British legal system, based on the paramount rights of the individual, have been sacrificed to the Gods of identity

politics activists, multi-culturalists, cultural Marxists, and critical race theorists.

And Canada is no longer Western. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau agrees. He has publicly stated, "There is no core identity, no mainstream in Canada."

Well, there used to be. Canada was once modern, Western, and democratic. It fought bad guys. It stood up for the good guys (remember World War II?). No longer. I do know that my Tanzanian and East African friends will be appalled by all this, as they suffered terribly under Marxist regimes until the fall of the Berlin Wall and still want to see Canada as a democratic paragon. That's no longer the case.

As I love this country and its people, I hope things may change.

First published in the Epoch Times.