Healing the World: Can We Safely Rescue Those Who Wish Us Harm?

by David Solway



Recently, my wife and I received an invitation from a respected friend to attend an event in support of the beleaguered wrote: "It is baffling to me that the gravity of the situation for this tiny people — perhaps a million in all — has failed to arouse the critical mass of support it deserves in its darkest hour. ... If choices must be made, our government should prioritize victims of genocide over refugees."

I confess to deep-seated skepticism. A Kurdish religious sect practicing a syncretic faith blending elements of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, the Yazidi are strictly endogamous, observe a rigorous caste system and maintain an equally rigorous honor code. Yazidi considerable risk for their lives. If choices must be made, I am not sure the country needs another contingent of problematic immigrants or of refugees, despite the pitiful situation in which they find themselves.

Not all worthy causes are of equal merit. I do not understand why my friend and those associated with him are not, for example, appealing for contributions in aid of Israel whose people have been subject since 1948 and even before to Palestinian terror attacks, and are now suffering renewed rocket barrages as well as <u>Seven Noahide Laws</u> complementing the Ten Commandments, recognized by the U.S. and ratified by the 102nd Congress as <u>Jew-baiting</u> Thomas Lopez-Pierre, he of "greedy Jewish landlords" fame. As Karin McQuillan Other Democrat candidates such as Ilhan Omar, Scott Wallace and Leslie Cockburn have joined the anti-Semitic hatefest. "How much of this," McQuillan asks rhetorically, "will mainstream Jewish Democrats ... be willing to swallow?" Such evils have to be expected and constantly challenged. Indeed, the alt-Left (which is now the Left almost in toto) is typically anti-Semitic, anti-Israel and pro-BDS.

My counsel to the conferees was simple: be always vigilant, consider yourselves and your families first, and only then worry about the world. *Tikkun Olam* is all fine and dandy, but to set that messianic task before the imperative of self-preservation is foolishness personified — or as we say in Yiddish, *gantz meshugàs*. The many Jews abducted by socialist and communist ideologies are a testimony not only to their folly but to the power of biblical precept — especially the Book of the prophet <u>recent report</u> from the RAND Corporation reveals the enormous and unsustainable cost of this domestic invasion. Along with the destructive and bloody terror attacks

visited regularly upon host nations and the consequent disruption of civil life, it is estimated, the report reads, "that since 2004, terrorism has cost the EU about €185 billion in lost Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and around €5.6 billion in lost lives, injuries, and damage to infrastructure. It is argued that terrorism also harms trade, foreign direct investment and tourism ... as well as transport." The cost continues to mount. As for "article analyzing the report, go one better than Donald Trump in advocating "a complete moratorium on further immigration from the geographies and ideologies of concern" (italics mine). Similarly, in the words of <u>Michael Walsh</u> at PJ Media, "The issue of 'immigration' has now reached a critical mass on both sides of the Atlantic, with Latin Americans marching on the U.S. across the southern border and mostly Muslim 'migrants' trekking to the European version of El Norte — France, Germany, and England."

As we reach the inflexion point, assuming we have not yet passed it, nations that once celebrated the "diversity" and "tolerance" canard are now closing their borders and beginning to expel the waves of "migrants" to prevent the "relentless assault on national sovereignty and political borders" whose effect is to bring "the civilized First World down to the nasty, brutish level" of the Third World. "This is not intolerance, or racism, or xenophobia (which can sometimes be very useful)," Walsh concludes, "but prideful self-preservation."

So much for policy-driven compassion and magnanimity, principles which are now being re-thought and reversed by various nations and afflicted regions — Italy, Spain, Austria, and the Visogràd Group. The Noahide Laws, specifically the Seventh, and *Tikkun Olam* have not healed the world at large, though it will have benefitted the alien and often hostile cultures that have installed themselves among us. A noble cause can be lethal.

One thing is clear. Whether in the Jewish community in

particular or the Judeo-Christian West as a whole, programmatic solicitude for the poor, the disadvantaged and the suffering of other nations and cultures can, *if not properly monitored*, wreak havoc and perhaps lasting damage to our own. As my wife wrote, it is not as if we don't have lots of problems of our own — which, I might add, are only exacerbated by the problems we have imported.

There is no such thing as "universal humanity" in the sense that we all want the same things. We don't. Some peoples and cultures are manifestly not civilizational partners. If we are determined to extend our concern and hospitality to the afflicted in other parts of the world, let us at least ensure that that those we allow into our country share our customs, civics and values, are willing and eager to integrate, and are able to contribute to the well-being and prosperity of the nation. Failing this obligation, we can look forward to increasing levels of social turmoil, cultural fragmentation and economic vandalism — in short, a general decline in both our standard of living and our criteria of civil order.

Lest I be accused of heartlessness, let me say that I have empathy for the Yazidis and wish them a better fate, but I have greater empathy for the Christian communions being systematically erased from the Middle East, for Israel struggling to survive under the Islamic scimitar, and for the citizens of my own country and the peoples of the Judeo-Christian West who have realized, hopefully not too late, the exorbitant cost of *Tikkun Olam*.