

YOUR VIEWS

Vote with your head

I have never been able to figure people out who ignore logic and reason. But I'll typically give the benefit of the doubt because so many people vote with their hearts and not their heads. But when a person's heart is given every reason not to vote for a particular candidate, yet they still do, it's clear to me that there's an underlying reason.

I'm a lifelong Catholic, but anyone who knows me knows that I'm not the most evangelical person around and am rarely the one carrying the torch for Christianity. But I've sat back for five years and watched an anti-Christian then-candidate and now President Barack Obama give Christians every reason not to vote for him.

For those with their heads in the sand, here are a few reasons: Obama begins deliberately omitting the phrase about "the Creator" when quoting the Declaration of Independence; the Department of Veterans Affairs forbids references to God and Jesus during burial ceremonies; the Army issues guidelines for Walter Reed Medical Center stipulating that "No religious items (i.e. Bibles) are allowed to be given away or used during a visit."; while Obama does not host any National Day of Prayer event at the White House, he does host White House dinners in honor of Ramadan; in his book "Audacity of Hope" he writes: "I will stand with the Muslims should the political winds shift in an ugly direction."

Well, the winds have shifted and I for one see where he is standing.

Ironically, when challenged about his anti-Christian ways, Obama suddenly refers to his 20 years sitting in the hostile, Marxist church of the radical Rev. Jeremiah Wright — the very preacher Obama has tried so hard to distance himself from because of his ongoing racist rants against America.

I recently used this analogy when describing Christians who vote for Obama even after witnessing his glaringly anti-Christian ways: "It's like knowing your parents put your presents out for you at Christmas, yet still believing in Santa Claus." Vote with your head.

Paul Glasco
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Why build school in south Lake Charles?

What is the real reason behind the charter board's insistence of building the new charter school in south Lake Charles? In a recently published article, Charter board president, Gene Thibodeaux, said, "We are very interested in building in south Lake Charles." He also mentioned in the recent zoning meeting that the reason behind wanting to build in south Lake Charles was to address what he perceived to be an overcrowding issue in south Lake Charles schools and to give parents there an option. What does this mean for current students who live outside of south Lake Charles?

Based on a conversation with a charter school employee, it's my understanding that an overwhelming majority of the charter school's

current students live outside a five-mile radius from the desired location in south Lake Charles. Why would the charter board want to locate the school so far away from its current students? Why not build near the I-10 Chloe exit for a much easier commute and to attract students from surrounding parishes as their charter suggests? What exactly is the long-term plan? Do they realize how much of a hardship they would be placing on their parents who would be driving through several crowded school zones in south Lake Charles twice per day?

They're saying they will eventually provide buses. If they do, it is my understanding that they will have to pay actual cost of transportation

(buses, driver salary and benefits, maintenance and fuel) which would cut deeply into their limited budget. Their recent traffic study stated that there was no information on buses and that it was presumed that all students would be transported by private vehicles.

Are they hoping for current parents to become discouraged with the difficult drive through all of the south Lake Charles school zones in order to open student slots and make them available to south Lake Charles students? I urge the current charter parents and community to look closely at this and ask questions. As the saying goes, things are not always what they seem.

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