

The P Words

November 20, 2014

By Warren Watson

Last Revised January 24, 2015

The nastiest P word of them all is politics, and there are some bad ones, plagiarism, paranoia, phony, pretentious, Philistine, to name a few.

When Johnny Cash sung that one should not "go mixing politics with the folk songs of our land," he actually meant do not mix politics with anything. While some may be aware that one should certainly not mix politics with schools, science, the media, energy or friendships, nobody is aware that politics stop people from talking about the real threat to our very existence, another P word, the penguin.

Penguins, at this moment, are massing at the Southern reaches of our planet in such numbers that they will eventually take over the world. They have carefully chosen their location to be outside media coverage and human scrutiny.

Sure, there are a few intrepid travellers who know the truth because they have travelled to all seven continents, but nobody believes them when they say that the threat to our existence is not carbon but penguins. People who have never travelled to the far reaches of the planet figure that the people speaking out about penguins just have mental problems created from all that exposure to cold and desolation. In the distant past, intrepid explorers such as Ferdinand Magellan used to be treated the same way because they said the world was not flat and went out to prove it. Will human nature ever change?

Penguins are really nefarious and perhaps a little bitter that they cannot fly except on CIBC Adventura travel rewards commercials. Why else would they only exist where the waters are extremely not-inviting? Did anybody ever wonder why Canadians escape the cold by flocking to the beaches of Florida and Mexico and penguins don't? Cabo San Lucas should be inundated by penguins and not English speaking tourists. However, the penguin inundation will soon come if people do not stop talking about politics and start talking about those tuxedoed funny looking creatures instead. They should not get the last laugh.

By the way, no one ever wrote a song that one should not mix humour with anything. All humour aside, what do you think will happen when the penguins take over?

First of all, everybody will have to wear tuxedos all the time, even the women.

Secondly, people will be eating formal all the time. Sure people will still eat, but not a bird ever again. Turkeys and chickens will be freed and bands of wild turkeys and chickens will reek havoc on all the country sides making up for past captivity. Chickens will finally have time to hone their flying skills, and when in the air, they will be as vindictive as the worst can be imagined.

People will have to eat fish all the time. Perhaps they will be able to supplement their diets with wild cow but only when the authorities are not looking. One may think the authorities are bad now, but an incapable politician, winning on popularity, will be a far sight better than the penguin. The Nazis had a funny walk and so do the penguins.

Thirdly, animal rights will be prioritized and testing will be done on humans not animals. There will be no more mice with split ends because they tested the wrong conditioning shampoo.

Things will be bad with the penguins in charge, but how will it happen? Gradually or all of a sudden? Historians will know. Penguins may already be among us. Next time you see someone in a tuxedo, a doorman, an orchestra conductor, an usher in a wedding party, anybody with their nose in the air or anybody who really likes fish, look twice and you may see a penguin.