

PORTER RESPONDS TO ENGLISH VILIFICATION - 11/6/2006

PLEASE POST IMMEDIATELY!

From the start of the 2004 campaign until now, for the better part of three years, the English campaign has run not on English's record but on the vilification of me personally. It got to the point where I issued a defamation suit against them to which they will have to respond in a court of law.

Their posting on Politics PA is just another attempt on their part to divert attention from the real issues of this race to irrelevancies.

The recent slime of the English campaign which elicited my response was to call the media outlets on which my ads were running and to order them to withdraw my ads because they were not in compliance with regulations. Their attempt was to frighten the stations into pulling the ads and thus to reduce the broadcast of my message to the voters--a tactic often used by Hitler against the press of Germany in the 1930s.

There were no regulation errors in my ads and most of the stations involved simply refused to accept the browbeating. One station asked me to re-record my ads to state that I was a candidate for congress even though the ad already did so in the disclaimer "paid for by Porter for Congress." I complied out of courtesy.

The viciousness of English and his squad, usually headed by his "hatchet man" Brad Moore, is the real point of the story, not my righteous indignation. In fact, my standing up to the English tactics is exactly what has been lacking in American politics.

The swift boat attacks on John Kerry, the attacks on John Murtha, the sleaze of Ann Coulter against war hero Max Cleland--these have all gone unchallenged by righteous indignation. And my comments, moreover, were made in private, not public, so that they would not offend anyone but the people to whom they were directed.

English and his staff have made campaigning not a matter of the discussion of the issues but a contact sport with no rules for truth or fairness. And now that someone has had the testosterone to stand up to them, they cry like schoolyard bullies who have received a first punch in the nose.

American politics needs to change. English and his bullies need to grow up. The American people need to wake up and remove people like English from office--not just because he supported the war in Iraq and because his votes have lost 10,000 jobs for his district--but because he is such a sorry excuse for a statesman.

Remember, this is the man who took thousands from Abramoff and DeLay, the man whose special interest trip to Saipan led to his refusal to support an end to the sweatshops and prostitution rings of the island so that the textile industry of Communist China could be protected. This is the man who pledged to abide by 6 terms, to allow imported

prescription drugs from Canada, and to vote against CAFTA--and then broke his word on all three issues. This is the man who when asked how much money he gets from the health and insurance lobbies on the WPIC debate said "a very small percentage" when the actual amount is in the neighborhood of \$1.5 million (more than one-third of his PAC money).

It is Mr. English's character which should really be in question. His character, his votes, and his campaign filth.

I am proud to be angry at such a man, such policies, and such behavior.

Dr. Steven Porter
Democratic Candidate for Congress
PA-03

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