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Subject: Re: Secular democracy

Posted by [Spoony](#) on Sat, 23 Jan 2010 18:44:45 GMT

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SS wrote Any chance of Cameron having the balls to put an end to this appeasement madness? Of all the grand European parties, the Tories should in theory be at the forefront of doing something...

no, the only notable British political party who takes Islam seriously is the BNP, who are a racist party. I did consider voting for them in the past - their policies are better than Labour and the Tories' - but I can't bring myself to.

Quote: it's really puzzling how the situation is worse in the UK than in the supposedly pacifist, dastard Germany.

well, seems like modern German politicians would do anything they could to avoid thinking that they're persecuting a religious minority.

NukeIt15 wrote on Sat, 23 January 2010 11:44 Anybody care to look up the figures on elected officials who are atheists or agnostics... or, for that matter, anything besides Christians or Jews? I remember reading a while ago that there was a grand total of one man in Congress (California I think) who is openly atheist.

Quote: Up until only a few decades ago, even Jewish politicians would have been in for a hell of a fight trying to get elected anywhere in the US. If anybody's taken their history lessons on this side of the pond, they'll recall that John F. Kennedy's religion (Catholic) was a major issue during his election. Plenty of people opposed the guy just because he wasn't a Protestant Christian. yeah, I knew that.

Quote: Good luck ever putting a non-Christian of any flavor in the Oval Office. Religion is a heavy unwritten requirement to hold the office of President. Should it be? Fuck no. Yet there are enough people out there who would oppose any non-religious candidate on the grounds that he (or she, to be fair) would "destroy the moral fabric of the nation." The US doesn't have an established religion, huh? Please. We just don't have it in (Federal) writing. What do our elected officials swear on when they take office? A Bible. What do witnesses swear on before testifying in court? A Bible. Just in the past century, "In God We Trust" was put on all our currency. The Pledge of Allegiance was rewritten to include "under God." When somebody makes a public stink and asks for either to be changed back, the media reports the issue as if the way it is now is the way it has always been.

entirely true; I've said all this myself.

Quote: and you'd better not have a problem with swearing to God either.

there was a British guy, an atheist - I forget his name - elected to the House of Commons who objected to taking the British MP oath since it swears to the Christian God. He was basically told that he had to say it. I find this rather ridiculous... religious people would rather have an atheist swear an oath he doesn't mean, than make an honest oath.

I keep hearing about British politicians saying how they must always remember that they're accountable to a "higher power" (usually when they're caught fucking up, e.g. expenses scandal). I feel like slapping them. yes, they are answerable to a power that put them there... their

constituents.

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