

What it means to be 'Made in the USA'

Rady Large
Columnist

Made in Pakistan. Made in China. Made in El Salvador. Made in Mexico. These would have been unspeakable words when our grandparents were in their 20s. Yet today, it is hard to read the label of a T-shirt and not learn the capital of another former Soviet state.

I had a great geography lesson just the other day. This lesson was not taught by one of Elon's finest faculty, but by the campus shop. I went in to buy an Elon hooded sweatshirt for one of my friends that goes to Appalachian State University. What I found out was that the good people of Honduras know us very well.

Is all this neo-patriotism just flag waving or is anybody going to actually do something for his or her country? The American workingman and woman are crying out for help. They cannot stand alone in this time when wealthy corporations can dismiss the union and move their opera-

tions outside the borders. The blue collars of America need our help against the sweatshop-driven greed that has given them the pink ticket. The business that puts money in the hands of sweatshop lords and takes food away from the single mother of Idaho is an evil business.

Buying American made products that are made by American citizens will help our country and the world. It will generate jobs for our economy that is in danger of falling into recession. This simple action will also assure that no sweatshop labor was used in the making of the clothing.

The only way for the third world to advance is to totally disassociate from American business and build off their culture. Besides, it is better to feed an American working person than put another diamond ring on the rich elite of the third world.

Let us truly stand united as a country and as a world community. Buy American! No more sweatshops! Dear God, let peace be near.

LETTERS

Parent agrees with faculty on terrorist issues; praises The Pendulum

To the Editor:

Bravo to the faculty and staff for reminding Bush that revenge is not justice.

We, as a nation, must rise above the terrorists and behave with honor. There is no honor in killing innocent people.

As an Elon parent, I appreciate The Pendulum. Keep up the good work!

Sarah Nightingale
Elon Parent

Write to The Pendulum

Letters to the editor are welcomed from all readers. They must include your name and phone number. Maximum length is 300 words. All letters are subject to editing and will not be returned.

■ E-mail: pendulum@elon.edu

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Proposed life penalty for data theft too stiff

Yael Li-Ron
Knight Ridder Newspapers

A new bill being considered in Congress calls for life in prison without a possibility of parole for people who engage in computer trespass (also known as hackers). Obviously, the Anti-Terrorism Act is the direct result of the Sept. 11 attacks, but several organizations are already crying foul over its implications.

Most noticeably, the Electronic Frontier Foundation has publicly condemned the bill, saying the punishment is too severe, potentially sending "relatively harmless pranksters" to prison for life. The bill treats low-level computer intrusion, already a crime under existing laws, as an act of terrorism.

Which means that a misguided teen-ager who engages in breaking and entering into a computer network somewhere will be tantamount to committing an act of terrorism and will

go to prison forever. Murderers often get less than that. Yet Attorney General John Ashcroft is asking Congress to rush the bill's passage, which doesn't give us a whole lot of time to let our elected officials know how we feel about that bill.

The ATA also has far-reaching implications on privacy and the Fourth Amendment by clearing the way for wiretaps without court orders.

In particular, your e-mail and voicemail are not private anymore, nor are your Web browsing habits (the latter can be easily tracked by inspecting the contents of your cookies). And the proposed bill doesn't take any chances-it applies retroactively, too.

The bill will no doubt hasten the wide use of the controversial Carnivore snoop program used by the FBI, which can crack just about most any encoded message posted to the Web or e-mail. Sure, we need to find and stop terrorists for good, but if we give up our civil liberties today, we'll never get them back.

The ACLU naturally joins the fight against the direction the ATA is taking, saying "We need to ensure that actions by our government uphold the principles of a democratic society, accountable government and international law, and that all decisions are taken in a manner consistent with the Constitution."

In a related story, FTC chairman Timothy J. Muris announced last week that his agency won't seek more aggressive online privacy laws, which the Congress last year was set to consider.

In fact, according to the Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC, www.epic.org), another civil-liberties watchdog, more than 200 new privacy laws have been proposed in Congress in the past year, and not one of them ever made it to a committee.

"What Would Jesus Do?" *The definition of a true Christian*

Ben Moore
Columnist

In the past decade, Christians have striven to live by the question "What Would Jesus Do?"

Over the past few weeks, many Conservative Christian leaders have spoken out on what America and the world should do in response to terrorism. I think that these leaders have ignored the words and actions of Jesus. Thus, they are not living by "WWJD?"

I know that many people are not Christian and that this may seem uninteresting to them. I also know that "WWJD?" is not a slogan that everyone cares for. This is what the religion comes from though, so the question must be asked.

These leaders have said that

violence is an acceptable response from the Christian standpoint. However, this does not jive with anything Jesus said or did.

Nowhere in any of the four Gospels does Jesus ever condone violence. In fact, Jesus speaks out against the only form of violence the Law had previously condoned.

Jesus says in Matthew 5:38-39 "You have heard that it was said 'an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also."

And in 43-44 he says, "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

Jesus did not say return vio-

lence with violence. Instead, he said love even your enemies.

These leaders argue that the governments were ordained by God to exact justice on the wicked. Jesus does not seem to have this take, however.

In John 16:11 Jesus says, "the rulers of this world have been condemned." It does not seem like Jesus thinks that the rulers were ordained by God. In fact, the opposite is true. Jesus says that the judgment of this world is wrong because the rulers have already been condemned.

This means that anyone who is really trying to follow Christ must be willing to disagree with the government when it goes against what Jesus has said.

When I became a Christian, I declared that I would follow Christ. Jesus told us to turn the

other cheek, and to give whatever is asked and then more.

"What Would Jesus Do?" right now?

I think Jesus would send the largest aid package ever to the people who have no food, drink or shelter. I think that Jesus would say that these people are hurting and that is why they have attacked.

If we are going to do what Jesus would then we must be charitable, even to our enemies. The government will act however it chooses to act but Christians have been called to protest these actions.

Christian leaders have some interesting ideas pertaining to the recent attacks but that does not make the ideas Christian.

To be a Christian means to follow Christ.