

The JIM! gram is a publication of Jim Jatras, the only announced prospect for the 2016 GOP Vice Presidential nod, addressing the daunting challenges facing our great country. Reposting and redistribution with attribution is permitted and encouraged.

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In this issue of *TheJIM!gram*[©] I submit that:

It's Time for a Protestant On the Supreme Court

From the founding of the Republic until 1836, every Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court was not only male but a WASP (White Anglo-Saxon Protestant).

That changed with the first Roman Catholic elevated to the Court, Roger B. Taney of *Dred Scott* infamy. Two other Catholics were appointed in the 1890s. The idea took hold of an informal representative "Catholic seat" on the Court.

The first Jewish Justice, Louis Brandeis, was confirmed in 1916. Thurgood Marshall, the first African-American, in 1967. The first woman, Sandra Day O'Connor, in 1981. The first Hispanic, Sonia Sotomayor, in 2009. Given our admirable passion for representative fairness, I suppose we should be scouting out talented jurists who are (fill in the blank) Asian, Native American, Mormon, Muslim, Scientologist, avowedly atheist, openly gay, bisexual, transgender, differently abled, and so forth.

But hold on a minute! In our zeal for diversity on the Court, we somewhere seem to have lost track of somebody. There is not a single WASP on today's Supreme Court – indeed <u>not a single Protestant</u> of any racial, linguistic, or gender description.

Especially as the Court has become less and less a judicial referee – as the *Obergefell* decision on same-sex marriage recently reminded us – than effectively a super-legislature that feels entitled to impose the robed solons' personal preferences on the nation, fair representation is more important than ever. It is intolerable that not one member of America's founding *ethnos* and core demographic sits on our highest panel as it just makes up stuff nowhere to be found in the Constitution.

I am not a WASP or even a Protestant, but I believe it's time for a Protestant to be named to fill the next Supreme Court vacancy. Ideally, the nominee should be from one of the confessions that dominated the United States at our founding (an Episcopalian, a Congregationalist, or a Quaker), but I could be persuaded of the merits of a Methodist, a Lutheran, a Baptist or other Evangelical, or even (going out on limb here) a <u>Presbyterian</u>. Note that nothing in the Constitution requires Justices to be lawyers – another testament to the Founding Fathers' timeless perspicacity.

MY PLEDGE: If I am selected for the Republican Vice Presidential nomination and am privileged to assume that august post in January 2017, I pledge to use my considerable influence with President Whoever-ends-up-the-GOP-nominee to ensure that at least one qualified Protestant is named to the Supreme Court.

This *TheJIM!gram*[©] is being tweeted to each of the Republican Presidential candidates.

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If you liked this *TheJIM!gram*[©], please endorse me for <u>Vice President</u> by tweeting with the hashtag #JimJatrasVeep. I am more than pleased to answer non-frivolous media questions about issues of public interest. Tweet me at <u>@JimJatras</u>. Contributions to support my issue education and public information activities can be made at <u>www.repealfatca.com</u>, and purchases of my unique phonetic conversion font <u>www.EurAlfabet.com</u> are appreciated. If you *didn't* like this *TheJIM!gram*[©], then just mind your own business.

