

## FURIOUS FOTOG PRESS RELEASE

As a person and an artist, I espouse my beliefs in having a vision and values and following those in a manner that respects people at its core.

As a businessman I've worked to instill those visions, values, and behaviors into my business and brand, too. Of those, there are two that in recent days that have jumped out at me more than others:

- "I will act with ethics and integrity in all I do and treat others with equal respect..."
  and
- "I take pride in the diversity of individuals who choose to work with me..."

It is important to me these values be expressed in a fundamental way.

With that said, the idea of a slippery slope may not be one everyone believes in, but it can't be denied that monumental decisions are oftentimes turning points that are rarely singular. They tend, with a force as gentle as getting hit by a freight train, to take down many other things over time. Messily. Those in lofty positions driving this train do not care about those of us in the way, even exempting themselves from countless "beneficial" requirements forced upon us every single day.

We are there now, and we have sadly been for quite some time, far longer than society's short-term memory can recall.

It is important that we realize everyone has the inalienable right to be free in pursuit of their best life, seek liberty, and exist in happiness.

- Not just the people who look like you.
- Not just the people at your level of wealth.
- Not just the people who live in the same few square miles as you.
- Not just the people you know directly.

The moment we use (or rather twist) our own beliefs and opinions to impinge upon another's rights to ALL his, her, or their own choices, to follow through with the decisions they've made, and, yes, even to experience consequences of those actions, we've crossed a line into deeply personal territory where we don't belong. It's not my place to be there amidst their personal choices and struggles, but I feel it is my duty to understand the need for people to make those choices for themselves.

**For those hurting now, I see you**, and long for the day of seeing things (start to) get back to a semblance of the Land of the Free, and not merely the "Land Just For Me".

Golden Czermak

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