

Lies and Self-Contradiction at www.fairwiki.org

bob mccue

June 16, 2006

<http://mccue.cc/bob/spirituality.htm>

See http://www.fairwiki.org/index.php/Lies_and_self-contradiction and its reference to some of my writing to see what I mean. I downloaded this information on the date above.

Some people either have way too much time on their hands, or are desperate. My guess is that I know the apologist who is behind the parts of the nice work that deals with me, given some email I have received from him.

This material is a riot. Someone has taken statements of general principle from talks I wrote while Mormon (see <http://mccue.cc/bob/documents/Mothers%20Day.pdf>) and compared them to things I have written post-Mormon, and suggests on that basis that I am lying, don't know what I am talking about, etc. and hence should not be believed.

For example, consider the entry under “Demands on Mothers”. Under the column “The Facts (taught pre-apostasy)” one finds quotes from a talk I gave during a Mother’s Day sacrament meeting that lay out a number of principles that I still think are correct. I was sensitive enough to my audience and my wife not to describe her difficulties, to the extent I then understood them. For that reason I stuck to general principles and said as many positive things about my wife, mother, grandmother, mother-in-law etc. as I could.

In fact, the principles I laid out had been under active discussion between my wife and me for some time as I tried to persuade her to live in accordance with them; to take control of her life; to stop allowing Mormon responsibilities to run her over; to take more time for herself; to build herself up; etc. I was suffering severe cog dis at that time as I woke up to how dysfunctional our Mormon lives were, and was trying to make our life become more functional.

And this is not to say that my wife had all the problems. I have lots of things to say about my role and how it needed to be improved. I still think that talk is pretty good.

This is then contrasted with my statement post-Mormonism that:

“My wife has been depressed in varying degrees and in ill health throughout most of our marriage, largely as a result of the unrealistic demands she, I and LDS culture have placed upon her.”

For some reason during a Mother’s Day talk I chose to speak of positive general principles instead of telling the ward about my wife’s problems. Go figure. And the reason I wrote the talk up is that so many people came up to me afterwards and asked for my notes, saying how much they had needed to hear what I said; how much they needed to get a grip on their lives; etc. Clearly my wife and I were not the only ones in the room

who were struggling with this kind of thing. It is high irony that this is now used to indicate that I don't understand the Mormon experience.

And so fairwiki drags its dreary length along. The sad thing is that the credibility level of people who need to believe is so low that this tripe will be persuasive for some. Lies and Self-Contradiction indeed.

The following are posts made at the www.exmormon.org bulletin board re. the above.

best,
bob

Subject: Untrue statement
Date: Jun 16 14:43
Author: CLee
Mail Address: FAIR_apologists_are_liars@runyan.biz

"There is no doctrine requiring someone to exhaust themselves." is offensive, there is in fact a doctrine that says just that.

"A religion that does not require the sacrifice of all things never has power sufficient to produce the faith necessary unto life and salvation. . . . It was through this sacrifice, and this only, that God has ordained that men should enjoy eternal life" - Joseph Smith (Lectures on Faith).

And there are hundreds or thousands of possible quotes on service and accepting callings. But of course they know that, another case of apologists lying for the "Lard".

Subject: I don't even understand it
Date: Jun 16 15:50
Author: Nightingale
Mail Address:

OK. I am really tired today. I'll try again later. But for now, the thing isn't even making sense to me. I think they are missing a vital principle, such as how your perspective can change when you start to widen the view-finder a bit. I think a person can change their minds drastically, in the face of information of which they were previously unaware. That in no way makes them a "liar".

For now, in the face of my confusion at trying to follow the apologetic thinking, I will take comfort in what Tal told me once - that if it isn't making sense to you, that is a good thing!

Subject: Do they not think about this...

Date: Jun 16 15:56

Author: Mad Viking

Mail Address:

before they write it?

>>"...examples of self-contradiction—instances in which... says or writes one thing, and then makes another statement elsewhere that flatly contradicts their first statement.

>>These examples... suggest caution is warranted before accepting these authors as reliable witnesses when they speak of their own experiences connected with "Mormonism." One should also be cautious of accepting their account of primary sources without double-checking."

I wonder if they are willing to apply this standard across the board.

While reading that page I kept thinking to myself, "Is this the best they can do?"

Subject: Straining at gnats...

Date: Jun 16 16:02

Author: jbagley

Mail Address:

"The LDS leaders lied? Oh yeah? Well, you lied too."

Of course you didn't lie. It's one of their most despicable defences-claim the other guy did the bad thing too.

Close behind is their claim that we don't understand mormonism because we no longer attend church.

Subject: Attack the messneger...attack the messenger... attack the messenger... n/t

Date: Jun 16 16:08

Author: Stray Mutt

Mail Address: al_phamale@yahoo.com

Subject: Grasping at 14 year old girls – www.fairwiki.org

Date: Jun 16 16:29

Author: Cats

Mail Address:

I find this statement telling from their Wiki - "Some people have concluded that Helen did have sexual relations with Joseph, which would have been proper considering that they were married with her consent and the consent of her parents."

http://www.fairwiki.org/index.php/Joseph_Smith%27s_marriages_to_young_women

So prostitute your child for the Lawd is a good thing? This site is going to "help" people go exmo.

Subject: Bob - FAIRS & FARMS - A question

Date: Jun 16 16:36

Author: Grey Matter

Mail Address: grey.matter@virgin.net

Bob

FAIRS and FARMS just do my head in. I can only spend a few seconds there, before I get the kind of feeling I would get if I were to watch a soap opera.

Incidentally, I've never watched a soap opera. I'd rather have my eyes plucked out. Whenever I think of soap operas, I just imagine some script writer, or set of script writers, putting together a heap of rubbish, and then huge numbers of sheeple hanging on every word, almost living the experience as some sort of bizzare reality.

FARMS and FAIR need to adopt as their logo,

"This is the best we can do"

Because, everyone I know who has gone to read their finest scripts, including myself, has asked,

"Is that the best they can do?"

Bob, why do you waste your time there? In doing this, you surprise me.

Kindest regards

Grey

Subject: I don't go there much ...
Date: Jun 16 17:33
Author: bob mccue
Mail Address: mccuer@telusplanet.net

The only time in several months, in fact, was to look at this stuff related to my writing on their new wiki. It was brought to my attention, and while I don't bother to respond to most of the insulting stuff that is said about me there, this was systematic enough, and pathetic enough, that I thought it should be countered.

You will find another post on the board now re. cognitive dissonance. Same deal there.

I agree that in general FAIR is a waste of time.

best,
bob

Subject: Re: Grasping at Straws – www.fairwiki.org
Date: Jun 17 00:57
Author: Michael
Mail Address:

I gave them some feedback...

"Lies and self-contradiction is another lame attempt at deflecting focus on the biggest lies of all – that the LDS Church is nothing more than a sham parading around as loving Christian church. As a former active, temple attending member of 30 years I can honestly say that I have seen both the public and private side of Mormonism. For the most part, the people are honorable and admirable. Many of them are not aware of the gaping holes in the church's claims and go on teaching them as though they were the actual "truth". Why is it that the church can not tolerate honest discussion about its claims? Why can't it tolerate individuals that speak out against the claims? What is the church afraid of? As I now see it, the leaders want to distance themselves as far and quickly as possible from claims that appear more absurd with every passing day. Church leaders are ashamed by the real LDS history – President Gordon "I don't know that we teach that" Hinkley is the poster child for this.

The crime of the LDS church is that it lures potential members in with "milk" and indoctrinates them with the "meat" at a pace that doesn't scare them off. For example, if I had been told about the throat slitting, naked touching temple ceremony before I joined I would have ran to the nearest exist.

So why don't you spend your time writing about the real issues and not blowing smoke screens to appease your self righteousness."

Michael

Subject: It's funny that the wiki author would see contradiction ...

Date: Jun 17 18:16

Author: Shmee

Mail Address:

When I read the pre- and post- "apostacy" statements (specifically regarding your wife), the post- are simply stating in clear terms the painful subtext of the pre- statements.

Thanks for all you contributions to the board, Bob :) !!!

Subject: I have a confession

Date: Jun 17 19:16

Author: Obi wan Kolobi

Mail Address:

Once from the stand, I said "I know that Joseph Smith was a true prophet." I have as an apostate said things that completely contradict that statement. Bob, that puts you in pretty questionable company.

I mean seriously, their attempts to discredit you through those means were so pathetic as to be laughable. They have no problem with pre-colombian horses but get their pubes tied in knots over someone changes their perspective after they leave the church. In the words of my friend Yoda "how embarrassing".