

Jared Strong Gets It Wrong

A Report on a Report by the Des Moines Register about Dave Leach & Matt McCoy
with analysis and additional information by Dave Leach

Des Moines Register headline: Leach puts social issues at forefront of campaign

By JARED STRONG • jstrong@dmreg.com • September 7, 2010

My comment: How does a reporter look at the range of issues on my website and conclude which one is at the “forefront”? My webpage banner says “Family values = Good Economics / As Fanatical as our Founders / At least I’m no weathervane”.

Leach *puts* social issues at forefront? McCoy IS a social issue!

Update: Strong posted the identical story a few days after Sept 7, and an almost identical story November 2, voting day, as if it were a fresh story.

He reprinted his second story after receiving my criticism of his first story, which includes the fact that he printed my 100 word statement when I took from his instructions that was my limit, instead of the 300 word statement I sent after he explained he meant that was my limit and I could send him more. Not only did he thus sidestep a strong defense of my position on abortion which would have made his preferred opening attack on me look silly, but he thus gave me 100 words to McCoy’s 300 words!

In his Nov 2 rehash, he subtracted from my 100 words, and added to McCoy’s 300!

The Nov 2 story is the same except that the opening was rewritten, and a few sentences from the rest were deleted, and as I said, McCoy’s statement was expanded. I color coded the story so you can tell which is which. Black: in the first two stories but not the third. Blue: in all 3 stories. Green: in the 3rd story but not the first two. Red: my comment.

The Des Moines man who gained national attention last year for his support of the killer of a Kansas abortion doctor will challenge a 14-year senator in the November election.

Dave Leach’s comment: What an opening! No mention of the nature of my “support”, which was a brief which Scott Roeder submitted into his record which, if successful, will bring an end to ALL the violence – in and outside the womb! Jared knew all that; in fact, he had my 200+ word statement explaining it, but he chose to censor it. You see, when he first emailed me, he made it sound like he was giving me 100 words total, so I sent him a terse, choppy statement. Then he clarified that he would accept about 300 words. So on September 2, I sent him a 311 word statement at 6:10 pm. 5 days before today’s article. He emailed back that he had received it, at 9:30 pm. So today, he censors the 200 word statement that upsets his characterization of me as the supporter of a killer, and instead prints the terse choppy original statement. My more complete statement is below.

Nov. 2 opening: Senate District 31: Two candidates offer sharp contrast. Voters will choose between Matt McCoy, a 14-year incumbent, and Dave Leach, who stresses social issues. The Des Moines man who gained national attention last year for his support of the killer of a Kansas abortion doctor will challenge a 14-year senator in the November election.

Dave Leach, 64, a Republican, has put social issues at the forefront of his campaign against Matt McCoy, 44, a Democrat who is the first openly gay member of the Iowa Legislature. They will compete for the Senate District 31 seat, which McCoy has held since 1996.

Comment: I appreciate the Register reminding people that McCoy is a sodomite. Most of the voters I talk to, Democrat or Republican, don’t know that.

District 31 encompasses most of Des Moines’ south side, bounded by 63rd Street to the west, County Line Road to the south, and Southeast 14th Street on the east. Its northern boundary is not uniform and zags from as far north as University Avenue south to Park Avenue.

Leach, on his website, has attacked McCoy for his sexual orientation. McCoy said such action will hurt Leach's bid for the Senate.

"There just needs to be a certain degree of civility and decorum" in elections, McCoy said. "I find that Iowans demand that."

Dave's comment: See my comment below, which I posted after the article.

Leach made national news last year after he insinuated that the shooting death of Dr. George Tiller was a justifiable way to stop abortions, which Tiller performed.

Dave's comment: "Insinuated"? How about, I wrote a 104 page legal brief, which criminal trial author Stephen Singular, on In Session, called "incredibly well thought out", which explains the Necessity Defense, Laci's Law, and Voluntary Manslaughter, arguing that it is American law which takes into account, when one man kills another, whether the man killed was in the process of killing thousands of others?"

"I grieve for Dr. Tiller," Leach told the Des Moines Register in June 2009. "I rejoice for the babies who will not be killed."

McCoy won big in his last Senate election in 2006, when he took nearly two-thirds of the vote against opponent Nicholas Van Patten. McCoy won 13,276 to 6,941, according to the Polk County auditor's office.

McCoy's 2002 victory over Kaye Lozier was closer - 12,004 to 9,233 - but he still gained a decisive 56 percent of the vote.

Leach's last bid for state elected office was in 2002, when he lost to Democrat Frank Chiodo for the Iowa House District 62 seat. Leach took about a third of the vote.

The candidates were asked to address the top three issues of their campaign. Here's a synopsis of what they said.

Dave Leach

Jobs: Slash government waste, which will slash taxes and red tape, which will attract employers to Iowa. Waste targets include education bureaucrats farthest from the students, and child abuse programs for which no evidence exists that they meet goals that anyone cares about.

Crime: Stop abortion, which will reverse dehumanization of our most innocent, which will heal America's conscience toward the rest of us who are less innocent, slowing economic disaster from divorce, crime, and government corruption.

Immigration: We need to be "Rising Above the Rhetoric," the title of my new series which should be premiering this week in El Latino. (Hits the stands on Thursdays.) I have a win/win vision that will bless all sides, but do Americans want a real solution, that will bless their side, if that is at the cost of also blessing the other side?

Dave's comment: Jared calls this a "synopsis", but it is word for word. He printed this even after I had sent a corrected statement after he clarified I could have 300 words, not just 100; and after he said I should state my immigration position without referring to the El Latino series. As it turns out, El Latino has been unreliable about printing it; at the moment I have more hope for En Foque.

Matt McCoy

High-wage jobs: Assist businesses through creation of an economic climate that incorporates progressive tax policy, limited regulation and a well-educated workforce to grow business in Iowa. High-quality jobs are created by business, not government. The best way to grow quality high-wage jobs is to ensure that business can operate free from unnecessary and burdensome mandates and regulation. Businesses that receive economic development assistance should be prepared to provide wages and benefits that exceed the average county wage. Businesses that are provided economic development assistance should be required to disclose the number of jobs created, wages and benefits for each job.

Education: Creation of a well-educated workforce is essential to growing the Iowa economy. Jobs being created today require proficiency in logic, communication, reading and technology. It is essential that we continue to invest in ensuring that children start school ready to learn. Early childhood education and preschool programming are essential to ensuring that children get the best start possible. Class size reductions and commitment to teacher pay and enrichment are also at the forefront of quality education. Our community colleges are vital to ensuring that education is a life-long process. We should support our community colleges and regent institutions to ensure that education continues post high school graduation. Accessible and affordable higher education should be guiding principle for our state.

State budget: Our state budget currently is balanced and should remain so. Our state constitution requires that we submit a balanced budget annually. Iowa has ensured that we manage our fiscal house by adhering to a 99-percent spending limitation. We must continue to ensure that we maintain Iowa's high bond rating, rainy-day reserve funding and prudent fiscal management of our taxpayer resources. It is through sound fiscal management and discipline that Iowa will weather the economic storms that the state currently faces and will continue to face in the near future.

Dave Leach

AGE: 64

ADDRESS: 137 E. Leach Ave., Des Moines

BORN IN: Iowa City

GREW UP: Des Moines

EDUCATION: Drake University, bachelor's degree in music education, 1967.

WORK HISTORY: U.S. Air Force Band, Lackland AFB, San Antonio, 1968-70; Coon Rapids schools, 1970; Miller Music 1970-present, (name changed to Family Music Center).

POLITICAL EXPERIENCE: Has run five times for state office (as a Democrat in 1986 and as a Republican in 1988, 1990, 2000, 2002).

CIVIC INVOLVEMENT: I am the elected elder of the Iowa Society of Mayflower Descendants.

FAMILY: Wife, Dorothy Barnes; two adult children.

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Christian

WEBSITE: www.saltshaker.us/leach2010Matthew McCoy

AGE: 44

ADDRESS: 110 35th St., Des Moines

BORN IN, GREW UP: Des Moines

EDUCATION: Briar Cliff University, bachelor of arts degree in history/political science, 1988, with a minor in interdepartmental speech.

WORK HISTORY: Resource Development Consultants, partner, July 2009-present; Downtown Des Moines Community Alliance, vice president for community development, 2003-09; Ruan Transportation Management Systems, 1993-03.

POLITICAL EXPERIENCE: Elected to four terms in Iowa Senate, District 31, and has served as chairman of the Transportation & Infrastructure Budget Subcommittee and vice chairman of Ways & Means and Appropriations committees; served as assistant leader of the Senate 1997-98; chairman of the Senate Fundraising Campaign, 2006; in 2010, sponsored HF 2280 to combat animal cruelty.

Elected to two terms in Iowa House of Representatives, 1993-96.

CIVIC INVOLVEMENT: First recipient of the Central Iowa Shelter & Services' Hero for the Homeless Award recognizing support for CISS and its mission, Tai Dam Village Award for efforts to help the Tai Dam people build their village, and Des Moines Convention and Visitors Bureau, Outstanding Legislator, all in 2010; John F. Kennedy Award for Outstanding Leadership for Democratic Elected Official, 2007; Deaf Services of Iowa, Legislator of the Year for Service to Deaf and Hearing Impaired, 2004; Association of General Contractors, Legislator of the Year Award, 2003; 40 Under 40 Leadership Class, 1995; Des Moines Leadership Institute, 1994.

FAMILY: Son, 11; partner, Dan Garrett.

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Attends Plymouth Congregational Church, Des Moines

WEBSITE: www.mccoymccoyfor senate.com

Comment Stream:

Hacksaw1 wrote:

This nut is scary. And to think I had my boys in a grade school band with him. They thought he was wierd over 30 yeras ago and I didn't see it then? Listen to your kids.

9/7/2010 9:02:27 AM

Dave comment: Ah, the New Media! A candidate can lose votes because in a child's little universe 30 "yeras" ago, his teacher was "wierd", and the parent can tell the world about it anonymously, so we can't determine if there is anything "wierd" about this parent other than how he spells "weird". I will confess, however, that when I taught in public schools, some students left me feeling weird, and some even left me feeling "wierd". This is all ironic because about 35 yeras ago, Register reporter Lillian McLaughlin did a 2 page story, with huge pictures, about the innovative teaching program we had going at the Family Music Center (then called Miller Music).

DaveLeach wrote: Aren't we a little thin-skinned, Jared and Matt, to call what I said about Matt's dark lifestyle on my website an uncivil "attack"? The ONLY thing I said about it was "I definitely offer a choice, since the incumbent, Matt McCoy, is an abortion supporting, government 'services' selling, marriage-diluting sodomite who divorced his wife for being the wrong sex. (Other than that he seems like a nice guy.)" Do you see a revelation of anything there that Matt does not brag about on HIS website? Other than that, the only thing I say about Matt on my website is that in the primary I got 150 more votes than he did, and I accept his indirect offer to debate me. See www.Saltshaker.US/Leach2010. I like that you listed Matt's credentials as if they were mine, in your sidebar, though. That almost makes up for printing my initial short choppy statement when you seemed to be giving me 100 words total, instead of my 311 word statement I sent after you clarified I could have about 300 words. 9/7/2010 1:12:07 PM

Dave Leach Wrote: Here is part of my statement about abortion which Jared Strong, who acknowledged receipt of it September 2, declined to publish: "Abortion feeds the dehumanization tearing apart our economy and society. We are shocked when bureaucrats, ex-spouses, or criminals dehumanize us enough to help themselves to our property, if not our lives, yet we dehumanize our very own babies enough to brutally murder them! We can finally stop abortion in a few months, through Laci's Law in 2004, which defines all unborn babies as human. Roe v. Wade said if that ever happens, legal abortion would "collapse". But we need a court case that forces courts to address abortion's "collapse". One such case is Scott Roeder's appeal for shooting George Tiller on Memorial Day, 2009. That is the kind of case which the National Women's Law Center foresaw ending legal abortion when Laci's Law passed. That is why I wrote the 104 page brief which Roeder submitted into his court record, which makes these arguments. (Cont'd)

9/7/2010 2:35:28 PM

DaveLeach wrote: (Gont'd from previous post:) "Another case that would force courts to address abortion's 'collapse' would be a review of a state law completely criminalizing abortion. That is one reason I am running for office: I am well prepared, legally and emotionally, to floor manage such a bill. The goal of my involvement with Roeder is to end all the violence, in and outside the womb. When abortion is criminalized, penalties for the foreseeable future will only be severe enough to make it impractical." 9/7/2010 2:37:00 PM

Skeeterbait wrote: Oh good, another candidate from the Christian Taliban. Although they both begin with "I", Iowa is not Iran Mr. Leach. 9/7/2010 3:07:27 PM

[conversionthrapy](#) wrote: It would be AWESOME if we could take out this DISGRACE AND DISASTER OF A LEGISLATOR - MCCOY - with Dave Leach!!!! Go get 'em, Dave - GO GET 'EM!!!!!!!!!! 9/7/2010 4:28:18 PM

[conversionthrapy](#) wrote: YES, McCoy is a DISGRACE AND A DISASTER!!!! He initially ran as a pro-life candidate, THEN HE SOLD HIS SOUL TO THE ABORTION INDUSTRY!!!! 9/7/2010 4:30:30 PM

[conversionthrapy](#) wrote: And we can't have elected officials who not only SUPPORT households where there are MAN-ON-MAN SEX ACTS, but ACTIVELY LIVES THIS OUT and IMPOSES THIS on HIS child. Hell no to McCoy!!!! HELL NO!!!!!!!!!! 9/7/2010 4:32:29 PM

[conversionthrapy](#) wrote: Not only is it acceptable if Dave Leach attacks McCoy's GAY HOMOSEXUALITY, it SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED AND MADE KNOWN TO ALL THE CORNERS OF THE SENATE DISTRICT!!!!!!!!!!!!!! 9/7/2010 4:37:42 PM

[conversionthrapy](#) wrote: I remember the 2002 election vs. Chiodo - didn't Chiodo resign right after the election??? WHERE ARE YOU ON THIS STORY, DES MOINES REGISTER????????? 9/7/2010 4:40:30 PM

[conversionthrapy](#) wrote: And I AGREE FULLY WITH DAVE LEACH ON THE DEATH OF TILLER. I mean, COME ON, what are we supposed to do - FEEL BAD BECAUSE ABORTIONS WERE NOT PERFORMED????????????????????????? 9/7/2010 4:42:24 PM

[conversionthrapy](#) wrote: I, CONVERSIONTHRAPPY, WHOLEHEARTEDLY ENDORSE DAVE LEACH in this election. 9/7/2010 4:51:13 PM

The Unpublished Leach Statement

Here's what I sent Jared Strong on September 2:

1. (43 words, unchanged from my first email:) Jobs: slash government waste, which will slash taxes and red tape, which will attract employers to Iowa. Waste targets include education bureaucrats farthest from the students, and child abuse programs for which no evidence exists that they meet goals that anyone cares about.
2. (226 words, changed from my first email:) Abortion feeds the dehumanization tearing apart our economy and society. We are shocked when bureaucrats, ex-spouses, or criminals dehumanize us enough to help themselves to our property, if not our lives, yet we dehumanize our very own babies enough to brutally murder them! We can finally stop abortion in a few months, through Laci's Law in 2004, which defines all unborn babies as human. Roe v. Wade said if that ever happens, legal abortion would "collapse". But we need a court case that forces courts to address abortion's "collapse". One such case is Scott Roeder's appeal for shooting George Tiller on Memorial Day, 2009. That is the kind of case which the National Women's Law Center foresaw ending legal abortion when Laci's Law passed. That is why I wrote the 104 page brief which Roeder submitted into his court record, which makes these arguments. Another case that would force courts to address abortion's "collapse" would be a review of a state law completely criminalizing abortion. That is one reason I am running for office: I am well prepared, legally and emotionally, to floor manage such a bill. The goal of my involvement with Roeder is to end all the violence, in and outside the womb. When abortion is criminalized, penalties for the foreseeable future will only be severe enough to make it impractical.

3. (42 words, changed from my first email) Immigration: We need to "Rise Above the Rhetoric", the title of my new series in Latino newspapers. There is a win/win solution, but too many Americans don't want anything to do with any solution where the other side doesn't lose! See www.Saltshaker.US/HispanicHope/HispanicHope.htm