



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2005

John Roberts: Ignore Almost Everything I've Written

by Michael in New York on 9/13/2005 01:30:00 PM

The morning session of Roberts' confirmation hearing is over. Sen. Kennedy failed to land any blows and looked less-than-effective by asking lengthy questions and interrupting Roberts before the nominee could get two words out. Sen. Biden did a little better by mocking Roberts' assertion that his memos just reflect the opinion of his bosses. As Biden points out, Roberts in one memo writes "...and I strongly agree," making the obvious point that this sure SOUNDS like a staffer's personal opinion. Roberts danced away. But one interesting point:

The White House has trumpeted the tens of thousands of documents released from Roberts' work in the Reagan administration and elsewhere as proof of how thoroughly vetted this nominee is. But Roberts has repeatedly made clear he believes we can draw ZERO assumptions about his personal views from any of it. No matter how passionately he may argue an issue or urge a stance in private memos, Roberts insists those statements merely reflect the position of his bosses that he was hired to work for and not necessarily his own.

In short, since Roberts says we have to ignore virtually all of the 50,000+ pages of documents as revealing nothing about him and since his judicial career is extremely short, we are being asked to nominate someone that we know virtually nothing about. That should make EVERYONE uneasy (including the far right) so why is the left the only side that thinks we should know SOMETHING about what a nominee for the Supreme Court believes in?



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HOT OFF THE WIRE

HuffPost Politics

Mark Joseph: Nice Try Mr. President; Hold The Beer & Get The Tape - So, President Obama wants the Prof and the Cop to come to the White House, have a beer and make nice? Not so fast. One... 4 minutes ago

Daily Kos

Open Thread and Diary Rescue - *Tonight's crew of Rescue Rangers were vcmv02, grog, dopper0189, shayera, and joyful. In the meantime, dadanation looked editorial. Oh yeah, a big shout ... 23 minutes ago

Think Progress

Report: Cheney wanted to illegally deploy American troops in U.S. cities. - The New York Times reports that in 2002, Vice President Cheney and his administration allies urged President Bush to deploy American troops into the suburb... 43 minutes ago

Crooks and Liars

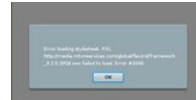
Open Thread - Andy K here blogging about Andy Kaufman (no relation), who's on the same stage with Wolfman Jack? Whelp, there goes that theory. h/t to Ben Folds (yes, ... 1 hour ago

Eschaton

Late Night Thread - Enjoy 1 hour ago

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