
Letter: Focusing on victimhood is a sad exercise

October 8, 2019

Dear Editor: It has been a while since I have been back in Crescent City, so I must apologize for the tardiness of the following comments about a guest opinion by Ruth Rhodes in the Aug. 30 issue of The TriPLICATE.

My first impression following the reading was what a truly sad world Ms. Rhodes must occupy. On further review, what kind of person really thinks this way?

While I fully understand that progressives seem to find it necessary to look at everything through the lens of victimhood, I find that many people who inhabit the progressive victimhoods do not see themselves as victims.

Having recently spent some time in an area where 57 different languages were spoken, white was not the majority population and racism was clearly not evident, I wish to assure Ms. Rhodes that her fears are generally misplaced.

While I agree that Ms. Rhodes is talking about “the few” who may fit in her world of racism, white privilege, white nationalism and fear of people who are “different,” she somehow seems to be lecturing the world of people as a whole.

I suspect most people do not spend time obsessing over skin color, privilege in any shape or form, or even racial thoughts or actions. To say being a certain skin color is “good” and follow up with “of course it is,” is in the first place absurd. The veritable parade of fears that follow that statement is mind-boggling.

In my world, respect and kindness bridges most all differences. And that respect and kindness is returned, for the most part.

To assume that because a person has certain characteristics, white or otherwise, and then posit a very specific outcome, is truly sad. I would hope Ms. Rhodes would give us all the benefit of her doubts and think not of us as another one of her victimhoods.

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Crescent City