

“Intolerance of Intolerance” Diversity Awareness Corner



Beyond This Place... There Be Dragons!

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Do Good Christians Murder?



On Monday, August 22, 2005, Pat Robertson (left) told viewers on his influential TV show, the 700 Club, that the United States should **assassinate** Hugo Chavez, (right) President of Venezuela, due to his recurrent criticism of America.

“We have the ability to take him out, and I think the time has come that we exercise that ability,” Robertson said.

“We don’t need another \$200 billion war to get rid of one ... strong-arm dictator. It’s a whole lot easier to have some of the covert operatives do the job and then get it over with.”

Mr. Chavez later said that Pat Robertson “was expressing the wishes of the US elite.”

The Rev. Jesse Jackson denounced Pat Robertson’s comments as “morally reprehensible and dangerously suggestive.”

Rev. Ted Haggard, a senior representative of America’s evangelical Christians, said he wants to personally meet with Mr. Chavez to apologize for Pat Robertson’s comments.

Robertson went on to state that Chavez should stop his country from being “a launching pad for ... Muslim extremism.”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- **What do you think of Mr. Robertson’s comments? Is this “Christian extremism” or something else? Being a minister, does Pat Robertson speak for “all those Christians”? Will some (many?) people believe he is speaking for all Christians?**
- **Is that what Christians believe ... “It’s OK to commit murder when I feel threatened or do not like what you say?” (REMEMBER: “Always when you say always you’re always wrong.”)**
- **What DOES the Christian religion say about murder?**
- **What does the Quoran say about terrorism and murder?**
- **Do some Muslims violate their religion?**
- **Do some Christians violate their religion?**
- **Does the Ku Klux Klan represent your views? Do Klan members feel they are following the Christian religion?**
- **What should Jesse Jackson or Ted Haggard say to Mr. Chavez when they meet with him? What do you think will be Mr. Chavez’ reply?**
- **Has Reverend Robertson reinforced violent Christian stereotypes? Will these comments endanger Christian missionaries currently in Venezuela?**
- **WWJD?**

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