

## A PERSONAL UPDATE

New Brunswick (NB) Chief Provincial Court Judge Leslie Jackson is clearly a Christian with a conscience. I noticed his charity and civility in countless appearances over 5 years. Growing up in Harvey NB, his father was the Presbyterian Pastor there and his reputation for defending Catholics from the prevailing protestant anti Catholicism was well known. When he finally sent me to jail on April 8, 2010, he did so with great reluctance only after I read my court statement before a packed courthouse of supporters looking on, including my Bishop. (see my Court Statement [here](#) and news story [here](#). The statement admonished all who prop up the evil of abortion, including him. I was summarily hand-cuffed and taken to the basement of the Justice Building in Fredericton where I was strip searched, ankle shackled and placed in a damp concrete cell for two hours, then transported by filthy mouthed Sheriff deputies to the Saint John Regional Correctional Centre in the city of Saint John, about 100 Km from Fredericton. It's interesting to note that the deputy at the wheel drove most of the time far over the speed limit while talking constantly with his fellow deputy after locking me in a tiny cage, 3'x4' and failed to put my seat belt on which is illegal in NB. The f word was in almost every sentence. They gave the impression of mean-spirited barbarians, identical to some of the inmates I would soon meet.

The jail, on the outskirts of the city, is a thirty-year old ramshackle, decrepit, cold, overcrowded building which by all accounts by life long criminals there, "is the worst jail in Canada." I was given a t-shirt, an oversized pair of jeans, a pair of socks, a towel and dollarama Chinese slippers, one sheet and a blanket and taken to a 6 by 9 foot concrete cell, already occupied and slept on a 3" rubberized mattress on the floor for a week.

When I arrived in the unit (there were several units built for 20 inmates each, but overcrowding meant 35-40 were constantly in the units) I was surprised to learn that many inmates recognized me instantly. They had seen the evening news on the single TV in the unit an hour before and I was all over the news. Eight or ten of them crowded in my room and in the steel doorway, pumping questions at me and showing admiration and some quizzical expressions over one reporters remarks that I had said, "I have said from the beginning I will never pay any fine or file ever again until the law is changed prohibiting tax-funded abortion. This is a murderous regime; I want no part of it. We are wasting this court's time, everybody's time. It's time to put me in jail, just put me in jail!" Every cell block or unit has a leader, I would learn that the leader there now expressing his pro-life convictions had a 'rep' for punishing those who disobeyed when they left the prison. Beatings or worse would take place on the outside and all inmates knew it.

It was cold and damp all the time. I was able to get an extra blanket which I wore over my head for a week or two until I was able to get two extra t-shirts. Because of a nicotine riot in January, all inmates had to eat in their locked cells. The food was very good and plentiful. I learned that a high calorie diet was ordered by prison

health officials because of the extremely high number of drug and alcohol addicts who came in emaciated. And for the first time in my life, I began to drink coffee because it was the only thing warm (never hot) in the jail. It was one cup per day.

There were many inmates who sought me out for counseling when they saw me praying in my cell. The door had a large impregnable window in its steel casing and anyone could look in and see what you were doing. There was a sink-toilet co-joined unit in the cell and since I spent most of my time doubled bunked, one had to embrace humiliation daily. Guards were for the most part decent in behaviour toward the inmates, but there were notable bullies. Some of them treated me with deference as a prisoner of conscience, some mocked me as did a few inmates. But it was a gold mine for helping all, inmates and guards to come to Christ. I was shocked to find that there was no priest to come to offer Mass, Confessions or counsel. A Pentecostal minister was Chaplain and I went regularly to his meetings in jail. A priest friend arranged for me to get a new Breviary and Bible as the jail policy did not allow you any books you owned. The priest dropped them off and was not allowed to see me as there was a complicated lengthy process to get anyone on your visitors list. I am ashamed to say it was necessary for me to write to the Bishop and admonish him for the absence of ministry to these most-in-need men. I was released in 44 days for good behaviour, and the most painful suffering I endured was not being able to receive Holy Communion. It was the longest period in my life without the Eucharist and awful for a daily Communicant. There was another Catholic man there, and he too deeply missed the Mass and Communion. There can be no excuse for this. Shame on you Bishop.

For all that, Christ was with me in a very special way every day. I missed my family most, my wife Madonna and our four little children and my grown son Pierre. The Breviary, Holy Scripture, the Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet and my own prayers, long since memorized, filled the days with strong hope and faith – and a deep compassion and love for the prisoners, and one guard in particular who often came alone at night to my cell for an hour searching for the Lord of Truth. I saw my witness help many and the Holy Spirit gave me many kind and convincing words. The pain endured by my wife, alone with our little ones encouraged me to do a fasting Novena for nine days just before I was released. Fasts are often prison-rule protest oriented by inmates and are forbidden. But the warden allowed me to fast on bread and water for nine days for “religious purposes”. This fast fostered a wonderful summer-long vacation in a RV park where we all re-bonded as a family. It was wonderful just to be together and not have anything to do. It was so wonderful, I will never forget it; bonfires, marshmallows, hot dog, hamburg barbecues, DVD movies, awning lights, beach and swimming, fishing, the best summer in weather history and well, just BEING A FAMILY again together.

I wrote a letter to Pope Benedict XVI while in jail, [here](#). Many persons have pointed out to me in the past 30 years that I have a gift of prophecy, though I have never been an active part of the Charismatic movement per se. Our International Chaplain, Bishop J. Faber MacDonald has insisted many times, “you must accept that God has

given you this gift of a prophetic character.” Many times I shared with him after days when I spent extra hours during my daily Holy Hour after Mass, strong convictions and plans that I was absolutely certain came from the Holy Spirit. And they always bore good fruit. The letter I wrote the Holy Father was the result of many long hours of prayer and sacrifice in jail.

After I left jail on May 21, I received a letter from the Secretary of State, First Section, signed by Msgr. Paul Wells responding for His Holiness. He wrote that **“His Holiness encourages you to continue the work of conversion of hearts and minds.”** (Soon the original letter will be posted on this site.) Not a single word of caution to my bold assertions: A sampling from my letter –

*“(I) ask... bishop(s) to publicly declare that they will no longer file a personal income tax return until the laws are changed prohibiting tax funded abortion/murder.... Millions of faithful Catholics will follow courageous pastors who stand up, martyr-like, and risk civil punishment rather than co-operate with those who use their money to murder innocent unborn children, children who as you have said are the very poorest of the poor and are our most vulnerable brothers and sisters.*

*We must stand up Holiness; the time is long since past; soon Divine Justice will avenge this innocent blood. This is decidedly not an issue governed by platitudes or protocol of Church vs. State arguments. This is the most fundamental human right of all-the right to LIVE, the right to be born. If we stand and refuse to pay for these untold millions of murders in union with our priests and bishops and our Pope, the politicians will soon get the message-they will soon say to their people, “Abortion is still legal, the only thing is, if you want an abortion, you are going to have to pay for it yourself. This is the only just way in a democracy; millions believe abortion is murder and should not be compelled to pay for what they believe in good faith and conscience is murder.” And that will reduce the abortions in Canada and the United States by more than 50% the very first year. All of our data indicates and confirms this. And this step, taken boldly, courageously for the little ones, will be the death knell for abortion itself.... Now Holiness, dear Santo Padre, I must say to you –*

***Speak out boldly and incessantly against laws promoting abortion – and call it what it is, plain murder of the most innocent.***

***Do this in public forums outside of liturgies as well during homilies.***

***CONDEMN TAX-FUNDED ABORTION OFTEN!***

***WRITE AN ENCYCLICAL for the entire Church and ALL persons of good will demanding that PUBLIC MONEY – INCOME TAX OR ANY TAXES NEVER BE USED FOR KILLING HUMAN BEINGS, whether the innocent unborn, the aged, the disabled, the handicapped or the unwanted.***

***Encourage all citizens, lay or clergy to refuse to co-operate with governments by withholding tax returns in non-violent civil disobedience to laws that legalize murder."***

At my final appearance in Court on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010, the Crown prosecutor insisted on laying a "fresh charge" on my failing to comply with the order to file tax returns on my trial sentencing on November 9, 2009 ([here](#)). This was a mystery move to both me and the judge and patently unconstitutional as I stated in my Court Statement on April 8, [here](#). Nonetheless when I asked the judge this question, "What does this mean, fresh charge, your Honour?" He said, "I don't know what it means Mr. Little, all I know it is a fresh charge and I will recuse myself and order another judge to hear it." He then set the date for the new hearing, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

This interchange indicated clearly to me that Chief Provincial Court Judge Leslie Jackson, had enough of the near 5 year violation of his own conscience and with the shenanigans of the Crown. Judge Jackson is known to be a devout Presbyterian, son of a minister. When Keith Ward, Lead Crown Prosecutor tried to put me on the stand to demand that he examine my financial status, he stated words to this effect, 'Your honour, you have before you a somewhat obscure case, that I have sent to Mr. Little wherein the judge ruled that when anyone is unable to pay a fine in a case for refusing to file, the person can present evidence of his inability to pay and therefore cannot be sent to jail.'

I immediately sensed correctly that the Crown wanted to keep me out of jail for fear of creating imitators. I stood up and said,

"Objection, your Honour. This is not about money, it is about being complicit to murder. It is most certainly not about a \$3000 fine. I could ask my supporters to wheel in a wheelbarrow full of money to pay this fine or any fine. But I have repeatedly stated in every court appearance, I will never pay any fine. If the fine were 20 cents I would not pay it, and I will not get on the stand to be examined about my financial affairs. It is plain and simple. It is time to fulfill your sentence at my conviction on November 9, 2008 and put me in jail!"

Judge Jackson said, " Mr. Ward, Mr. Little has certainly held from the beginning as we all know, this is a matter of conscience for him. I will not allow him to be put on the stand. I must agree with him."

I said, "Thank you your Honour. I ask only two things, since you have no jurisdiction to send me to jail in Prince Edward Island, may I be transferred to Moncton so that my family may more easily visit me?" "I think that can be arranged Mr. Little." I then said, "Secondly, may I have a week or so to prepare, as I just returned on Easter Sunday, last Sunday from Rome and in these four days I have not fully finished preparations for jail?" "Yes Mr. Little we can do that." Mr. Ward said, "Objection your Honour, the Tax Act and the Criminal Code state that if after the allotted time given by the court to pay a fine expires immediate incarceration must take place."

Judge Jackson paused a long while, shuffled his papers and said in an embarrassed voice, "I'm afraid he's right Mr. Little." I said, "That's fine your honour."

Then with a clear desire to run from all this, he said, "Court is adjourned." Protocol has it that he should have asked the Sheriff deputy to escort me away. Instead, as soon as he said, "Court is adjourned.", he rushed from the courtroom with a look of real regret and pain on his face, even I thought at the time to the point of tears. I thought of the words of St. John Bosco, earlier read aloud, "The power of evil men lives on the cowardice of the good." Poor Judge Jackson, my heart wept for him. It is what happens to us when compromise with evil creeps every so cunningly, so subtly, so demonically (he waits and lurks) into our hearts over no matter how long a time. I can tell you flatly one truth here, of which I am convinced. Leslie Jackson, Christian, loathed Chief Judge Leslie Jackson in that very moment.

So I went to jail. But what everyone except me and my immediate supporters did not know was that I had written an email letter to the Prime Minister in the first week of March of 2010, about six weeks after the Supreme Court of Canada (SCC) had refused to hear my appeal in January.

In that letter I addressed two matters, one legal, another personal. The legal matter concerned my study of the Supreme Court Act. See here:

<http://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/S-26/page-8.html#anchorbo-ga:s 53-gb:s 53>

In brief it states the Governor in Council (ie. the Prime Minister) can ask for a reference from the Supreme Court to deal with a matter of national importance, tax paid abortion for example; and how it contends with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which see here: <http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/charter/1.html#anchorbo-ga:l 1>

especially Section 2.

Everyone has the following fundamental freedoms:

(a) freedom of conscience and religion;

I asked as head of the Governor in Council that he ask the Supreme Court for a 'Reference'.

In summary I wrote: 'the real pain in conscience that countless numbers of Christians is this:

We are taught that direct induced abortion is plain murder. How can we pay for it in good conscience, more: how can we co-operate with a government (by filing a signed tax return) who with our money is hiring doctors to commit these murders? This is in essence my entire legal case. How can a group of 9 people decide to butcher a citizen's conscience. Particularly when the Supreme Court in the infamous 1988 Morgentaler SCC wrote these words in the majority ruling by Justice Bertha Wilson: *...in a free and democratic society the conscience of the individual must be*

*paramount to that of the state..."*

The personal matter concerned the death of my brother-in-law, in Afghanistan on Dec. 27, 2008, killed by an IED. Being a compassionate man and a politician he makes it his business to call all widows or widowers to console them. After he called my sister and consoled her. In my March letter to him I wrote this:

You told my sister that her husband was a noble warrior who died fighting for the human rights of an oppressed people. She thanked you very much, some lighter talk ensued and then my sister, a brave pro-lifer, said "what about the human rights in Canada of oppressed children killed by abortion by our own taxes? You said, "We have to change the hearts and minds of the people." She said, "People follow inspired leaders." Then you both talked politely once more and said your goodbyes.

Do the right thing Mr. Prime Minister. Demand that Supreme Court address the Constitutional issues of Freedom of Conscience and Religion in my case.' It was a long letter, well thought out and the fruit of many hours of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

I have written to Prime Minister Harper before. He always answered or had someone else answer, just like every letter I have written to every Prime Minister about abortion and taxation dating back to Pierre Trudeau in 1969.

This is the first time I never received an answer. I believe he was moved deeply in light of what happened soon. Recall that Harper had told his caucus for three years never to even bring up the word abortion in parliament. But look what happened next.

On March 18, debate broke out in Parliament as to whether the G8 Summit in Toronto in June should provide the billions Harper wanted to give to African women for maternal health care. The opposition parties said the money should include payment for contraception and abortion. Harper said "NO".

CBC News Wed. March 23, 2010-10-24

A Liberal motion to include a broader range of family planning programs, including contraception, in a maternal health initiative for developing countries, was defeated 144-138 in the House of Commons on Tuesday.

Perhaps my letter had nothing to do with this.

But consider what happened next.