

From *Naked at the Mic / The Survival of a Liberal in a Time of Peril*, by Liberal Talk Radio Personality “L.A. Steel”

CHAPTER TWELVE

The Public Relations Princess of the Political Left

In 2003 I had the good fortune to meet Ilene Proctor. Ilene owns a public relations firm in Beverly Hills, California. She was alerted to my liberal program in 2003, and contacted me. She asked me if I would like to interview author and investigative reporter Greg Palast. She was representing him and his first book *The Best Democracy Money Can Buy*. I was fascinated by her English accent and pleasant voice, and pleased that she had contacted me. I agreed to book Greg for the show and wound up booking several months ahead with many of Ilene’s clients. She revealed to me that there were very few commercial, liberal radio shows in the country and she was grateful that our show was a new venue for liberal guests. I realized after my first discussion with Ilene, how censored the national media really was. Through Ilene I was introduced to many of her clients and she and I have had a professional relationship ever since. I attribute a great part of the *L.A. Steel Show*’s early success to the remarkable guests provided by Ilene.

In 2003 the country was geared up for the 2004 presidential elections. Ilene’s favorite candidate was Dennis Kucinich. However, as we all know Kucinich didn’t get very far in the Democratic Primaries that year, and front runner status was taken on early by Howard Dean who was later destroyed by the Party and its pathetic Presidential Nominee John Kerry. Ilene was involved with the Velvet Revolution, a voters’ rights organization that she helped establish and promote. After the 2000 election debacle, that brought the George Bush Jr. presidency to the unsuspecting American public through a conspiracy of wide spread election fraud, Ilene and others decided to take an aggressive stand to help prevent G.W. Bush from gaining re election in 2004 and to prevent the Republicans from using the same methods they used to steal the 2000 election.

Greg Palast was the first investigator to uncover the massive election fraud in Florida. In his book “The Best Democracy Money Can Buy” he revealed how Jebb Bush and Katherine Harris along with the many GOP minions purged the Florida voter registry of 90,000 Democratic Voters, and rigged the Florida precincts with corrupt registrars and faulty ballots. Every liberal in the United States was up in arms over the massive election fraud and the total whitewashing of the issue by the main stream media. As the host of a political talk show, I felt it was my duty to cover this issue in depth. As it turned out I was one of the few talk show hosts in the country to make it an ongoing issue.

The frightening silence of the main stream media regarding the stolen election was overwhelming. It became apparent shortly after the 2000 theft of the presidency; that the right wing radio establishment wanted to rub all liberal noses into the greatest national election fraud in U.S History. The fraudulent 2000 presidential election brought with it the corrupt rule of the Neo Cons, 911, the Afghanistan and Iraq wars, the Patriot Act, the destruction of the Constitution and the downfall of the U.S economy. In 2004, Karl Rove and G.W Bush gained power again by election fraud. This time it was through the complicity of the main stream media, the electronic voting companies, the well placed GOP Secretaries of State in Florida and Ohio, the cowardly Democratic Party and their nominee John Kerry. John Kerry conceded the election twenty four hours after the final returns were announced in Ohio. It was well known and well reported in the blogosphere, not the mainstream media; that massive election fraud had taken place in Florida, Ohio, and New Mexico. Three million ballots were never counted, miscounted or destroyed. Two hundred and fifty thousand ballots were never counted in Ohio alone, most of them provisional ballots, filled out by Democratic voters who distrusted the electronic voting machines or who were challenged by GOP operatives at the voting booths. Many of the voting machines were inoperative in most voting booths around the country.

In 2004 Ilene Proctor and her band of voting rights activists which included Jesse Jackson, appealed to Senator Barbara Boxer of California to denounce the 2004 election results; until a proper and verifiable count had been made. Barbara Boxer agreed and set up a public hearing that was broadcasted by CSPAN on January sixth of 2005 to

denounce the election results and the election of G.W. Bush as President on the floor of the Senate. John Kerry was neither in the Senate or at home at the time nor did he contest the election outcome. It was reported that he and Arnold Schwarzenegger were seen skiing in Vale Colorado shortly after Kerry conceded the election. One of Ilene’s most candid comments she made to me was in a phone call we shared a few days after Kerry’s concession. Appalled and shaken by the cowardly actions of the Democrats, Ilene confessed she “had lost her political virginity.”

One example of Ilene’s sense of humor and sense of fair play was during the 2004 Democratic primaries when it became apparent that John Kerry did something to upset the Iowa results. Kerry won Iowa; after all polls showed him twenty five points behind Howard Dean and dead last amongst all the candidates. I told Ilene in one of our conversations at the time, that Kerry was the worst possible candidate and had no chance of winning against Bush, who was the worst president in the history of the U.S. She asked why I thought so harshly about Kerry. I continued to denounce him saying, that he had been in the Senate for twenty five years and had done virtually nothing but play footsy with John McCain. He was exceedingly boring, obnoxious and vain. He was completely polarizing to the Right and Left, a Massachusetts Liberal, Bush’s third cousin and a Skull and Bones man. I told her his candidacy would be as disastrous as Dukakis’s was in 1988. As it turned out my prediction was correct. A few days after this conversation Ilene called me and asked if I would book one of her clients who happen to be a good friend of John Kerry and once worked for Ted Kennedy, she said her friend would like to defend John Kerry. I laughed at her challenge but accepted it.

The evening of the interview I was cordial to my guest, though surprised at the loyalty of Kerry’s friend, and completely amazed at the John Kerry she described, as opposed to the John Kerry everyone knew and loathed. She put up a valiant defense of John Kerry, but could not convince me of any of his virtues, though she may have convinced some of my listeners. My coverage area extends through Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New York.

A few other notable liberal clients and friends of Ilene's I have interviewed are peace activist Cindy Sheehan, author Vincent Bugliosi, whose latest best seller is *The Prosecution of George W. Bush for Murder*, investigative journalist Brad Freidman, Co-authors of *The Assassinations*, Jim DiEugenio and Lisa Pease, actor Ed Asner, and Iranian “Prince of Pop” Andy Madadian.

I have devoted this chapter to Ilene Proctor to acknowledge her personal and professional commitment to the promotion and defense of the ideal of Liberalism that ennobles the human spirit.