

A Few Minutes with the Boss

By: Joseph Andalina

How bad is it, anyway?

Well, who really knows? The analysts, pundits, and spin doctors on the cable news networks truly want you to think that the state of policing has gone to hell before passing Go!

But every day you see the police out there, patrolling, answering calls, writing tickets, making arrests, and protecting the public.

Seems kind of normal. Cops are still out doing their job despite “Black Lives Matter,” “White Grievances,” “Illegal Immigration,” and “A Muslim just moved into the neighborhood.”

Some of the bigger half-truths are that all of the above is the problem in our cities. Yes, they can be problematic but the media looks to sell advertising, peddle influence, and scaring you gets you to watch or read what they’re selling.

How much of a threat is it all? To the everyday Joe, probably not much. Vigilance to everyday potential problems is always good. Worrying about what you see on Fox or MSNBC ain’t.

But sometimes I think the possibility of cops turning their backs in droves on this job is possible. Some may get to the point where they just do not care anymore. After all, if the public, politicians, and press continue to turn their backs on the one job where the employees would take a bullet for someone they don’t know, then I don’t know!

It never is a good thing that the local political machinery and press continue to blame the police for their decision making when procedures go wrong or when altercations become violent. They are always looking for a scapegoat and they usually find one with the police.

Never mind what “I Like Ike” Eisenhower wrote in his memoirs *Crusade in Europe* that “The search for a scapegoat is the easiest of all hunting expeditions,” or as I like to call them, witch hunts.

So if we want to keep our police patrolling, forget the 24-hour news cycle. Forget the illegal immigration, which really has gone negative, that Muslims are the problem, and know that **all** lives matter. The problem is an excitable media and political gadflies.

It’s the everyday stuff that could be your undoing. Respect for the police goes a long way to let them know that they are appreciated.

Turn off the noise. Forget the garbage. The “job” is a noble one.

Vita é bella