Boschwitz, one of the Israeli lobby's staunchest supporters in Congress, was comfortably ahead, when his supporters blew it by sending a letter to Jewish leaders, denouncing Wellstone for not being a good enough Jew. This was a strange twist indeed. Minnesota, which, as one wag put it, "has more lakes than Jews," found two Jewish candidates running for U.S. Senate. In the atmosphere, to whom did the Boschwitz people think they were appealing? Wellstone had married a Baptist, and their kids were not being brought up as Jews, but how many orthodox Jewish voters did the Boschwitz people suppose would be swayed by this absurd appeal? In the event, the Jewish recipients of the letter were offended, and the Christian masses of Minnesota were offended still more. Exit Rudy.

At least learn to pick your spots, guys. This tactic could work (and has been successfully used) in New York City, but not in the Gopher State. (One year, a New York Post reporter named William Haddad ran for high political office in Manhattan; he was attacked by his opponents as being an "Arab"—apparently a lethal disqualification for office in New York — and his supporters vainly tried to correct the record by pointing out that he was a Sephardic Jew.)

Who's a Socialist?
The Socialist Party is back, electing ex-Brooklynite Bernie Sanders as Congressman from Vermont, over the liberal Republican Peter Smith. Well, bully: first, because any defeat of a liberal Republican is a good in itself, and second, because at least Sanders is honest enough to proclaim his socialist views openly. That's more than can be said for the left-liberal Democracy. On election night, Paul Wellstone and Bernie Sanders were both greeted by the media, and Wellstone was hard-put to distinguish his own views from Sanders', saying only that he was not a socialist. It would be nice if Left Democracy doffed their sheep's clothing and marched into the light with Sanders. Everyone knows that the once-powerful Socialist Bloc in Eastern Europe has fallen apart and is scrambling to find its way back to capitalism and private enterprise; only in America (to repeat the maudlin Harry Golden cliche), is socialism getting ever stronger. But would the American masses really troop to an open Socialist banner?

Decline of the LP
Despite its unbroken string of defeats, the Libertarian Party has long been able to boast that it is "America's Third Largest Party." Not any more, if we measure size by the political bottom line of victories. Once again, the LP won nothing nowhere; its most "winnable" candidate for the Idaho House, into whose race the National LP poured a lot of money, wound up with only 16 percent of the vote. But as Eric Rittberg, head of the rapidly growing Republican Liberty Caucus, points out, in terms of victories, the LP is now "America's Sixth Largest Party" (behind the Alaska Independence Party, the Connecticut Party, and the Socialists). A proud boast after twenty years of effort?

The Kulturkampf Corner
by The Old Curmudgeon

Now it's board games that have fallen under the "insensitivity" hammer! Parker Brothers, venerable producer of board games, was denounced recently by the head of the U.S. Small Business Administration, left-Republican Susan Engeleiter. It seems that their new game, "Careers for Girls," for girls ages 8-12, lists six "careers" for the young players to select, and La Engeleiter detects a strong sexist "wrong message to young girls." For among the careers are such outlandish activities as "schoolteacher" and "supermom", and there is not a single listing for "astronaut" or "business executive." Furthermore, kvetches La Engeleiter, "there are no careers requiring physical daring or strength." All in all, she complains, the game shows an "insensitivity (there it is again!) to modern realities."
All right, how about this for the six careers: weightlifter, heavyweight champion, President of the United States, lion tamer, football lineperson, and sumo wrestler? Ready, girls?

Brought under government interdict, Parker Brothers did what is generally done in these situations: run for the protection of a praetorian guard of the supposedly oppressed group. Parker spokeswoman Patricia McGovern stressed that "the game is purely for entertainment" (What? Since when are games supposed to "entertain"? Aren't all activities merely a search for the "politically correct"?), and pointed out that the game was designed by a woman, the art was produced by a woman, and the manager was a woman, so that everyone "involved with bringing this game to market is female."

Will that be enough to get Parker Brothers off the hook? What if it changes its name to the Parker Sisters?

Slavery lives in South Africa? Another example of evil white oppression of blacks? Not quite. The slaves are refugees from the civil war in Mozambique. The refugees are lured across the border to South Africa with promises of jobs, and are then sold into slavery. The twist here is that these slaves, indeed black, are sold to blacks or whites alike, whoever is willing to come up with the $140 market price per slave. Another fascinating twist is that, despite their abysmal conditions, the slaves would rather remain in slavery than be shipped back to Mozambique as illegal aliens. In short, in the judgment of the slaves, even slavery is better than living in a land of bloody and ferocious (and poverty-stricken) civil war.

Am I concluding from this that "slavery is good"? No, down, Modal, down. What I am saying is that life is often complex, and that there are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamt of, Modal, in your philosophy.

One of the politically incorrect hate crimes these days, for which students are expelled at some colleges, is the sin of "inappropriate laughter." At a football game last November, the famously rowdy Stanford marching band, which in the past had gotten away with urinating on the playing field, and with the Flying Genitalia formation, at last Went Too Far, coming a cropper on the rock of Insensitivity. Which ethnic, racial, or religious group did they offend? None of the above; they committed a hate crime by laughing about the plight of the Spotted Owl, in a game with Spotted Owl-ridden University of Oregon. Stanford athletic director Alan Cummings promptly suspended the band for several games, and may leave the band at home next year, as requested by the Oregon director of athletics.

As the band's manager explained, spotted owl are a subject Oregonians "can't joke about."

Now see here: in the old days, Americans joked about the Great Depression, they joked about the war, they joked about Hitler. If we can't joke about the Spotted Owl, are we still a "free country"?

It is more than OK, it is even de rigueur, to refer to Saddam Hussein as "another Hitler." In one of his routine barrages against Saddam, George Bush, in his doltish enthusiasm, Stepped Over The Line, claiming that Saddam Hussein is "worse than Hitler," since Hitler never used hostages as human shields. Immediately, the wrath of God descended upon the President, many Jewish leaders accusing Bush of "demeaning the victims of the Holocaust."

I understand that in the lexicon of these Victimologists, no human being, past, present, or future, could ever, by the remotest possibility, be worse than Hitler. But why then doesn't it "demean the victims of the Holocaust" to say that a tinpot dictator like Saddam is as bad as Hitler? Go figure. - M.N.R.

Sieg Health
by Llewellyn H. Rockwell

We've always known the Nazis were economic left-wingers (Nazi standing for National Socialist German Workers Party), but now—thanks to Robert N.