

15 July 19

## In the U.S.A., are the Portuguese Really Hispanics?

For years there has been an "unresolved dilemma" of whether or not the Portuguese are Hispanic in the U.S.A.. My long time friend from California, ex-Rep. **Tony Coelho**, gave it a fight. In his state the Portuguese counted as minorities--but, categorized as Hispanics. Under the Dept. of Transportation--now under the Dept. of Homeland Security--and the Small Business Administration, Portuguese were considered minorities under the label of **PORTUGUESE**. The rest of the 49 states, to date if I'm not mistaken, group the Portuguese people as Hispanics. Why?!

In my view, "Hispanic" is the wrong ethnicity for the classification of the Portuguese. However, many people insist on that label--i.e., being Hispanic-- particularly for government benefits currently enjoyed by the Hispanic community at large. How right/wrong is that? Think about it.

Many discussions have materialized in the past, and the issue of the Portuguese in the U.S.A. being Hispanic, or not, has not yet been officially resolved. Shouldn't we "grab the bull by the horns" and officially put the subject to rest-in-peace once and for all? Isn't it about time?!

When I first started teaching in the Boston Public Schools in mid-1970's, desegregation was a serious ongoing process. Everyone in the School Department--students and teachers-- was counted daily on the basis of their ethnicity and race. I, myself--an Azorean Portuguese native-- was not considered Portuguese or Hispanic. Rather, I was classified as an "Other". This was the so-called ethnicity of the controversial category used for classifying Cape Verdeans in Massachusetts. The matter became so controversial that a book was written some years ago by a Cape Verdean American--Manuel Balla--simply titled *The Other Americans*-- a good suggested read with much to be learned....

This issue has been kicking around for far too long. How do we right the wrong? Robert Burns once stated, and I fully agree: "To make a crooked stick straight, you bend it the contrary way."

✓ (Good read on minorities: <http://community.seattletimes.nwsourc.com/archive/?date=19981005&slug=2775989>)

**SEMPRE P'RA FRENTE ! | SIEMPRE ADELANTE ! ALWAYS FORWARD !**

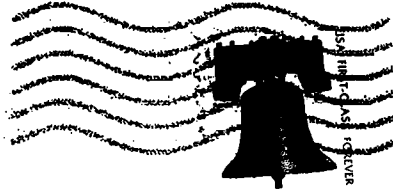
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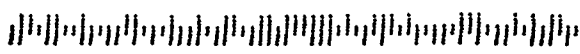
Thank you for sharing this with all!

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City Council  
City Hall  
Los Angeles, CA



Los Angeles Police Department  
Officer Harassment & Abuse of Power  
RE: Pretextual Stop, Harassment, Blatant Bullying

### **TWO BULLIES WITH BADGES HARASSED ME FOR 20 MINUTES BECAUSE OF AN ALLEGED JAYWALK**

At the outset, I want to make clear that I respect "respectful" Police Officers who carry out their duties & responsibilities with professionalism. In the case at hand, in addition to antagonizing and harassing me for almost 20 minutes with words and actions **precisely designed to elicit a negative reaction** - these officers stopped me for an alleged jaywalk and asked me criminal investigatory **[custodial interrogation]** questions such as the following:

- 1.) What are you doing in this area?
- 2.) Do you have tattoos?
- 3.) Do you have a job?
- 4.) Are you a student?
- 5.) Have you ever been arrested?
- 6.) Are you in the process of committing a crime?
- 7.) "We need to document this, because we need to make it seem like we're doing something."

These particular officers are out harassing law-abiding citizens in order to create an appearance of "doing something" to meet some "quota."

**RELEVANT FACTS:** As the title above indicates, I was harassed, "falsely imprisoned" and otherwise treated like a criminal for no legitimate purpose and "**with no reasonable suspicion**" that criminal activity was afoot pursuant to **Terry v. Ohio**. Here, two officers Uehara #36619 and Chan #30503 seized me after alleging I jaywalked by cutting across the street outside the scope of the crosswalk on Wilshire and Rampart.

They stared me down from the car and made a U-Turn. I smiled and knew they would stop. They stopped and said they needed to see my ID for a jaywalk. I was fully compliant by providing the ID and respectfully asked the officers, "Can I leave with a verbal warning as I didn't impact or endanger traffic or myself." One of the officers stated, "Is it alright if we cite you with a written warning?" I inquired that a verbal warning would be my preference. The officer retorted, "We need to make it look like we are doing something out here." Shocked by that assertion, I followed up with the following statement, "Sir, I don't want to sound rude, but aren't there other criminal things that could be cited."

### **INCREASINGLY AGGRESSIVE POLICING FOR NO LEGITIMATE REASON**

At that point, both officers responded, "Who the hell are you, are you trying to tell us, how to do our job." I immediately responded no, and that I have experience working with law enforcement and they usually provided verbal warning in connection with jaywalks and other minor traffic related infractions. The officers stated, "We can write you up if you want, tough guy!" and got in proximity within a foot of my face in a loud and menacing tone. Fearful for my safety, I immediately put both hands in my pockets, loud down and away so as not to create an even more non-threatening demeanor to two officers. I asked, "where are your bodycams at?" They stated, we are not required to wear them and advised me to "shut my mouth" or they would cite me. Clearly antagonizing in a loud and disrespectful tone, I looked away, bit my lip and did not respond. I requested the written warning and my ID so that I

could leave. For another 5-10 minutes both officers asked me the above "Investigation" Related questions even though I was clearly not committing a crime, no sagging pants, no marijuana odor and a respectful tone. They asked the same questions repeatedly and literally laughed in my face to elicit some type of negative response. I find this behavior appalling and beneath the dignity of a well-trained officer. The landmark case of **Terry** indicated, "A stop must be temporary and no longer than necessary than to effectuate its purpose." Here, these officers, threatened, bullied, harassed and falsely imprisoned without a basis of a **malum in se** offense taking place. I should have either been cited, warned and allowed to go. Not forced to respond to questions about my employment status, criminal history, tattoos, etc. This is a horrible practice. In addition, the officers are out harassing law-abiding citizens in order to create an appearance to meet some "quota."

At this point, a friend who was waiting around the corner, parked and came upon the scene and requested to see the bodycams on these officers as she observed the threatening body language and tone of these officers.

**CONCLUSION:** In conclusion, I have no doubt these officers were antagonizing me, threatening and disrespecting because of my physical appearance but were surprised that I spoke clearly and respectfully. I didn't escalate, respond in kind or give these two bullies another basis to effect some other baseless offense such as obstructing an officer or disorder conduct. I have seen abusive officers like this before and quickly identified their purpose. Bully and bother the black man to get him to respond negatively. These officers invaded my personal space in a loud aggressive manner that really scared me. This is UNACCEPTABLE.

Even the card with the badge numbers has the following language on it "Violator jaywalking and violator refused to wait for the Sgt." Even their language is judgmental and disrespectful – I presume that calling me my first or last name would afford me too much respect. SMH. This is laughable and a disgrace. I could have let this go, but I have to wonder – How many other people are subjected to these **custodial interrogations "reasonably likely to elicit an incriminating response."** See Rhode Island v. Innis

**I have a BS in criminology and a JD in law and as I mentioned at the outset, I respect police and their difficult job. This was not respectful community-based policing. It was abuse of power. Bullying people with the clear intent of escalating a non-serious situation. Disrespect and Discrimination.**

Best,

Eugene, J.D., M.Ed.

CC: LA City Council  
California Department of Justice  
ACLU

DATE: 7/14/19 TIME: 1300 INC NO: 19071400274

OBS'D VIOLATOR JAYWALKING IN  
VIOLATION OF 21955(A)JC. ISSUED  
WARNING CITE # W565748.  
REQ SGT CHAVEZ AT SCENE.  
VIOLATOR REFUSED TO WAIT  
FOR SGT TO ARRIVE.

If you wish to comment on the level of service you received, please  
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RAMPART PATROL DIVISION

OFC UEMURA 36619  
OFC CHAN 30503

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