

We The People

Program 196

### **We the People Bringing Home the Bacon**



Good day to you. Recently I received an email circulating the internet about McDonalds restaurants. I was stunned by the content so I check on the accuracy and found it to be true and that's the story I have for you today. I call this narrative 'bringing home the bacon'. So this unsolicited email recorded an ordinary event where an Australian couple were coming home and stopped at McDonalds for some kind of bacon burger on a sesame seed bun. Normally they liked the product but on this occasion were very disappointed with the bacon. Instead of being crispy, tasty and well cooked it was soft, watery and pale and tasted like a processed chamois with sauce. So they made enquires and found that the bacon in some McDonalds restaurants is cooked in a microwave oven and that explained the plight of the pliable pig. The question of course is why on earth would MacDonal'd's do that and take away so much from their product. Well, after contacting corporate Macca's I discovered the bacon cannot be cooked on the same hot plate as everything else because it has to be quarantined from spiritual cross contamination. Yes you guessed it, the product is halal certified for less than 2% of the population and so the pig is toast.

Now, not every McDonalds cooks this way but 21 outlets do and it appears they are all located in areas where Muslims abound. Of itself that's a worry too, in my view. Anyhow the halal tax and this invasive habit yet again pervades our society and as the broader social menu changes to suit, we are being denied the very things we ascribe to. In this case it's a swine swindle. While I was trying to get to the facts I first started on the McDonalds Facebook site but was soon blocked from asking questions once they realised the bogus bacon bonanza was being questioned. In fact I was told by one of the operatives that 'it's no big deal' and then blocked. Communicating with McDonalds corporate was an exercise in rampant futility and I felt like a bit player in an episode of Yes Minister. At one point I thought I was going to be told it was all 'commercial in confidence' to get me to go away. However listeners, I don't do that, rather I hang in there and finally bring home the bacon and then you good folk hear about it. So, while I was investigating this rasher wrangle I learnt that McDonalds appear to be the epicentre for political correctness and it could be concluded the food is specifically tailored to not upset or marginalise, except of course it marginalises non Islamic customers who get the rubbery bacon. They seem to be an international corporate landmark for righteousness, so I thought I would test that theory. I went into a local McDonalds here on the Gold Coast and asked for a Big Mac for Presbyterians or as I called it, a 'Presso Burger'. The young person behind the counter looked at me as though I was an aging fool away from the retirement home for the day on a bowls tour. Nevertheless I persisted and said I wanted a Christian-certified Big Mac and again the junior burger behind the counter was mystified and seemed to glow rasher red as I spoke. So I can confirm, you can't get a Christian-endorsed burger at McDonalds but you can get an Islamic certified burger at some Macca's outlets.

Wisely, Christianity has a different take and the Bible yet again offers contemporary wisdom and says in Mathew 15, ***'that it's not what goes in the mouth that matters, rather it's what comes out that counts'***. So McDonalds has a very big problem because in specifically tailoring their menu to a small religious group they ignore other faiths including the Jewish folk and Kosher certification. In their action they marginalise everyone else in those select stores and especially ignore our dominant Christian heritage. Anyway you be the judge but I won't be pigging out at McDonalds again just on principle and in any case as the ad says, *'the burgers are better at Hungry Jacks'*. The porcine predicament seems to be everywhere and all in the name of fairness and equality..... but it's nice to know that this year, Cadbury's Easter eggs were halal certified too.

**Until next time this is Kent Bayley.**