

We The People
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We the People 273 Politically Correct Gastronomics



Good Day to you. Let's talk restaurants. One of the best parts of opening a restaurant is the opportunity to let your creativity flow. You can design a restaurant with a unique stamp. That uniqueness can attract customers and those who are in the game are constantly searching for new ideas to blend a theme and food together to act as a gastronomic magnet. It's a business I know little about but like you I enjoy my food and a night out occasionally is a pleasant thing. The business of opening a restaurant is complex in design and the creation of a unique menu plus the cost of all the furnishings and equipment is demanding. Restaurants come and go and fortunes are won and lost, sometimes between the entree and dessert or so it seems and being a restaurateur is not for the faint hearted.

So an enterprising couple designed and opened the **British Colonial Co restaurant in Hawthorne Brisbane**. It was to be a refined and a modern dining experience with adventure where east meets west in a plantation style club setting. The restaurant served dishes such as hickory smoked quail with tarragon polenta and African-influenced eggplant spinach sauce. Sounds good to me.....! Put simply this was an old Colonial era styled restaurant with flavours from the past gathered along the way by the British empire. Now welcome the politically correct brigade on social media who claimed the whole thing was racist and bigoted and in some way celebrated the bad colonial days where everything was apparently wrong. As is the case with the PC brigade they bring along other members of the clan to tear apart the victim and like piranhas devour the lot in quick time. The result was that sadly the restaurant closed its doors and people lost money and workers their jobs.

While the PC piranhas were still feeding, British Colonial Co said in a statement: *"We are very proud of our brand, dining experience and the loyal clientele we have established since opening in July this year. We believe that our décor and menu has great synergy with Brisbane's climate and the expansive palette of our clientele, who are looking for a melting pot of food and beverages to enjoy in a relaxed atmosphere. We are therefore upset and saddened by today's media reports that our brand is causing offence and distress to some members of the community. This certainly was not our intention. As a small local business, we strive to be the best we can, and we are committed to improving our service wherever possible."*..... Well, all too late as the PC mob destroyed them. Of course no business PC mutilation would be complete without the publicly funded SBS television weighing in. They came up with a video skit where a Caucasian English diner was being served in proper kit and a cynical narration was overlaid on the scene. The commentator said and I quote.....**"no... bad white person"** and **"imperialism is not romantic you ghoul, are they trying to attract racist clientele"** and referring to indigenous people, colonisation means **"death disease and genocide"**. It didn't stop there and the commentator goes on to say **"many Australians still don't see why its offensive to bask in the glory of our colonial past"** and plenty of references to Aborigines and why we don't celebrate them. In my view this SBS TV logic is warped, irrelevant and misguided and it does a lot of harm. This politically correct gastronomic attack was crude and simplistic and it appears went on to seal the fate of the new restaurant. As an adjunct I don't believe taxpayer funded media should be allowed to parody and harm a small business for any reason apart from reporting a genuine news story. Their agenda is not my agenda yet that doesn't seem to worry the PC mob and we the taxpayer pick up the bill yet again.

This matter has a bit to run yet as it is reported husband and wife Mark and Angela Kennedy last month lodged a statement of claim in the Southport District Court against the Special Broadcasting Service SBS, seeking aggravated damages after SBS Viceland reported about their now defunct British Colonial Co restaurant. SBS TV now calls itself Viceland and maybe that says it all and personally I find the phrase offensive. I wish Mark and Angela well in their case.

Until next time this is Kent Bayley

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qBpogR4n1ys>