

"A Hypocritical Oath"

If you ask someone to forgive you, then it is only fair that you forgive them, or anyone else as well, correct? That would be the moral thing to do, right?

Perhaps someone should reiterate this fact to Governor Ralph Northam of the commonwealth state of Virginia. At times one must be reminded of the very words that they utter before making the decision not to forgive the next person.

In his public apology for dressing up in "Blackface" during his wild teenage college years, Governor Northam asked for forgiveness for his thoughtless actions. Just recently, I was able to reconnect with a good friend

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of mine who has served over two decades of her life behind bars. My friend informed me that she was turned down for her clemency by Governor Noetham. She brought up the statement he made when he plead for our forgiveness. So why could he not in turn, forgive my friend for her actions and release her?

Governor Noetham should well know that as human beings we all make mistakes. That is part of learning and growth. That is part of life. He should also know that not any one of us is perfect, including himself, clearly. In my opinion, it is unethical to ask for forgiveness of others as a public figure, and not be willing to extend the same mercy to the next individual. What if people

had chosen not to forgive his behavior? Would he still be holding public office?

Many of the best people I have met are sitting behind bars right now. Many of the world's most intelligent and talented people are stuck inside of concrete walls when they could be tearing down barriers on the outside.

Breaking the chains that keep people linked in a perpetual state of oppression first mentally, and then eventually physically. Someone must break these chains, but it begins with the ones holding the keys to the lock.

However politically incorrect Governor Northam's past behaviors were, this man, this unforbearing man, still holds the office as governor in the state of Virginia. Which must mean that someone

forgave him and chose to
overlook his disgraceful and
distasteful actions. Yet, he
chose not to grant my friend
her freedom by pardoning
her past behavior. How
hypocritical!

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