

**CLINTON ADMINISTRATION INEPTITUDE BROUGHT TO YOU IN
LIVING COLOR
05/02/00**

Last Saturday the whole world witnessed yet another example of deviant government behavior. A picture is worth a thousand words. The images we saw on our TV sets said it all – the same scenes millions of American kids tuning the Saturday morning cartoons saw and questioned why that terrible looking man was pointing a gun at that terrified six-year-old?

The outrage was followed by the usual blatant hypocrisy from the radical left's futile attempts to justify more aberrant behavior. The same people who tried to rationalize the incineration of over 80 men, women and children at Waco and the tragedy of Ruby Ridge. We are asked to believe that the most powerful man and nation in the history of mankind had no other alternatives to resolve all three. If that is indeed true, we need new leaders.

I reiterate my statement from an earlier column that Elian Gonzalez belongs with his father. He would have been there months ago if we had had an ethical administration that lived by the rule of law, common sense and decency.

Instead, they procrastinated to see which way the political winds were blowing. Castro made up their minds and they were between a rock and a hard place. When he or any other communist led regime says jump, the president and the rest of the communist sympathizers in his administration ask, "How high?"

One has to question the unprecedented method used to recover this child with the inherent risks associated with it. What was the urgency since this child was in a safe and amiable location? Any honest person using common sense would realize that this child was a pawn in an even deeper conspiracy.

The Cuban-American community, although well intentioned, tried to use Elian to further their vendetta against Castro. They did not act in good faith and were most uncooperative in uniting him with his father. They were right in questioning why his father did not move to claim the boy sooner. They were right in questioning Castro's role in controlling the father. They had experienced communist oppression firsthand and it was only natural to try to spare a relative.

What has happened to relations between the Cuban-American community and this administration? Would they have invaded a Black or other Hispanic community in the same manner? I have my own opinion for an obvious change in policy toward them.

They have become a model of self-sufficiency and another American success story. They

work hard, obey the law and promote strong family values. In short, they cannot be exploited for political gain as some other minority groups have been. It also carries favor with other communist governments and their left-leaning sympathizers in this country.

The legalities have been an issue with both sides claiming the high ground. As far as the government is concerned how can anyone have any faith in their interpretation of the law. In my and millions of others' minds, Janet Reno is the most incompetent and corrupt attorney general in the history of our country. If the Cuban Americans have broken the law by not turning the child over as ordered, why has no one been arrested?

This sorry mess is the direct result of a bungling, corrupt, inept administration. By now the sides are drawn and everyone has formed their own conclusions. Here are mine:

Elian belongs with his father regardless of his politics or country. The government is responsible for not seeing to it sooner. They were wrong in the way they affected it. It portrayed this country in a bad light to the rest of the world. They demonstrated the best reason in the world for not giving up your guns. They have proven how duplicitous and totally dishonest the present administration is.

Last, but not least, nothing either political party or the families on either side did was in the best interest of Elian.