

A Sermon on Jussie Smollett's Guerrilla Street Theater

Sermon by Rev. Minister Angela Smith of COPE for December 26th, 2021 (and beyond)

Jussie Smollett has been charged with filing a false complaint with law enforcement.

Source: <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/29/arts/television/jussie-smollett-trial.html>

But, in entirety, it is obvious it was a performance art piece intended to raise awareness about the lack of due diligence on the part of the media to research or investigate stories before representing them as fact. It also appears to be a joke to some extent because the others involved are Nigerian. Nigeria is the fraud capital of the world. Source: <https://www.times-standard.com/2012/02/12/as-it-stands-why-nigeria-became-the-scam-capital-of-the-world/> So, from my perspective two Nigerians wearing MAGA hats and attacking Smollett for show in an attempt to expose white supremacy or homophobia is hilarious.

Smollett was either sarcastically helping the Republicans by reinforcing their position that their political opponents were engaging in false flag operations in which they pose as the opposition to make the opposition look bad or set them up in some way, or, when he heard that thought it was an absurd allegation and decided to mock it. This is my opinion from my perspective and may not be accurate beyond accurately representing my point of view. Only a true artist would blend a mock with an homage in such a manner.

Did he report it or just share the video after which he was contacted by police to take his report given the evidence to which they were privy? Either way, the outcome as it stands is evidence that you don't draft law enforcement into your performance art piece even if they show up as something you consider audience participation after the fact. You might if that dedicated to your art though and wishing to make a mockery of the entire system at once. I love it, but also understand the time to confess or clear things up was when questioned by police if looking to avoid criminal charges yourself. So, in clarifying where the line is for other artists who may engage in similar productions, I feel Smollett is doing a great service to everyone while being an example of where the line is to avoid criminal charges.

My prayers are with Smollett and if he does any jail time, that should be a lesson to activists and artists everywhere. It is also clear he wanted to be caught. He didn't pay his cast in cash, filmed rehearsals, and texted the Nigerians while in lock-up about all of it. So, Smollett's performance is an example of transparency and obfuscation at the same time, which is why it is an homage to the US system of government in many ways. Bravo!

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

For those interested in starting #TaoFu Self-Defense Exercises, please see <https://www.cope.church/taofu.htm> and begin at any time.

There are opportunities to send messages, receive mystery bonus blessings, and more with or without donating available now on our "Pass the Basket" page at <https://www.cope.church/basket.htm> . Thank You.

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32 KJV Willful blindness is an abomination.

COPE accepts Feedback, critical and complimentary. Learn more at <https://www.cope.church/feedback.htm> . For the sake of keeping myself and others humble, a sense of humor is welcome on all sides.

For More About COPE and the HEAL Mission, see:

<https://www.cope.church> and <https://www.heal-online.org>