

A Sermon on Manifesting Evidence of Humor

Sermon by Rev. Minister Angela Smith of COPE for September 5th, 2021 (and beyond)

This sermon is like many others as written in dialogue format. You can consider it a courtroom comedy or drama based in part on <https://www.cope.church/manifestevidence.htm>.

DIALOGUE:

Prosecutor: What evidence exists of this abstract intangible you call “a sense of humor”?

Alleged Humorist: Do you want me to tell a joke or say something funny?

Prosecutor: Humor is too subjective to be proven to exist. Here is my evidence: <https://www.thecut.com/2014/07/funny-then-not-funny-then-funny-again-joke.html> <https://dailyowan.com/2020/08/24/opinion-dark-humor-is-not-funny/> <https://www.fastcompany.com/3028499/this-is-why-youre-not-funny-a-professors-scientific-approach-to-dissecting-humor> <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/quiet-revolution/201509/sometimes-joke-is-not-just-joke> The last piece of evidence postulates that supposed “humor” is actually symptomatic of anti-social behavior.

Alleged Humorist: So, you want me to say something objectively funny that might even make you laugh? How about "Hate my act? Well, my father said he was infertile and was dishonorably discharged from the Air Force. What do you expect? My father is literally known for dishonorable discharges. Seriously!”

Prosecutor: I do not hold any passionate feelings in regards to you or your actions. Does deceptive marketing run in your family? Is that your evidence? I don't think deceit is funny.

Alleged Humorist: Do you find anything funny? By funny I mean humorous and not strange, odd, or difficult to explain. By humorous I mean causing lighthearted laughter and amusement or manifesting evidence by having or showing a sense of humor.

Prosecutor: This isn't about me. This is about you proving humor exists. So far, you've got nothing objective and subjective evidence is too subjective to be considered evidence by my office. Your “belief” in your own sense of humor is not one I share. It is such an unshared belief that we're having this out in court.

Alleged Humorist: I think this entire situation is funny and when intelligent people read about or learn of it, they will all laugh with me. A sense of humor is a sign of being extremely intelligent. Here's my source: <https://www.newsweek.com/funny-people-higher-iq-more-intelligent-685585>

Prosecutor: You are not funny which is evidence of your own lack of intelligence. Are you suggesting you are both stupid and a liar?

Alleged Humorist: I disagree with you on all points just made by you and see your lack of finding the humor here a sign of your deficits rather than my own. Are you charging me with fraud? Did you or the alleged victim pay to see one of my shows, find it not funny, and decide to press charges? My shows are free and I accept donations in my hat or other receptacle for those who are kind enough to offer a tip. I never charge anyone. Is that the crime?

Prosecutor: The charge is fraud because you claim to provide humorous entertainment and did not so provide.

Alleged Humorist: That's entirely subjective and you already said as much. You said if it was subjective it is indeterminable as fact in a court of law. You are the one who has nothing.

Prosecutor: Judge, I want this fraud denied bail. With a father who was in the Air Force, could pose a flight risk especially if an ex-pat.

Judge: All charges dismissed and I need the name of the judge who signed off on the warrant on this one. Is this a joke? Candid Camera? Am I being Punk'd?

Prosecutor: It is all in the paperwork I already handed you. And the fact you can't determine whether or not it is a joke proves the alleged humorist is a fraud.

Alleged Humorist: Excuse me, but I believe the judge believes this is a joke to the extent I believe it to be a joke. But, since the choice to prosecute and bring this to the judge was yours, I believe the joke's on you even though I find it funny.

Prosecutor: I have no intention of being funny. Fraud is a serious matter.

Judge: I repeat, all charges are dismissed and I'll be calling the District Attorney's office to see that you get a much needed vacation. Did the DA actually sign off on this?

Prosecutor: I already handed you all the pertinent documents. Yes, my supervisor, the District Attorney, signed off on this.

Judge: Did the DA read it first or trust your judgment? The victim didn't even lose any money.

Alleged Humorist: And, I'm always willing to give a receipt and a refund where there is a receipt to anyone kind enough to tip when I pass the hat.

Prosecutor: I don't know. I thought this case should be prioritized. Maybe I do need a vacation. Sorry to have wasted your time.

Alleged Humorist: I think this is hilarious. But, I'll hold my laughter until out of the courthouse.

Judge: Me too.

END DIALOGUE

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>