

A Sermon on Objective and Subjective Reasoning

Sermon by Rev. Minister Angela Smith of COPE for August 9th, 2020 (and beyond)

I'm usually subjectively reasonable and more often than not objectively reasonable. I am capable of objective reason and understand some have yet to develop objectivity as part of their perspective. I respect we all develop at our own individual paces where patience is required all around. And, where impatience rears its ugly head, everyone suffers and progress is stymied.

I'm going to draw from my own experiences in hopes to highlight the subjective and objective reasoning followed by a metaphor of what is described factually for those who prefer symbolism.

Criminal's Part Against Me: Hacking, spoofing, and harassing online from various foreign IP addresses and/or masked IP addresses through different mediums at different times with Norton identifying likely causes once Norton was aware and could identify and remove them.

Me Reporting To Law Enforcement: I'm an activist and advocate that exposes criminal frauds and human traffickers as part of the mission of my church. I'm being harassed by whom I suspect to be those I'm working to expose in order to help protect the public and save the children/trafficking victims. I've been saving as much as possible of the evidence for the last year and 1/2. I'm going to e-mail all of it to you as attachments (screenshots, spoofed e-mails, source codes on those e-mails, video, etc) and list all the IP addresses so maybe you can catch the cyber-stalkers/harassers and it could be like "The Untouchables" where some stupid online thing brings a human trafficker down because they messed with the wrong advocate. So cool. Right?

Law Enforcement To Me: Foreign IPs are out of jurisdiction. There are so many suspects that we're not equipped to begin to determine who was responsible for what breach. You've got circumstantial evidence on a few and the concrete evidence is on foreign IPs so out of jurisdiction as stated. Did you suffer any significant property damage or bodily harm? By significant I mean of a value of more than \$5,000 on property damage?

Me To Law Enforcement and Myself: I understand objectively, but, you get why it would be super cool if like in "The Untouchables" you guys were able to bring down a child trafficking ring because they were hacking an advocacy mission and church that assists victims, right? I love you and I understand prioritizing and standards of evidence beyond a reasonable doubt. The last time they wiped out my systems it cost \$2600 to recover the data/system. I expect if my system was wiped out again it would cost roughly the same to recover the data. I suffered no physical harm. It is just distracting and annoying.

Law Enforcement: I understand. We appreciate your support.

Now for the metaphor:

Swarm of Killer Bees: Killer bees swarm around you seeming to come out of nowhere and you get repeatedly stung in your own backyard.

You To Exterminator: These bees came out of nowhere and I don't know where they went. I never want to experience that again. I need you to find the hive and destroy it. Not all bees, just the ones who are of the hive that attacked me.

Exterminator To You: Where's the hive you want destroyed and did you know that when a bee stings it is the equivalent of committing suicide? Source: <https://earthsky.org/earth/why-do-bees-die-after-they-sting-you> Were these wasps or bees?

You To Exterminator: Definitely bees, I'm pretty sure. WWASPS are gone aren't they? I thought all the WWASPS were gone. But, are they masquerading as bees now? Are those robotic bees or wasps that stung me? Just kidding.

Exterminator To You: Your injuries look like bee stings to me, but, you could get checked out by a doctor to know for sure. They can likely test or find out. From my experience, I'd say they were bee stings. So, problem solved itself since all those bees are dead? And, I won't charge you for this consultation and if I can be of service, let me know. I'll need specific details so I can address the problem. The more vague you are or if the problem solved itself, I'd rather you respect I've other work to attend to, thank you.

So, with law enforcement and the exterminator, those represent the objective perspective. They have no skin in the proverbial game subjectively but objectively know their jobs and respond to requests for assistance.

And, me with law enforcement, I was objectively reasonable in knowing a crime occurred and I was a victim of an unlawful act or series of acts. I was subjectively upset by it but hoping something good could come out of it like a way to get the human traffickers for electronic trespass where their victims were too intimidated to report to law enforcement directly and we know it is still going on. But, objectively not something the government nor law enforcement can prioritize or even effectively investigate or prosecute given the variables including number of possible or potential suspects and jurisdictional issues. And, objectively I understand that reasonably. Subjectively, I still think "Wouldn't it be cool though if it was like "The Untouchables" and we got the bad guys because of their electronic trespasses?" And, then I think, "Remember "The Untouchables" including Sean Connery's character didn't all make it and if it was in pursuit of a bored housewife who looks good as one of the suspects and got ugly where a cop died, do you think that would be worth it?" No, I don't. But, if it brought down one of the human trafficking fronts on the watch-list then I do think it would be worth it. That's why I continue to assume the risks I do and really love law enforcement.

I hope this helps explain the difference between objective and subjective reasoning plainly enough, if not and you can do better, send it in as feedback. If so and you get it,

good. If you don't get it, you can ask me to expand or explain it differently. I'm happy to help.

You may wish to dispute my use of "metaphor" and believe perhaps I should've used "analogy"? Metaphor Definition: "a thing regarded as representative or symbolic of something else, especially something abstract." or "a figure of speech in which a word or phrase is applied to an object or action to which it is not literally applicable." Bees are real. People are real. Law enforcement is real. I am real. Analogy Definition: "a comparison between two things, typically for the purpose of explanation or clarification." I think arguably both words work given how WWASPS was employed and the SciFi excursion into robotic bees. See, the law enforcement and me bit, was all true and actually happened. But, the bee bit was something I imagined as another way to explain it more objectively or in another way with a little humor. So, if imagined, arguably abstract. Abstract definition: "existing in thought or as an idea but not having a physical or concrete existence." All the definitions for this paragraph are coming from Google provided by Oxford Languages.

In addition, WWASPS stands for World Wide Association of Specialty Programs and Schools. So, not to be mistaken for WASP or WASPs which stand for White Anglo Saxon Protestants. I do wonder though if WASP needs the "white" or if adding the "white" to the title is divisive rather than inclusive. If I were to identify myself as Anglo Saxon Protestant (my heritage includes English, Irish, Cherokee, Creek, Italian, French, Dutch, and Black (African American) that would be ASP. And, an Asp killed Cleopatra because she falsely claimed to be the Goddess Isis to enslave other people with the Romans in Egypt or that's my understanding. So, if asps kill human traffickers, I'd be proud to be considered an ASP. But, I'm happy identifying simply as a Wycliffite or just Angela. I prefer to kill with kindness.

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"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:

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