

## Eighty-sixing Civility

June 27, 2018

Had Sara Huckabee Sanders been asked to leave the Washington, DC, Red Hen, rather than the restaurant of that name in Lexington, Virginia, things might've turned out a bit different. In the nation's capitol, it is illegal to discriminate against customers for reasons of political affiliation.

Out in Lexington? Not so much. One can "86" a politico there with impunity, I guess.

A Yelp reviewer defended the restaurateur's request not to serve President Trump's Press Secretary. "Thank you for refusing to serve a person who lies to the American people for a living."

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Wait — I thought that is what *all* Press Secretaries do: present the official lie. Be that as it may, or not, objecting to one Administration



and not another implicitly endorses the policies and lies of the Administration *not* censured. And the grounds given in this Red Hen cluckery — that the Trump Administration is racist, etc. — might possess a tad more plausibility had the Obama Administration not engaged in policies startlingly similar to the ones Trump and Sanders are blamed for.

The "right to refuse service to anyone" may be a right retained by the people, but since the Ninth Amendment is a dead letter, and the federal government, at least, does not recognize such rights when the refused parties fall into certain "protected groups," talking about it at length is probably a waste of time.

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Which can only mean: that *democratically* elected and appointed government officials are not the right "protected group" — which is odd, isn't it, when those doing the discriminating call themselves "Democrats"?

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.