

Come back soon, Sarah Palin

While everyone on the cable news shows seems to be asking himself why Sarah Palin has given up her office as governor of Alaska, I believe a far more relevant question was ignored. How have we allowed our culture to become so debased, so toxic and so indecent that a public official's children are the object of ridicule and scorn on national television?

I'm not very good at Jeopardy, but does anyone remember what knocked out presidential front-runner Edmund Muskie from the 1972 Democrat race? He broke down in tears making an emotional defense when a newspaper report accused his wife of drinking too much and using off-color language.

Maybe its just me, but I believe I heard a little bit of Muskie in Palin's press conference. She couldn't say it, but I sensed a wounded warrior.

Sarah was tough enough to take all the jokes about her. She could handle all the cracks about how unintelligent she was. She could even endure all the frivolous ethics charges drummed up against her by the national Democratic Party, which feared her like no other.

But those diabolical personal attacks against her children — including jokes aimed at her 14-year-old daughter on national television and her year-old son with Down syndrome — may have been the straw that broke the camel's back. Is it within anyone's capacity to bear that?

Do you think we'll ever see another conservative woman who is also a mother enter national politics after the lambasting Palin's family has endured? You'd have to be insane.

Is this what we really want?



RAY MUTH

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I would suggest any worthy parent would be broken after seeing her children ripped apart in the media and that includes President Obama, whose children conversely have been treated with tremendous respect by the media.

The attacks on Sarah's children should transcend party affiliation. This should not be a Republican versus Democrat thing; this issue is good versus evil.

I have this to say to Sarah Palin:

"Thank you, Sarah, for being a woman of such extraordinary courage and inspiration. I know many people here in Jefferson Township who share the same values you do. In fact, the only difference between you and my wife is there are no moose to shoot around here.

"Personally, I don't care if you believe the moon is made out of Swiss cheese. I'm tired

of tightly scripted politicians with advanced degrees from the best schools who think they know what's best for us based on some theories. I want someone who knows what it's like to have to work hard and pay bills in the real world like the rest of us. I want someone who doesn't think that government is the answer to most problems, let alone all of our problems. I want someone who is so genuine that colloquialisms roll off the tongue naturally. And above all, I want someone who understands that faith, family and friends come first and in that order and that all life is precious, even the life of a Down syndrome child.

"You gave us the speech of a lifetime at the Republican convention. But you've been through enough. You don't owe us anything more. It's fine by me if you just say the heck with it, write a book and enjoy your family in the great state of Alaska. That's probably what most people would do.

"But I suspect you're not most people. You seem to be made out of the same stuff that our Founding Fathers were made of. I know a leader like you doesn't come around very often, so please let me know when you're back in the fight, whether it be as a Republican, a Libertarian or an independent.

"After you have time to dig those bullets out with a knife and heal up, let us know how we can help change this culture so that good, ordinary, hardworking Americans will want to serve our country as public servants. And hang in there. We've only begun to fight."

7/9/09
Ray Muth of Jefferson Township is a community columnist for the Valley News Dispatch.