

Not OK: Sooner State GOP Should Sink Stone-Age Scott Esk

By Deroy Murdock
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Republican Scott Esk, a candidate for state-house representative in Oklahoma's 91st district, is about to enjoy his proverbial 15 minutes of fame — and all for the wrong reasons.

Esk has a soft spot for stoning gays to death. Just when capital punishment for homosexuality has become all the rage in now-sharia-fueled Brunei, the same attitude suddenly pops up in the Sooner State.

“This guy posted on Facebook that homosexuals should be stoned to death,” political researcher Rob Morris of the *Moore Monthly* in Oklahoma told KFOR-TV. “My first response was you're nuts. Nobody would be stupid enough to do that.”

Well, as Forrest Gump taught us: Stupid is as stupid does.

Last summer — after Pope Francis remarked about homosexuality, “Who am I to judge?” — Esk posted on Facebook several Biblical passages advocating that gays should be killed. Someone asked Esk on Facebook, “So just to be clear, you think we should execute homosexuals (presumably by stoning)?”

Given the opportunity to dial back his statement, Esk doubled down.

“I think we would be totally in the right to do it,” Esk replied. “That goes against some parts of libertarianism, I realize, and I am largely libertarian, but ignoring as a nation things that are worthy of death is very remiss.”

Amazing.

As a self-avowed registered Republican and practicing libertarian, I am unaware of any strain of libertarianism that would tolerate the fatal stoning of anyone for homosexuality, especially when consenting adults are involved. (Pedophiles of all persuasions should be jailed for ages. However, stoning seems so seventh century.)

Given his deep misunderstanding of libertarian basics, Esk should consult *The Libertarian Reader* by the Cato Institute's David Boaz or virtually anything by Dr. Milton Friedman, the American Founders, and John Locke. This might straighten him out on libertarianism before he mispreaches it again.

Esk told Rob Morris by phone that his ideas were Heaven-sent.

“What I will tell you right now is that was done in the Old Testament under a law that came directly from God. And in that time it was totally just. It came directly from God.” Esk added: “I have no plans to, you know, re-institute that in Oklahoma law. I do have some very huge moral misgivings about those kinds of sins.”

So, there we have it: 2014’s first nominee for the Todd Akin Toes-on-Tonsils Award.

Republicans in Oklahoma’s 91st state-house district should do themselves and every other Republican in America a huge favor: Defeat Esk in the June 24 GOP primary. Esk should keep his stone-age views to himself and not embarrass himself and the GOP any further by becoming the Left’s new and most-unwelcome poster boy for “Republican Hate.”

Finally, Scott Esk should go home, put down his Old Testament, and pick up his New Testament. He might find instructive its passages on love, forgiveness, and doing unto others as you would have them do unto you.