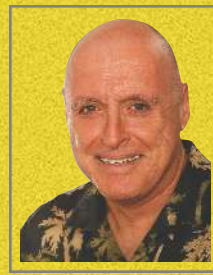


# THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



## # 858 Score One for Common Sense

There's a glaring and gaping hole between many celebrities and the world you and I live in — the one with responsibility, accountability, and common sense. So many seem to thumb their noses at the rules we live by, figuring none of that applies to them. We need to remind ourselves that while many of these so-called "elite" feel that way, there are some who don't fit the mold. I'm Jerry Roberts, and let's talk about this, next on The Extra Point.

Last week, Sha'Carri Richardson, winner of the 100-meter dash at the U.S. Olympic trials, was suspended for a month after testing positive for THC, the primary psychoactive compound of cannabis...marijuana.

With the Olympics nearly upon us, America's top 100-meter runner won't be competing in the race, though she might take part in the relay events.

Celebrities from every corner of athletics, entertainment, and politics cried out that the decision was unfair.

Patrick Mahomes, quarterback for the Kansas City Chiefs, tweeted: "This is so trash man... just let her run!"

Dwayne Wade, former NBA star with the Miami Heat, had this: "But (the) majority of y'all rule makers smoke and probably are investors in THC companies. Let's stop playing these games."

Megan Rapinoe, U.S. Women's soccer player: "This is trash. This has BEEN outdated."

Actor Seth Rogen played the race card, when he said: "The notion that weed is a problematic drug is rooted in racism." He tossed in hatred for good measure.

New Jersey senator Cory Booker called the decision "Devastating and wrong."

So, as you might expect, the Internet lost its mind for a couple of days. Then, to my total surprise, Richardson spoke out and changed things. She thanked her supporters, and then said the following:

"I'm responsible for my actions. I know what I did, I know what I'm supposed to do, what I'm allowed not to do, and I still made that decision ...I'm not making any excuse or looking for any empathy in my case."

I'm sure you could have heard a pin drop in the homes of all those complaining celebrities.

Richardson went on to say she smoked marijuana in trying to cope with the unexpected death of her mother.

I wasn't familiar with Sha'Carri Richardson before this incident. I don't know anything about her past. I can only judge from what she said here, and that has earned my respect.

She didn't go ballistic with the Olympic officials, condemning them for upholding the rules. She didn't whine about the rules, like many of those who spoke out against the decision. Instead, she acknowledged that she knew the rules and willingly broke them, understanding that doing so could lead to repercussions. When that did happen, she accepted the responsibility for her actions.

The surprises didn't end there. A CBS News reporter caught up with President Joe Biden at a store in Central Lake, Michigan, and asked him about Richardson's suspension.

First, there was a day when the liberal media didn't bother a president about such things, letting them focus on the affairs of the nation. No longer. Now, the leader of the free world is supposed to be able to comment on sports, music, movies, and whatever pop culture issue is percolating. (Con't.)

This one seemed ripe. Biden's administration has been pushing race and gender issues, while his economic policies are crippling the country. Surely, he would strongly denounce Richardson's suspension as another example of racism.

Except, he didn't. Here's what he said: "The rules are the rules and everybody knows what the rules were going in. Whether they should remain that way is a different issue. But the rules are the rules, I was really proud of the way she responded."

According to NORML, an activist group whose mission is to push for legalization of marijuana for use by adults, the substance has been decriminalized in 26 states, plus Washington DC, and Guam.

That said, the Olympic ruling body sees it differently, and has presented evidence to dispute NORML's position, plus the opinions of a growing majority who favor recreational use of marijuana.

Change comes slow to institutions such as the Olympics. Someday, cannabis use may not be an issue. That day is not here yet. The rules ban it.

If you don't like certain rules, seek to have them changed. While waiting for that to take place, don't break those rules and then complain of unfairness when you get caught.

To all the celebrities who moaned and wailed about the suspension, you lose.

Score one for She'Carri Richardson, who accepted the decision with grace and class.

Score one for Joe Biden, who probably angered AOC and other radical leftists, by showing some old school values.

Score one for common sense, and allow it to take a victory lap. It doesn't win often these days in a world where wrong is right, and right is wrong.

That's The Extra Point. Be responsible and make something good happen today. For 93.3 and the Ray Gibson Show, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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