

Faithful Citizenship

July 27, 2008

Everyone's heard of the Peter Principle: "In any hierarchy, each individual rises to his own level of incompetence and then remains there." This week, I heard an expansion of that adage: "If many individuals remain too long at their level of incompetence, they will destroy the organization because their presence demonstrates to others that competence is not a prerequisite for success."

With the shenanigans going on this week at the filing deadline for the November elections, it's not hard to see why the public has little faith in government. If you want to read a good summary of what went on, just read Lee Cataluna's column in Friday's Advertiser. It's a perfect example of self-serving interests with an eye on the next step.

There is much interest in Barack Obama because his emphasis is "Change." But I might point out that the counter to that is, "Be careful what you ask for. You just might get it." What exactly is the "change" he is talking about? Let's hope that he defines himself more clearly in the next few months. In a man-on-the-street interview, one person noted that he would support Obama for his concerns for women's rights. Of course, one side of this is the glass ceiling sometimes found by women working their way up the corporate ladder. Many times, however, this refers to a woman's "right to choose." But continuing on the "careful what you ask for" line, woman should note that much of "woman's lib" has backfired on us. We've earned the "right" to open our own doors; work outside the home as well as being primarily responsible for household duties; and, most destructively, we find that, given today's technology for determining a baby's sex before birth, more girls than boys are being aborted. I don't see how that has been good for women. We need to be prepared to vote for the direction we want our country to move toward not just for immediate personal interests.

Gotta go boot up my hard drive! Aloha-mayyb.