

Updating a poem for modern times

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Martin Niemoller's famous poem, slightly updated...

First they came for the liberals, and I did not speak out because there were few left – most had mysteriously morphed into socialists.

Then they came for the journalists, and I did not speak out because I didn't want to be accused of defending the fake news.

Then they came for the immigrants, and I did not speak out because I was born in this country and their attempt to escape persecution wasn't my problem.

Then they came for the ethnic minorities, and I did not speak out because I have always relied upon the benefits afforded me due to my white privilege.

Then they came for the feminists, and I did not speak out because I have always enjoyed the advantages available to me through the patriarchy.

Then they came for the LGBTQIA community, and I did not speak out because they should have chosen to be born heterosexual like I did.

Then they came for the poor, and I did not speak out because I was told that if you don't have any money, it's your own fault.

Then they came for the Muslims, and I did not speak out because I had been taught they were all going to hell anyway.

Then they came for the Medicare recipients, and I did not speak out because I have always been covered by pretty good health insurance.

Then they came for the environmentalists, and I did not speak out because I was already paying way too much at the pump.

Then they came for the conservatives, and I did not speak out because there were very few left – most had mysteriously morphed into fascists.

Finally, they came for me, and I did not speak out because by this time I had forgotten how.

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