

"PUBLIC NUDITY"

7/29/18

CAST

Sharon Joyner - 30's, Mayor of St. Augustine, Florida.

Buck Mulligan - 40's, Fisherman

Rose Marie Carson, 70's, Artistic Director of the First City  
Theatricals.

Joel Eddinger - 40's, Method Ponce de Leon Historical  
Interpreter. Father of Tonya.

Tonya Eddinger - 18, High School Senior

(Public forum run by the Mayor of  
St. Augustine, Florida. A "Mic"  
is set for visitors to speak at.)

SHARON

Welcome to the 15th and absolutely final public forum on City Ordinance 781 which, if passed, would allow nudity on all public beaches in St. Augustine. Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you for taking time away from hustling hot sauce to tourists and operating the Jumperoo at the Alligator Farm to be here. Though it defies belief, there are still some St. Augustinians who haven't been heard on the nudity question.

(Downs half a bottle of pills &  
chases it with a gulp from a  
flask.)

Get talking.

BUCK

Buck Mulligan, Madam Mayor, captain of the S.S. Takin' Care 'O Bydness. That's B-Y-D, Bydness. The B-I-D spelling was taken.

SHARON

Your point, Mr. Mulligan?

BUCK

Well Ma'am, in addition to fishing for blues, pompano, and croppies, I also head up the Aquatic version of Meals on Wheels, Chips on Ships. My work requires me to spend almost every daylight hour on the water, and I say to you, Mayor, there is one thing more terrifying than any great white shark, rogue wave or sinking ship, and that is the human taint.

SHARON

Mr. Mulligan—

BUCK

—The taint is the Shadowy Abyss of the human crotch, a dark foreboding place that is neither genital nor rectum, neither fish nor fowl.

SHARON

So you would be against the ordinance. Thank you and remember, Mr. Mulligan, heat stroke is a killer.

(SHARON pours out powder on her hand, does a bump, and gives herself a freeze.)

Rose Marie Carson, we will be talking about art funding at the City Council meeting next Thursday.

ROSE

Mayor Joyner, Proud though I am of the First City Theatricals upcoming 45th Season, particularly our opening show, a nonmusical version of Grease set in Vichy France, Tickets still available, I'm not here for that. I'm here because this ordinance is a fascistic, unwarranted restriction of human freedom. Just like the fascist streak within the Puritan movement, explored in our second show, The Crucible, reimagined from the point of view of Houston Astros legend, Nolan Ryan.

(While ROSE is talking, SHARON, sprays an aerosol can on a rag.)

SHARON

It's remarkable that you are still talking.

(SHARON huffs the rag.)

Mr. Eddinger?

JOEL (over the top Spanish accent)

Excuse me, who is this, Mr. Eddinger?

SHARON

Dammit Joel! As a historical reenactor, you are flawless, but I don't have the time for—

JOEL (Playing with Mic)

—What is this strange device that converts our speaking to screams?

SHARON

Son of a Bitch! Fine. Ponce de Leon, your position on bare titties on beaches.

JOEL

Noble bearer of a womb—

SHARON

—Watch your ass, Ponce.

JOEL

Apologies. Mayor, as Plenipotentiary and representative of his majesty King Ferdinand of Spain, Lord Protector of Portugal, and Defender of the Faith, I offer my greetings and salutations to all and sundry on this third day post the Vernal Equinox.

SHARON

Tighten it up, Ponce.

JOEL

St. Augustine has become a den of sartorial inequity where neither jerkin nor doublet can be found. Where codpieces are as rare as a French virgin. Less clothes? Heaven Forbid! The King demands more clothes with a four undergarment minimum.

TONYA

Daddy, stop humiliating the family. Madam Mayor, Tonya Eddinger, valedictorian at St. Augustine high school, national merit finalist, and habitual busybody. Respectfully, how are we still debating this ordinance?

SHARON

Well, this town plays hell with my efficiency.

(Frog Sounds. SHARON picks up a frog and licks it.)

TONYA

It is inexcusable that we have talked about this twice much less fifteen times, when you consider the true challenges our city faces.

SHARON

Such as?

TONYA

25 years of budgets in the red. Average classroom size of 36.  
The alligators that control AlA south of Madiera St.

BUCK

St. Augustine has a 1 to 1 taint to person ratio. Unacceptable.

ROSE

Buy a Three show or Full Season Pass, and you get four free  
tickets to our cabaret fundraiser: Romance is spelled AC/DC, the  
Love Songs of Angus Young.

JOEL

Also we must "encourage" the Jews to head North to Jacksonville  
Beach.

TONYA

Daddy! Queen Isabella wants you home. Madam Mayor, currently our  
number one selling local product is Ass in a Bucket hot sauce.  
The Florida Department of Health refers to our town as  
Gonnerhea's Incubator. The Fountain of Youth is actually  
starting to work, converting adults into infants. As a result  
there are dozens of babies floating facedown in our main tourist  
attraction. The Fountain of Youth is full of Death!

SHARON

Enough! Enough! You mewling, whining collection of Saltines,  
shut up! The ordinance does not pass. Why? Because the median  
age in this town is 79 and you motherfuckers look like sentient  
mayonnaise without your clothes on. I'd rather receive  
cunnilingus from a Xenomorph than look directly at any of your  
tapioca pudding asses. Ordinance fails. I cede the rest of my  
time to Mr. Rogers riding the pink centaur.

THE END