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Monday, Feb 4, 2

Posted on Sun, Feb. 03, 2008 THE BUZZ | Can you spell 'D+V-O-R-C-E?' Let me ask my attorney

U.S. Rep. **Bob Inglis** ran headlong into territory normally verboten to the GOP when he appeared Wednesday on "The Colbert Report."

Inglis, who represents the Upstate's oh-so-conservative 4th District, admitted heterosexuals don't have a corner on successful marriages during an interview on **Stephen Colbert's**parody news show.

"It's us heterosexuals who seem to be having a lot of trouble with marriages," Inglis said.

Colbert had asked Inglis to explain his uncommon comment — for a Republican, at least — that he thinks homosexuals aren't out to destroy traditional marriages.

And, wow - Inglis owned it. But will there be consequences?

One of the five grounds for divorce in South Carolina is desertion. We'll see if the GOP wants to file separation papers.

COLOR MY WORLD WITH ... BLUE?

South Carolina may be a red state — solid Republican — to political insiders, but it's true blue to some lawmakers.

State Sen. Ronnie Cromer, R-Newberry, wants to make indigo blue the official state color.

For those of you who are color-challenged, it's the blue on the state flag.

That color was chosen during the Revolutionary War to ensure the uniforms of state troops matched. It was handy, since the Lowcountry then was a leading source of indigo dye for clothing.

If the proposal wins final legislative approval, indigo blue as the state color would become the 41st state symbol.

Blue-blooded conservatives such as Sen. John Courson, R-Richland, are fine with that.

Blue traditionally was tied to conservatives, while red was for those of the more liberal — read "radical" — persuasion. Those election coverage maps you see on television flip-flop the affiliation, Courson said. They reflect the colors only recently (by S.C. standards, within the past 150 years) associated with the parties.

"It's been misclassified, so now we can get back to our roots," Courson said.

"WHILE I BREATHE I UH?"

Bring a Latin dictionary when perusing a Senate-passed proposal that attempts to put pressure on Congress to do more to penalize the many workers from other nations allowed to stay here improperly.

In calling for a national constitutional convention to address immigration issues, the S.C. lawmakers wrote into their proposal that it would be "void ab initio" should the convention be called for any additional reason.

Dusting off our 40-year-old Latin dictionary, The Buzz found the phrase means the state's demand automatically would be invalid under those circumstances.

But we're still confused: Aren't lawmakers about to insist on English as the official language of state government?

BACK TO COLBERT ... (AND THE COLOR OF THE DAY IS NOT BLUE)

The Buzz would be remiss if we didn't note that Inglis, the first U.S. congressman from South Carolina to appear on "The Colbert Report," just might have a sense of humor.

Thankfully, he wasn't as boring as Gov. Mark Sanford, who appeared on the show Jan. 21.

Colbert, a Charleston native, told "his governor" he was as exciting as "a manila envelope glued to a beige wall."

Sorry, Inglis didn't make Colbert's video cut. But to view Colbert's interview with Sanford, check out S.C. Politics Today at the state.com. Just remember: You didn't hear it from The Buzz.

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