

Paul White

DIVERSITY: LEVEL UP AND FLATTEN DOWN



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Diversity

No references are to living or dead characters

Level up but Flatten Down Not only does the UK Government insist on levelling up but this will not be achieved without flattening down.

Scene:

The Births, Marriages and Deaths office in Sherborne
Dorset

Characters:

Thomas Miller. Groom to be (TM)
BMD Agent (A)

A: good morning [cough] Miller. Please take a seat. How do you prefer to be titled?

TM: I know it is old fashioned but "Mr".

A: Alright. Good of you to come personally Mr. Miller. You have written an application to marry or register a civil partnership with June Ramsbottom. Is that correct?

TM: Yes.

A: And how does this primate or humanoid identify her gender or rather how should we refer to June? He, she or it?

TM: "She" of course, she is female.

A: I immediately noticed your application and must tell you straight away why **and** why it won't be approved.

TM: Why not?

A: Very simple, since we are now also adhering to the diversity rules of the UK OFFD. That is the Office for Diversity. Your names are too obvious. Miller, Ramsbottom. Not exactly Asian or East European are they? Suggests tendencies to be white supremacists?

TM: And what do they have to do with my application?

A: An awful lot I'm afraid. We must ensure in each government area that we are applying the basic rules of diversity to safeguard future generations. As you probably realise the Dorset population is almost totally white supremacist. Something that future generations just should not be.

We need a diverse population. Very simple.

Added to which both of you are registered at the OFD as *Roman Catholic*. Imagine the dangers of breeding a Vatican Village in Rural Dorset. It goes without saying that that will never get approval.

TM: And?

A: In your case we need to ensure that you diversify your needs. We have a points system and I can't go against the rules can I? You two won't get above two or three points and that bluntly is just not enough.

TM: So what are you suggesting?

A: You would get good points with a South African from an indigenous township. And in Sherborne I have a candidate with a Zulu background. You are shaking your head. Too tall? The stretched neck?

I could offer a Thai transvestite which would be really diverse and get us a lot of points. No good?

TM: No way.

Look I want to be very reasonable and I know a way of solving your problem even if it is not quite Kosher.

TM: Tell me

A: Now between you, me and the gatepost, today is Wednesday, I am suggesting that by Saturday you go to the synagogue in St. Mary Street and have a word with Rabbi Jacob. Nice guy, always helpful. It is dead simple, Instead of Thomas Miller you become Aaron Goldberg. AND I hear the operation is hardly painful and heals in a couple of weeks.

TM: HUH?

A: Then first spend a couple of evenings on Grindr or any other queer forum so that the authorities, who nowadays are monitoring your internet usage, record you as a homosexual.

Second you need to get June Ramsbottom and get it - sorry "her" - to go to the Bangladesh website and apply for citizenship and at the same time registering under a new name as a muslim. Something like Aisha Mohamed. If you can get her to change her preference for sexual partners on our application to female it would be perfect.

Alternative, always very cooperative, the consulate at Dar-Es-Salam. She could become a Swahili Mohammedan and I am told they are not insisting on FGM at the moment.

Anyway there is no way the OFD turn down a **gay jew** wanting to marry an **asian lesbian**. More diverse is impossible. Unless of course you would like to reconsider the Zulu.

As a last resort you might consider relocating. Sell your house in Sherborne and move to say Bradford. Being what we officially call caucasian is no problem up there. You would be a rarity. Get bags of points. You could marry whoever you like.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



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