

The English culture created a unique type of person. The freedom of the English society removed much of the power and threat of belief, either religious, political, philosophic or scientific. There have been periods in English history when some form of suppression or other has become entrenched but resistance is always just below the surface and eventually this suppression is cast aside.

The English culture proper is difficult to define for many people because the establishments at each milestone in English history have tried to blinker the population. No establishment can wield power over a free people constantly so each new generation sees a new outpouring of misinformation and spin. (You can fool all of the people some of the time and some of the people all of the time but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time).

A brief tour through history may help to understand the nature of the English so we can start way back at the last Ice-Age. The last glacial period which we call the Ice Age occurred during the final years of the Pleistocene, which covers a period approximately 110,000 to 10,000 years ago. It is generally accepted that the end of the last glacial period was about 10,500 BC although some would argue that the end of the last ice age may not yet have come as there is still ice at the poles. However, for the benefit of my argument I would claim that the mainland of Britain became habitable again some twelve thousand years or so ago. This means that the peoples that were able to repopulate the southern parts of Britain, which today we call England, were the local Europeans that had survived the Ice Age. These would have been the same peoples that repopulated the northern parts of Europe as the ice retreated. Re-population of Britain was possible because there was no North Sea to contend with and the people were able to casually migrate across the newly emerging landscape. The date for the formation of the English Channel and the North Sea changes as more information is found and it is hard to find an accurate date although the general consensus seems to be between 20,000 and 10,000 years ago. Personally I think it may have been more recent because William Camden in his book, **Britain, or, a Chorographical Description of the most flourishing Kingdomes, England, Scotland, and Ireland**, claims in the chapter titled, "BRITAINE"

For between the said Fore-land of Kent and Calais in France it so advanceth it selfe, and the sea is so streited, that some thinke the land there was pierced thorow, and received the seas into it, which before-time had been excluded. For the maintenance of which conceit, they allege both Vergil in that verse of his,

And Britans people quite disjoin' d from all the world besides.

Because Britaine, saith Servius Honoratus, was in times past joyned to the maine. And also Claudian, who in imitation of him wrote thus:

Britaine, a land which severed is from this our [Romane] world.

These comments suggest a 'folk memory' was being invoked and that the Romans had picked up on it. Perhaps the separation of Britain from Europe was not as ancient as modern historians imagined. Recent television documentaries have brought the date down to between 8,000 and 6,000 years ago. However, for the purpose of this examination lets argue that the channel that formed the North Sea started around 6,000 years ago and has continued to widen.

We now have a scenario of North Western Europe being populated by people of a single identity but part of that population now being progressively turned into Island people whilst other sections of this group were forming into families, clans and eventually tribes in the various parts of Europe. These people are not different races, they are just different culturally. By the time of the Roman invasion the people of the British Isles had evolved into distinct tribes but are know collectively by

the Romans as Britons. Let us keep in mind that the term Roman derives from the city of Rome and the 'Romans' cannot be defined as a separate race just because they lived in one particular city. That would be the same as claiming Liverpoolians are a separate race. No, the Romans are European peoples and may be better described collectively as Italians in the modern view but still European. The Romans did bring with them peoples of other racial identity from Africa and the Middle East but their numbers were small and insufficient to vary the racial identity of the indigenous British.

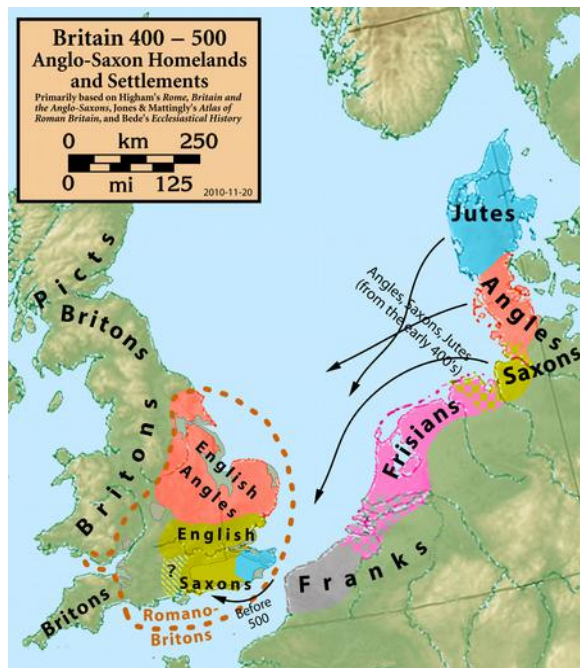
When the Romans left Britain the peoples that lent their cultural identity to England arrived. These were the Angles, Saxons, Jutes, Frisians and Franks although in reality there were the same people and came from locations quite close to each other.

I digress here to make a simple but important point. European people almost always describe themselves by where they come from or what they do as opposed to their basic racial identity. Scotland has Highlanders and Lowlanders and England has Scousers, Cockneys, Tykes, Geordies and so on. Here is where the confusion begins.

England is known by the French as 'Angleterre' which is a combination of 'Angle' meaning 'Anglo' and 'Terre' meaning 'land' so this gives us Land of the Angles. After the Anglo-Saxon invasion came the Viking invasion but here again we have the identity confusion because the Vikings are described by their association with water. The Danish Vikings came from Jutland where the Jutes came from as well as the Anglo-Saxons. Remember that there were Swedish and Norwegian Vikings as well as Danish ones. (Denmark is the Jutland peninsular where the Anglo-Saxons came from – confusing isn't it!) The term Viking stems from the word Vic, Vick or Wic, Wick and describes the water channels that were their transport communication routes. A common tree of the waterside is the willow and as everyone should know the practice of weaving willow into usable domestic products is 'wicker-work' or work carried out on or by the Wick. As Britain and Ireland were being settled by these Germanic tribes so was most of Europe and Russia owes it's name to these peoples also. One group of warriors from the North settled in modern day France and were called by their origin, Normans. Norman is a corruption of 'North Man' and was applied in some parts of England to the Anglo-Saxons as well as the Vikings because, as I have explained earlier, they were the same peoples. When Edward the Confessor died we are told that the Norman, William the Conqueror, took the throne from Harold, the Saxon King of the English. This is spin on a parallel with the famous 'dodgy dossier' that justified the war on Iraq. Edward the confessor was the grandson of Duke Richard of Normandy. Duke William of Normandy, 'the Conqueror', was the great-grandson of the same Duke Richard of Normandy. In other words, Edward the Confessor and William the Conqueror were the same family and this is why Edward had allegedly nominated William for the crown. King Harold, on the other hand, was not related to Edward and was, in fact, the son of a Danish Viking mother, Gytha Thorkelsdóttir, who was the sister-in-law of Cnut the King of England and Denmark. So Harold, contrary to modern propaganda, was not truly Saxon. Harold was the son of Earl Godwin and assumed the surname 'Godwinson' in keeping with his Viking tradition. His marriage was in Viking style and he gave his children Viking names. So, Edward and William were not only the same race, (as they all were), but were of the same family whereas Harold although being the same race was not from the same family. Of course, this recognition of ancestry also indicates that Edward the Confessor was also of Saxon and Norman extraction but as I have stated earlier there is no difference between the Saxons and Normans.

Now that I have declared that the English are the same as most of Europe from an identity point of view can I claim that there is such a thing as an English identity. Well, yes. English is a cultural identity within a racial framework and we can explore English folklore for some clues. Personal Freedom is a very important element of being English and this translates itself in the common phrases that were in general use until the imposition of a 'politically correct' society. The privacy of ones home was encapsulated in, "An Englishman's home is his castle." It has taken many changes

in law to destroy this accepted lore. Freedom of speech can be found ingrained in statements such as, “We mean what we say and we say what we mean,” which is supported by, “Speak as you find”, and “Call a spade a spade”. But such freedoms work both ways hence we find that, “Sticks and stones may break my bones but calling names wont hurt me” and “Our bark is worse than our bite.” These freedoms have been eroded by various governments.



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