



**New Prices
Effective
May 1, 2010**

Martin Cleaning Service

**Carpet & Upholstery
Cleaning
Residential &
Commercial Services**
Minimum Service CHG.
\$45.00

A small distance/travel charge
may be applied

CARPET CLEANING

**2 Cleaning Areas or
more \$30.00 Each Area**

Pre-Spray Traffic Areas
(Includes: 1 small Hallway)

1 Cleaning Area (only)
\$40.00

Includes Pre-Spray Traffic Area
(Hallway Extra)

**Stairs (12-16 stairs - With
Other Services): \$25.00**

Area/Oriental Rugs:
\$25.00 Minimum

Area/Oriental Rugs (Wool):
\$40.00 Minimum

Heavily Soiled Area:

Additional \$10.00 each area
(Requiring Extensive Pre-Spraying)

UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Sofa: \$69.00

Loveseat: \$49.00

Sectional: \$109 - \$139

Chair or Recliner:

\$25 - \$49

Throw Pillows (With

Other Services): \$5.00

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Area & Oriental Rug Cleaning
- Auto/Boat/RV Cleaning
- Deodorizing & Pet Odor Treatment
- Spot & Stain Removal Service
- Scotchguard Protection
- Minor Water Damage Services

**SEE CURRENT FLYER
FOR ADDITIONAL
PRICES & SERVICES
Call for Appointment
(503) 281-3949**

OPINION

1-7-15:
A mighty new
river is born from
the ink of your pens,
the blood of your veins and
the tears of your fans.



Bullets and Bombs Can Never Silence Our Voices

Lessons from Charlie Hebdo massacre

BY KHALIL BENDIB

As a political cartoonist who happens to be both American and Muslim, I often find myself at the intersection of media curiosity: Muslim, with all the stereotypical notions attached to that, but also a freedom-loving artist and a humorist.

I'm not just the butt of jokes, but a purveyor of them — a non-violent wielder of the pen, which I maintain is funnier than the sword.

I'm no stranger to controversy and censorship, and I've received my fair share of death threats over the years. So I've had ample opportunity to mull the thorny question of freedom of expression versus responsibility.

Was Charlie Hebdo, the satirical publication whose staffers were murdered by Islamic extremists in Paris, always the fairest and most responsible newspaper in the world? Of course not. I confess to have often cringed at its apparent double-standard when it comes to skewering Muslims and Jews.

But does anyone — ever — deserve to be harassed, hounded, or murdered for expressing an opinion, however egregious it may be perceived by some?

Voltaire's biographer Evelyn Beatrice Hall eloquently and definitively answered that question long ago: "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."

Personally, I will always remember Jan. 7, 2015 as a day of infamy, a catastrophe delivering layer upon layer of misery.

As a human being, I feel disgust over the murder of 12 innocent people.

As an artist, I feel a profound sense of grief over the loss of four fellow cartoonists — including the great Cabu (also known as Jean Cabut), who inspired me as a young man to become a cartoonist.

And as a member of the worldwide Muslim community, I'm plagued with a nagging sense of shame and fear of the inevitable backlash that will follow in an already Islamophobic Europe, where most of my family still resides.

I worry that the unspeakable acts of a few will drown out the sincere protestations of the many that this kind of horror doesn't speak in our

name.

Former French justice minister Robert Badinter — no particular friend of the Muslim community — has warned his fellow citizens not to fall into the extremist trap of letting barbaric violence divide French society, of which nearly 10 percent is Muslim. But tensions are running high.

Yet beyond the social polarization — manifested by both senseless Islamist violence and the cheap Islamophobia of opportunistic politicians and media — lies a more interesting and nuanced reality: signs of hope and progress.

Long before this attack, French people were showing what it means to coexist in a multi-ethnic and pluralistic society.

Among the many good works he will be remembered for, cartoonist Georges Wolinski — who was among the cartoonists assassinated in cold blood in the name of wounded religious pride — once came to the rescue of Menouar Merabtene, the Algerian cartoonist best known as Slim, a close friend of mine who was fleeing from persecution in his native country.

Throughout the 1990s, a bloody civil war raged between Islamist militants and the autocratic Alge-

rian government. Many artists and intellectuals opposed to the Islamist agenda were systematically assassinated in that conflict.

Out of simple human solidarity, Wolinski — a Jewish cartoonist from France — spontaneously intervened to secure a job for the beleaguered Muslim-Algerian Slim at the Paris newspaper *L'Humanité*.

Similarly, thousands of French people are mourning and praising slain Muslim police officer Ahmed Merabet. He died pursuing men suspected of perpetrating the Charlie Hebdo massacre.

Like the stories of North African Muslims standing in solidarity with their Jewish brethren against the Vichy government's hunt for North African Jews during World War II, these simple stories tend to get lost in the din of terrorist mayhem.

But in the end, bullets and bombs can never silence the voices of laughter and friendship.

Khalil Bendib is the editorial cartoonist for OtherWords. His work appears regularly in the Portland Observer. He was born in Paris as a refugee of Algeria's war of independence and grew up in Morocco and Algeria. He lives in Berkeley, Calif.