Interview questions for Dror Bar-Natan,

(drorbn@disavowal.ca)

Please return to spadlit@gmail.com

1) Are you someone who generally participates in politics in a partisan way, or is it rather that specific issues (for example *The Bible Code*) provoke you?

2) What do you think prompted you to focus on the queenie part of the Canadian citizenship oath, since presumably you could have kept quiet like most people and taken your citizenship without hassle?

3) I believe civil rights lawyer Charles Roach started the process many years ago, but by last year the case proceeded on behalf of Michael McAteer, Simone Topey, and yourself. I should mention lawyer Peter Rosenthal as an active ingredient. How did you meet the others involved in this legal battle?

4) I’ve seen some nasty comments on your decision to renounce the royalty part of the oath, including an adverse editorial in the *Globe*. Overall, what kind of support (or antipathy) have you received from colleagues, students, acquaintances, and the public?

5) Did you receive any support, or at least encouragement, from any known political figures?

6) Do you accept the argument that the queen and her successors as spelled out in the oath are not meant to be taken literally as human individuals at the top of a social pyramid, but rather are meant to be taken as mere symbols of our form of government with its commitment to democracy, equality, etc?

7) In the end, you chose to swear the oath then renounce a part of it, as the courts had made clear was your right to do so. You have set up a website, disavowal.ca, inviting others to make similar declarations. Do you plan to participate in further political action or protest against the oath and/or against the monarchy itself? If so, how so?

8) Did you write to the monarch explaining your disavowal as at one time you meant to do? If so, did you hear back?

9) Besides Canadian, you hold Israeli and U.S. citizenship. I assume you took the U.S. oath. How do you compare it to the Canadian oath, especially the part that seems to require you to bear arms if they need you to?

10) What sort of constitutional arrangement would you advocate for Canada — e.g., a homegrown monarchy, a viceroy, a presidential system? Who is to be the Head of State?

11) Are you winning or losing this battle?