

# Pedophilia in the Presidential Suite

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Last week a jury found Vasily Midtsev, the leader of the children's club Young Eagles of the Navy, guilty of pedophilia. The club has been active since 1998, and hundreds of children have gone through it. It turns out that under the pretext of patriotic education, children were molested.

Moreover, part of the sexual exploitation occurred in the presidential compartments of the navy's flagship, the atomic cruiser Peter the Great. Boys dressed up as sailors and were taken to the presidential suite, where Midtsev reportedly has his way with them.

I have a few questions about this. First, is it advisable to have a luxurious presidential suite on the Russian fleet's flagship? Does U.S. President Barack Obama, for example, have a royal suite on any one the United States' nuclear ships? Should a warship still be turned into a floating residence with golden toilets? Isn't that an insult to the Russian navy in itself?

Second question. How did it happen that the offender was allowed in the presidential compartments at all? What if it was a U.S. spy?

And finally, the third question. Is it possible that Midtsev didn't have accomplices in the Navy?

It's very hard to believe that Midtsev could fool around with his young harem on an atomic missile cruiser without accomplices.

A naval ship is not a hotel. On a ship, where everything — especially in the presidential bedchamber — is accounted for and under control, there is no way to explain why the head of a boys' club could be alone for a long time with several boys on the presidential bed. What's more, after its use the bed was surely soiled. There is no way that the sailor changing the sheets did not notice this sordid detail.

And now, another question. Russian authorities have recently initiated a serious war against "gay propaganda," which is packaged as the dangerous, noxious, radically liberal values of the West.

But in the Midtsev affair, there was no Western influence whatsoever. Children were allegedly molested on the Russian flagship under the guise of patriotic education.

There was a similar scandal with the patriotic youth group "Tsarskoye Selo," reportedly run by United Russia Deputy Andrei Smirnov. After his arrest, newspapers started to write that Smirnov used the Emergency Situations Ministry's cadet corps to supply boys to meet the needs of top officials. While the officials got off scot-free, Smirnov went to prison alone.

I have more questions for our leaders: Where were all the fervid anti-gay fighters from United Russia — the Yelena Mizulinas and the Sergei Zheleznyaks? Aren't they at least a little bit curious about the senior officials who were implicated in the Smirnov case? Whose fault was it that the Russian flagship was used as a floating bordello for lovers of little boys? Who let Midtsev in the presidential bed and didn't check who he was frolicking with? Wouldn't it jar them if in place of St. Andrews flag on Peter the Great we now raised a rainbow one?

It seems that our leaders only care about one thing — spinning the myth that Russia is the center of spirituality, morality and family values, while the U.S. is infecting Russia with its pedophilic culture.

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*The views expressed in opinion pieces do not necessarily reflect the position of The Moscow Times.*

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