



## Newsletter of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County—September 2020

### The Sword of Damocles Hanging Over This Election for the President We Elect in Two Months—Part 1

**D**amocles (according to Wikipedia) is a character who appeared in an (likely apocryphal) anecdote commonly referred to as “the Sword of Damocles,” an allusion to the imminent and ever-present peril faced by those in positions of power. Damocles was a courtier in the court of Dionysius II of Syracuse, a 4th-century BC ruler of Syracuse, Sicily. According to the story, Damocles was pandering to his king, Dionysius, exclaiming that Dionysius was truly fortunate as a great man of power and authority, surrounded by magnificence. In response, Dionysius offered to switch places with Damocles for one day so that Damocles could taste that very fortune firsthand. Damocles quickly and eagerly accepted the king’s proposal. Damocles sat on the king’s throne, surrounded by every luxury, but Dionysius, who had made many enemies during his reign, arranged that a sword should hang above the throne, held at the pommel only by a single hair of a horse’s tail to evoke the sense of what it is like to be king: Though having much fortune, always having to watch in fear and anxiety against dangers that might try to overtake him. Damocles finally begged the king that he be allowed to depart because he no longer wanted to be so fortunate, realizing that with great fortune and power comes also great danger.

Although most voters in this year’s presidential election are not fully aware of it, just such a potential sword hangs over whoever becomes our next president. What follows

was taken from the writings and opinions of Michael R. Auslin who is the inaugural Payton J. Treat Distinguished Research Fellow in Contemporary Asia at the Hoover Institution. But first for an introductory summary of his views, let’s turn to Niall Ferguson, a colleague of Mr. Auslin’s in the Hoover Institution at Stanford:



“Whether through economic pressure, political and military intimidation, espionage, or propaganda, Beijing is actively trying to reshape the world to fit its interests, picking and choosing which Western norms it adopts and which it ignores. . . . The ‘new China rules’ . . . are the . . . greatest strategic challenge of the next generation.”

It would be hard to improve upon this summary by Michael Auslin of the way Washington now perceives China. The point is that Auslin has been making such arguments for many years. It is only in the last two that they have become part of a new consensus. The question is: Can the United States counter this Chinese challenge without—as Henry

Kissinger, Graham Allison and others have warned—unwittingly falling into the “Thucydides Trap,” which tends to bring an incumbent power, into costly, violent conflict with a rising power?

“I believe China seeks hegemony in East Asia.” The statement delivered in congressional testimony by the then

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commander of U.S. Pacific Command, Adm. Harry Harris in February 2016, was shockingly blunt by official standards.

*Hegemony* was a particularly loaded term. The goal of U.S. security policy since 1945 has been to prevent the rise of an aggressive hegemon in either Asia or Europe. To label China as such was tantamount to declaring it a threat to U.S. interests and regional stability alike. The default position of the U.S. government for decades had been to try and ignore offensive or threatening Chinese behavior and instead redouble its efforts to reach accommodation with Beijing.

By the time of Harris's testimony, the question of whether decades of U.S. military dominance in the Indo-Pacific region would continue was openly being discussed by allies and antagonists alike. But what caught regional attention in particular was China's dramatic land reclamation and island building campaign among reefs and atolls in disputed waters in the Spratly and Paracel Islands in the South China Sea during the mid-2010s. It was, perhaps, the "Sputnik" moment" for America's Asia policy. Harris called this China's "great wall of sand," even as Beijing repeatedly asserted that the islands would not be used for military purposes. Evidence soon emerged that the People's Liberation Army (PLA) had landed advanced fighter jets and strategic bombers, and emplaced surface-to-air missiles in the disputed Paracel Island chain. Subsequent months revealed the fortification of other Chinese-claimed isles in the South China Sea. As Harris testified, "You'd have to believe in a flat Earth" not to see that China was indeed militarizing the South China Sea.

The Obama/Biden Administration concentrated on the growing risk of a clash between Japan and China over the Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea while doing little about the South China Sea. Washington is thus taken by surprise each time a new challenge to the status quo appears. Meanwhile the Chinese steadily attempt to encroach throughout the Indo-Pacific, linking maritime and land trade routes under the umbrella of the One Belt One Road (OBOR) initiative, while expanding the operational capabilities of the PLA Navy and Air Force in waters and skies far from China's shores.

Chinese strategy in the region has long been guided by the desire to control the maritime and air space within the so-called first- and second-island chains. These "chains encompass firstly the East and South China Seas, linking up with Beijing's "nine-dash line" claim to the South China Sea. The second island chain is far broader in scope, encompassing Japanese territory and reaching far into the Western Pacific, all the way to the U.S. territory of Guam in the Marianas. Moving westward, China has also sought to expand its influence through what some call the "string of pearls" throughout the Indian Ocean, namely ports and access points ringing the Indian subcontinent and reaching all the way to Africa and the Persian Gulf region. All this has been

integrated with the overarching OBOR initiative, as access to strategic bases increasingly follows in lockstep with growing Chinese trade routes and economic agreements. When looked at in totality, the Chinese challenge is political, economic, and military as well as region-wide; so must be America's response.

Effectively responding to China's challenge requires adopting a larger geostrategic picture of the entire Indo-Pacific region and America's position in it. Drawing such a picture is the stated goal of the 2019 Department of Defense *Indo-Pacific Strategy Report*, which is the first such official U.S. strategy document for the Pacific since 1998. To ensure the continuation of what the Trump administration has called the "free and open" Indo-Pacific, the Pentagon's strategy is built around "preparedness, partnerships, and the promotion of a networked region."

So what do we voters make of all this and how do we incorporate it into a rational preference for our next president? Here's my take on it: Both candidates have a record of dealing with China's challenge to America's interests and, briefly, here they are: On the one hand we have the example of the Obama/Biden Administration who, in their much ballyhooed "pivot to Asia," sought to maintain the status quo with regard to the decades-long, imbalanced and increasingly dangerous relationship with China while pushing back against them in a small portion of the vast area they were attempting to dominate. At the same time, you had Biden and his son designated point men for American Chinese policy and sent to China to secure millions of dollars in influence pedaling schemes that Democrats and their media lap dogs are doing their best to keep out of the spotlight in this election cycle. Then there is the Trump Administration which has done its best for the past few years to end this one-sided relationship with the People's Republic. They've also done a much better job at seeing the big picture of what China is trying to do at our expense and responded accordingly with an overarching policy that seeks to counter them in all of the geostrategic areas of the world in which they are engaged.

This growing competition with China has the potential to lead to war in a way that the Cold War with the Soviet Union never did. Throughout that period, Moscow was all too aware that Western Europe/American conventional military power was intentionally left inadequate so as to send an unmistakable signal to the Kremlin that any attempt to invade NATO countries would be met with an American nuclear response.

But this is not the case with China's strategy in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond. The chances of a conventional war between the United States and China there is much greater in the next five years than it ever was between the U.S. and the Soviets during the Cold War, and part two of this series we will examine why, so choose carefully in this year's election. Much is at stake. Even more than what meets the eye here at home.

—Tom Mullings

## Science

**By Sid Dinerstein**  
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“The Science is settled.” How many times have you heard that? Here’s my answer: “No it isn’t.” Science is never settled. And now it’s less so. In its Golden Age, science got settled in its labs and journals. Now in our new Gilded Age, we settle science at the voting booth. And that’s a really bad idea. In this post I’m going to touch on three areas of science that will not be answered the right way; with hypotheses, experimentation and conclusions. Instead, we’ll vote; all of us. The three areas are: Hydroxychloroquine, Global warming and Transgender athletics. It doesn’t matter what the science is. They’re all on the ballot this November.

Let’s start with the most urgent: Hydroxy, for short. Once upon a time, around last March, President Trump made some preliminary positive comments about Hydroxy in a press conference. Apparently, President Trump became aware of this drug from watching Laura Ingraham on Fox. Immediately the Democratic governors of Nevada and Michigan banned the drug in their state. Governor Cuomo of New York banned the drug in pre-hospital treatments. How can that make sense? Why didn’t these governors ask the leading medical people in their states? This discussion evolved into a long-term testing program that offered results to please and anger everyone. Meanwhile too many people are still dying and, to be sure, on the Hydroxy issue, the science is very far from settled. We should be better than that. But we’re not. If, in November, Joe Biden wins, Hydroxy will be a distant and faint memory. If President is re-elected the debate will continue, along clear Blue/Red lines, of course.

I’ve written about global Warming before. To me it seems somewhat knowable. After all, we have all those scientists (97% agree. . .) who swear by it and just a few of us “deniers” who offer a meager challenge. It would seem that all we need is for some of those believers to create models that can correctly predict the direction of global temperatures. Easy, right? Obviously not. Remember the “hockey stick” chart? Neither does anyone else. It got a lot of play at the time but eventually the years caught up to the chart and the model was discredited, in favor of future models that hadn’t yet reached their “good thru” dates. AOC gave planet Earth twelve years to survive. My guess is she’ll be running for President just as her fuse runs out. Does she really want to preside over a fried country? Well, in a pinch she can always move in with the world’s greatest Global Warming alarmist—former President Barack Obama. He spent eleven million dollars on an oceanfront estate on Martha’s Vineyard, some of the most likely to be underwa-

ter real estate on the planet. Do we believe his speeches or his checkbook? They’re in conflict. But make no mistake about it. If Joe Biden wins in November, a huge chunk of his promised four trillion-dollar tax increase will be directed toward fighting this unsettled scientific threat.

And, finally, the science issue nearest and dearest to my heart; transgender athletics. It’s personal. I have an outstanding track and field student/athlete for a granddaughter. So, what’s the problem? On May 17, 2019 every single U.S. House Democrat voted for a bill that lets former males compete against lifelong females. What could go wrong? For starters, in states like Connecticut, New Hampshire and Idaho former boys are now record-holding girls, knocking out prior champions who made the mistake of being born as girls. Let’s agree on a few things: First, the chromosomes you’re born with are the chromosomes you’ll die with, like it or not. Second, boys are, on average, bigger and stronger than girls. (There are almost no women in the WNBA who can dunk and almost no men in the NBA who can’t.) When the first NBA bench-sitter becomes the first WNBA transgender, all the records will fall. Look how great LeBron is in the NBA. Imagine what he could do in the WNBA. Pick a sport. It will be the same everywhere, including at my granddaughter’s track meets. Is this what we all want? Is this science?

Which brings me full circle. We can argue about drugs, climate and gender. But the worst way to settle these arguments is at the ballot box. The ballot box can declare a “winner,” but it cannot declare a “truth.”




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*Sid Dinerstein served as Chairman of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County from 2002 to 2012. A leader with a passion for Republican politics, Sid leads by example, motivating teams and uniting diverse groups to achieve a common goal. With a passion for promoting charter schools, Sid was honored by Inlet Grove Community Charter High School earlier this year as “Charter School Advocate.” He authored Adults Only: For Those Who Love Their Country More Than Their Party in 2007, a book that was a finalist for the 2009 Next Generation Indie Book Awards. Sid has been married to Esther since 1967, and they have two daughters, two sons-in-law and two granddaughters.*

## “The Backhoe Chronicles”

*By Peter Feaman  
Florida National Committeeman*

### Convention White House Edition

AUGUST 29—The email arrived at 12:45 a.m. the day of the event from the Secret Service: “You are cleared to arrive at the southeast gate of the White House between 7:00–7:30 today. Please bring this memo with you.”

I had already made arrangements in anticipation of the acceptance and that morning I was boarding a plane from West Palm Beach headed for . . . the White House.

On the plane, as I felt the thrust of the jet engines pushing me into the airplane seat and as the jet lifted off, I looked down at the West Palm Beach neighborhood shrinking as we gained altitude and thought, “I’m just a kid from a little town in Connecticut whose Dad was a truck driver, and I am headed for the White House to watch the President of the United States accept the Republican nomination to run, one more time to be the leader of the world!”

What a country!

The line was long at the gate but moved quickly. I saw many of my friends from the RNC. We hugged and prayed. We need to show the country, on this last night of the convention who we are and what we stand for. The future of this great Republic depended on it.

I ran into Kathleen King, our great National Committeewoman. We went over to the Rose Garden with the view of the West Wing and the Oval Office and thought about how much history had been made there.

When the President and Melania were introduced the crowd went crazy.

After the inspiring speeches by all, when the fireworks exploded I was, like, OMG, please dear Lord, use me and all of you, and anyone else to re-elect this President . . . the world hangs in the balance.

Please don’t let the light of America grow dim on our watch!

AUGUST 30—I saw the face of evil a few nights ago . . . it was frightening, disturbing and REAL.



*Peter with National Committeewoman Kathleen King*

The event was over and as I (Sally stayed in Florida) exited the White House grounds, we were all being directed to the west exit.

We had entered from the east and my hotel was only one block east of the White House, so I turned left (not west) to leave.

Many people were also headed in that direction because that is where the busses were located to return those guests who had traveled there by privately chartered busses.

I was escorted north to the northeast gate of the White House. I looked at the faces of the Secret Service guys. Something was not right. As I approached the northeast gate, I soon realized there was a problem, a serious one.

The first thing I noticed was the noise. It was a hot, humid summer night in D.C. In that kind of weather, there is no breeze and no sound, except for the chaotic noise coming from my right, amplified by the humid, breezeless air.

Screaming, yelling, banging, and smoke rising from the street only a block away. Eventually I got close enough to see verbal abuse, hate, anger and . . . madness . . . yes, madness because no one and no verbal response was going to make a difference to these rioters.

With eyes bulging, neck veins popping and verbal venom spewing in non-stop rants, I thought, no, this is evil, pure evil..and I walked away, as fast as I could, without overtly running.

Was there a time in my life when I might have engaged . . . both verbally and physically? You bet.

But I have now taken 67 trips around the sun on this globe we call Earth, and I know the ONLY way to defeat this madness is MASSIVE success on November 3rd . . . and prayer.

There is something happening here that I have not seen in 40 years in politics. The opposition is crazed, unreasoned and bent on only one thing—inciting violence and destruction.

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Until you have seen it up close and real, it is hard to appreciate what is happening in our streets all over this great Republic.

This is more than a political battle. I am convinced now more than ever, this is also a spiritual one.

We must work in this election like the outcome is only up to us . . . but then we must pray like it is only up to God and God alone.

Many people have asked me, did I run into any rioters? (do NOT let them be called protesters)

You now have my response.

### Convention Update

AUGUST 27—How great have these presentations and speeches been!!!!!!

Tonight: America land of heroes!

So much good stuff, there is no way I can highlight any individual speaker. But tonight—Jack Brewer, former Black NFL player, the best speech of the night.

Truth, faith and heartfelt emotion, speaking from his heart.

For those with ears—please listen.

For those with hearts—open them.

You will hear the truth . . . and the truth will set you free!!!

AUGUST 26—The first night of the Republican National Convention was, all in all, sensationally effective—and effective in ways that the mainstream media and its Twitter chatterers clearly found impossible to understand or accept. America's political elites (read Democrat Party), together with their allies in the media, hate Donald Trump so much that it remains a great puzzlement to them how he can retain the support of even 42 percent of the population, rather than, you know, zero (lol).

The underlying assumption they share is that anyone who wants Trump to be and remain president is a bad person or someone ignorant enough to be taken in by false promises and evil lies.

If they had ears to listen, they might be able to understand it better after last night. The message of night one was twofold:

First, SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT:

Donald Trump is not a racist and we are not a systemically racist country. Further, Donald Trump is empathetic.

Second, Democrats are supporters of urban chaos and socialist policies that will make American lives less safe and will help eviscerate the American middle class.

Nowhere was that clearer than in the joint speech of the St. Louis couple who were seen in a Twitter clip standing in front of their house, brandishing guns against a Black Lives Matter march. They pointed out that the BLM people were undisturbed by the cops, while they found themselves under arrest.

Their message—this could happen to you, homeowners—surely struck a chord with Americans who own guns



as protection. Stats tell us that 43 percent of all Americans live in a gun-owning household.

The Democrat message—that cops are bad and rioters are good—plays right into Trump's hands.

The Democrats also did Trump a favor in spending four days last week talking about America's supposed grave sins—structural racism, polluting, and the like. Speaker after speaker last night hammered them with the TRUTH!

Most effective was Tim Scott, the only black Republican in the Senate, whose speech concluded with these words: “Growing up, he had to cross the street if a white person was coming. He suffered the indignity of being forced out of school as a third-grader to pick cotton, and never learned to read or write. Yet he lived to see his grandson become the first African American to be elected to both the United States House and Senate. Our family went from cotton to Congress in one lifetime. And that's why I believe the next American century can be better than the last.”

Nikki Haley, child of Indian immigrants, elaborated: “America isn't perfect. But the principles we hold dear are perfect. If there's one thing I've learned, it's that even on our worst day, we are blessed to live in America. . . . We seek a nation that rises together, not falls apart in anarchy and anger. . . . America is not a racist nation.”

Tonight, we will begin to contrast the Republicans vs. the Democrats.

America, the greatest country that has ever existed in the history of Earth. We are a city on a hill, a light to the world, a beacon of hope for oppressed people for 250 years. We will not let that light grow dim on our watch!!!

### Charlotte, North Carolina Edition

AUGUST 21—We are learning some good information here which should encourage and energize all of you in these last 75 days before the most important election in 160 years:

#### Fundraising

- The RNC has now raised more than \$1 million for 125 consecutive days and more than \$2 million for 64 consecutive days.
- We finished July with \$113 million raised (an all-time record)

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#### *Social Media*

- Published posts: 968
- Impressions: 260.2 million
- Engagements: 11 million
- Net audience growth: 54,000

#### *Digital Political*

- In the past month alone we have driven 79,000 voter registrations and 11,000 absentee requests on Vote.GOP. This is 11 times the number of voter registration and AB requests that we had driven cycle-to-date at this point in 2018.

The Trump campaign and RNC have now registered 100,000 new voters in the 2020 cycle, more than doubling their numbers from 2016, according to Trump Victory data. The polls will never pick this up.

The voter registration gap between Democrats and Republicans has narrowed in key states.

For example: The Democrat advantage in Pennsylvania has been lessened by 133,000 voters since 2016, and by 87,000 voters in Florida.

Democrats' net advantage has also shrunk in the tossup state of North Carolina.

In Iowa, the number of registered Democratic voters surpassed Republicans in March, but Republicans recently took back the advantage.

Democrats had been outpacing Republicans in Arizona as well—but since April, Republicans have overtaken them.

“As enthusiasm for President Trump continues to grow, so does the Republican Party. Over 100,000 new voters are ready to cast their ballot for four more years of President Trump's ‘Promises Made, Promises Kept’ agenda, and elect Republicans up and down the ballot on November 3rd,” RNC Chairwoman Ronna McDaniel said.

STAY TUNED . . .

### **The Backhoe Chinese Virus Chronicles**

SEPTEMBER 12—Was(is) the lockdown “cure” worse than the virus itself? The answer increasingly seems to be yes.

As novelist Lionel Shriver writes, “We’ve never before responded to a contagion by closing down whole countries.”

The 1957–58 Asian flu killed between 70,000 and 116,000 Americans, between 0.04 percent and 0.07 percent of the nation's population. The 1968–70 Hong Kong flu killed about 100,000, 0.05 percent of the population.

The U.S. coronavirus death toll of 186,000 is about 0.055 percent of the current population. It will go higher, but it's about the same magnitude as those other two flus, and it has been less deadly to those under 65 than those flus were. Yet there were no statewide lockdowns; no massive school closings; no closings of office buildings and factories, restaurants and museums. No one considered shutting down the Woodstock Music Festival in 1969 (lol).

What has happened to our country? I fear we, as a nation, have become afraid of risk. Newsflash—life is risk, and all

success in life involves overcoming fear and taking risks. That is why most of us have come to rely on a Higher Power to navigate life's uncertainties, but certainly not reliance on the government.

Children aren't allowed to walk to school; jungle gyms have vanished from playgrounds; college students are shielded from microaggressions! Another Newsflash—Life is a macro aggression!

The exaggerated projections of some epidemiologists, with a professional interest in forecasting pandemics, triggered demands that governments act.

The fear that hospitals would be overwhelmed apparently explain the (in retrospect, deadly) orders of the governors of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Michigan requiring elderly care facilities to admit COVID-infected patients.

BUT HERE IS WHAT EVERY LOCKDOWN proponent seems to be forgetting—the original purpose of the lockdowns was to “flatten the curve” so the hospitals would not get overwhelmed. We overcame that threshold months ago! Now some tyrannical leaders continue their restrictions in order to “stamp out the virus” or wait for a vaccine.

Hey government officials: That was not the deal. We went along with you initially because we bought your hospital spiel. Do not move the goalposts in the middle of the game.

To justify their continued tyranny they now use shame, fear and intimidation. Examples include shaming beachgoers, though outdoor virus spread is minimal; Scaring parents by extending school shutdowns, though few children get or transmit the infection; Closing down gardening aisles in superstores (what is that about?); Barring church services, while blessing crowded demonstrations and riots for politically favored causes.

But for millions, the economic damage has been of Great Depression proportions. Restaurants and small businesses have been closed forever, even before the last three months of urban rioting. Losses have been concentrated on those with low income and little wealth, while lockdowns have added tens of billions to the net worth of Amazon's Jeff Bezos and Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg.

Sheepdogs: It's time to re-assert control over our Ranch. Every individual can do their own small part:

Go out to eat to support your local business family and enter the establishment and everywhere else you go, proudly wearing your Trump 2020 mask (before you take it off to eat).

Talk to your neighbors, co-workers and anyone else you can about FREEDOM and the power of the individual, rejecting collective guilt and the power of the state.

And be sure as heck to do everything you can to support the re-election of Donald J. Trump!

Do not let the light of America grow dim on our watch!

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*Peter Feaman is Florida's National Committeeman, representing the State of Florida on the RNC. His “Backhoe Chronicles,” a commentary on draining the swamp, appears on Facebook.*

*So, there 'tis:*  
**Blaming Trump for Street Violence Is Left-Wing Lunacy**

*By Larry Horist*  
 September 4, 2020

One of the more recent narratives that has surfaced simultaneously among Democrats and the left-wing media is that the violence in the streets is the fault of President Trump. It happened on his watch, they say . . . over and over.

There are a couple of things to keep in mind. This sort of rioting, looting, arson, vandalism and physical—occasionally deadly—violence has been the tactic and characteristic of the radical left that aligns with the Democratic Party for decades. These are not Trump or Republican supporters rioting. No. No. No.

Oh, the Democrats occasionally weep crocodile tears over the violence, but those weak condemnations and refusing to call them out as riots—preferring to describe obvious violent and criminal actions as “peaceful protests”—are tantamount to endorsement. The left both condones and engages in street violence. They praise with faint condemnation.

This violence may be on Trump’s watch, but it is easy to know who is responsible. Consider the primary cause of the violence. It is due to the oppression of masses of Black folks in those segregated cities controlled by Democrats for generations. Wherever you find the sort of human misery and frustration that fuels these periodic outbursts of urban unrest, you find Democrats in charge. Wherever you find racist policing—and unjustified harassment, arrests and shootings—you find Democrats in charge.

They say that there is violence on both sides. Perhaps, but it is incredibly dishonest to equate one incident in Charlottesville with the destruction, injury and deaths being seen in scores of cities over long periods of time.

It is in Democrat-run cities that thousands of innocent Black citizens are murdered every year. For generations,

these were Black lives that did NOT matter. Not to the Democrat political bosses in city hall, not to the police they hired, and not to left wing media that routinely ignored them.

Not only has Democratic Party governance produced the tinder-box conditions that flair up all too often, but when there are outbreaks, it is Democrat governors and mayors who allow the destruction and carnage to continue by withholding effective enforcement—destruction and carnage that more often than not impacts on the ghetto community itself.

How many times have we seen fully capable police departments ordered to “stand down” in the face of criminal violence—passively watching the looting, arson and personal injury? We saw it in Minneapolis where police were not only restrained, but the Democrat governor called on the National Guard only to refuse to deploy them as the city burned. In Portland, the Democrat Mayor and Democrat Governor demanded federal law enforcement officers—whose duty it is to protect federal property—to get out of town.

As city after city suffered from the rampage of street mobs, Trump offered to send in the National Guard. But that requires a request from the governors. Not only did those requests never come, the very offer was rejected out of hand.

Not sure where all this “blame Trump” started. Was it strategically planned by Democrats or did it arise organically



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out of a mutual desire by the elitist press to defeat Trump? I first heard it from MSNBC’s Joe Scarborough. He took a snippet from a Trump speech—out of context, of course.

Referring to the riots and street violence in certain cities, Trump said “we cannot have going on what we have today.” To Scarborough’s malignant mind, Trump was complaining about events happening “on his watch.” If Scarborough’s disconnected logic has you scratching your head, you are not alone. I immediately viewed it as one of the most ignorant and unhinged accusations I had ever heard—and there are many.

Who would even give that spin any consideration at all? Apparently, virtually every Democrat and every left-wing talking-head on television—from those biased anchors to their pet parroting pundits. The phrase “on his watch” had suddenly become the radical left mantra of the day.

The specious logic of the left is that Trump got the folks on the left so angry that they were forced to do bad things. Ergo, the arsonists and looters are somehow the victims. That is like saying a guy is justified in attacking his neighbor because the neighbor expressed opinions that angered him. You know . . . like what happened to Senator Rand Paul, who was injured in an unprovoked attack by a neighbor.

Long ago comedian Flip Wilson used to absolve himself for doing something wrong by saying “the devil made me do it.” Apparently, Democrats forget that his excuse was a joke—not a strategy.

But that is left-wing logic—and on that nutty notion, they say Trump is the fault of the violence by the left. The left’s proclivity for violence is well documented in recent

history. What is new is this effort to blame the target of the violence for . . . the violence.

The dichotomy is quite simple. We have on one side a person (Trump) who supports the law enforcement community in their role to serve and protect; who supports law and order; who understands the distinction between protesters and rioters.

On the other side, we have a guy (Biden) who leads a party that governs over urban systemic racism. A party that runs the police departments that have exhibited the worst racial abuses—triggering violent outbursts. A party that attacks law enforcement—and wants to defund police and keep out the National Guard. A party that refers to deadly rioters as “peaceful protesters.”

Well . . . the bad guys usually try to blame someone else. Maybe the devil does make them do it—but it is not Trump. So, there ‘tis. . .

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### ***So, there 'tis...***

#### **The opinions, perspectives and analyses of Larry Horist**

*Larry Horist is a businessman, conservative writer and political strategist with an extensive background in economics and public policy—with a special interest in minority issues. He has served as a consultant to the Nixon White House, travelled the country as a spokesman for President Reagan’s economic reforms, and has testified as an expert witness before numerous legislative bodies, including the U.S. Congress. He writes for several online news services and is principle commentator for [PunchingBagPost.com](http://PunchingBagPost.com). You can also follow his video commentaries on [YouTube.com/LarryHorist](http://YouTube.com/LarryHorist). He is actively semi-retired in Boca Raton, Florida. **So, there 'tis** is his signature sign off.*

### **REPUBLICAN PARTY OF FLORIDA PRESIDENTIAL ELECTOR RESOLUTION**

“In accordance with section 103.021, Florida Statutes, the Republican Party of Florida hereby recommends to the Governor the following twenty-nine candidates for nomination as the Republican Presidential Electors to the Electoral College.”

Congratulations to Palm Beach County’s own Peter Feaman, Jeffrey Feingold, Gay Gaines, Belinda Keiser, and Linda Stoch.

- |                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Maximo Alvarez   | 16. Kathleen King      |
| 2. John Browning    | 17. JC Martin          |
| 3. Marili Cancio    | 18. Patrick Neal       |
| 4. Nelson Diaz      | 19. Kathleen Passidomo |
| 5. Peter Feaman     | 20. Daniel Perez       |
| 6. Jeffrey Feingold | 21. Keith Perry        |
| 7. Randy Fine       | 22. Moshe Popack       |
| 8. Jason Fischer    | 23. Diane Scherff      |
| 9. Charlotte Flynt  | 24. Frank Schwerin     |
| 10. Gay Gaines      | 25. Wilton Simpson     |
| 11. Joe Gruters     | 26. Chris Sprowls      |
| 12. Roy Hinman      | 27. Linda Stoch        |
| 13. James Holton    | 28. Tim Weisheyer      |
| 14. Marva Johnson   | 29. Christian Ziegler  |
| 15. Belinda Keiser  |                        |



## Recollections of 9/11 2001 As Remembered by the Author

*By CS Bennett*

Fear, uncertainty, horror, anger, sadness, confusion, disbelief, and a deep sense of loss, sums up the feelings of most Americans on that tragic day in 2001. For those in their 70s and 80s when this occurred, it probably reminded them of the attack on Pearl Harbor in their youth. As a nation, we were lost to explain what was going on right before our eyes. The images of that day would be burned into our individual and collective memories for the rest of our lives. It would scar most of us on an emotional level never experienced before, save for those who lived through the John F. Kennedy, Robert F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King, and Malcolm X assassinations.

That day, I was on the internet doing research on a literary project I was working on. At the time, being on the internet tied up one's phone line. Some time after 10:00 am, I logged off of the internet and immediately began to receive frantic phone calls from close friends and my wife, who was out of state at the time. One after another, I received frantic calls informing me that the World Trade Center had been attacked and that both Twin Towers had been collapsed by terrorists. Of course, before the call, I had no clue what was going on in New York, or at the Pentagon, or anywhere else in the world. I was shocked, though not totally surprised, by what was taking place. Almost immediately, I turned on three nearby televisions and tuned them to three different news sources.

I have watched many disaster movies during my lifetime, from earthquakes to volcanic eruptions, to tsunamis, to meteorites crashing into the earth, but none of them compared to what we were watching on television in real life that tragic day. Two buildings, known fondly as the North and South Towers, were raging with red and orange flames, something you'd expect to see after a high-explosive bomb had been detonated. Billowing smoke, reaching several stories high, shot above the flames as both rushed skyward. The scene left many of us numbed.

As we watched helplessly on television, on the ground, people were fleeing for their lives. Others, with little hope of surviving this attack, as they found themselves trapped inside of these buildings with no egress, or survival escape, decided they would rather leap from those two buildings rather be burned alive. As firefighters and law enforcement, and other first responders, rushed to the site, many entering the buildings not concerned for their own lives, but for the lives of others, were stunned to hear loud thud-like sounds coming from nearby, only to gasp in horror as they realized they came from people leaping from the towers, their bodies smashed and mangled on the sidewalk, leaving them unrecognizable. Many had to be identified by their DNA.

And if what we were witnessing was not enough, we got word that the Pentagon in Virginia had been attacked. After that, came word that a fourth plane had been hijacked and



was flying southeast over Pennsylvania, most likely heading for Washington, DC. All the planes, that we knew of, at the time, had taken off from airports in Boston and New Jersey. There were other reports of plane crashes and bombs going off in Washington, but they turned out to be false. But we did not know that at the time. As far as we were concerned, the entire nation was under attack. Was Chicago next, we wondered? Was Atlanta next, we pondered? And what about Los Angeles? Nobody knew, so our fear only worsened.

For many with family members who worked in the two towers, and at the Pentagon, in Virginia, the terror they must have experienced went beyond words. Wanting to check on their loved ones, they were faced with the reality that all telephone and cell phone lines were tied up. There was no getting through. For many, information took a holiday that day. In time, we got reports that the plane flying over Pennsylvania had disappeared and was presumed to have crashed.

At that point, the Federal Aviation Administration decided to something that had never been done before. They grounded all air traffic over the United States, except for military aircraft and specific emergency life flights. For days to come, the skies over America were quiet and rather eerie. It was both a somber and sobering experience.

The next thing we pondered was, who would do something like this. What manner of individuals, or group, held such hatred? Deep down inside, after the second tower was hit, we all knew. Without having to say it, we knew it was an attack by Islamic terrorists, namely al Qaeda, Osama bin Laden's group. After all, they attempted to take down the towers in 1993 but failed to do so. In the first attack they wounded us, though six people died and over 1,000 were injured. In the 9/11 attack, they spilled our blood, guts, and mangled bodies on the sidewalks of our nation's economic center. But how could such a ragtag group of malcontents cause mayhem at the world's superpower and in such a dramatic fashion, we pondered?

I pondered that, too. After all, each year we spent billions of dollars in agencies such as the FBI, CIA, and NSA, and

*Recollections of 9/11—continued on next page*

*Recollections of 9/11—continued from previous page*

where did it get us that day? As stated, Osama bin Laden's group had a dry run when they attacked the Twin Towers in 1993, and they made it known after that they were determined to collapse the two towers in numerous pronouncements they issued.

And then there were the Islamic pilots who commanded these planes. They were training in our country for over a year and the odd thing was that they were only interested in learning how to take off and fly the planes, and not at all interested in learning how to land them. Somehow, our intelligence apparatus was asleep at the wheel, or they knew what was coming down the pike and allowed it to happen. Or were they incompetent? I doubt that, having once worked in naval intelligence.

As for our military that day, I found it both interesting and disturbing that along the entire East Coast, with numerous U.S. Naval and U.S. Air Force bases dotted along our coastline, that they could only scramble two fighter jets into service, and then, at that, they are unarmed. Even more unbelievable, for a nation that destroyed the German and Japanese forces in World War II, we only had sixteen fighter jets in an alert status that day to protect the entire United States mainland. Yes, only sixteen capable fighter jets. I found this disturbing since we have thousands of fighter air-

crafts in our arsenal, to include Air Force, Navy, Army, and U.S. Marine Corps aviation assets.

There were a lot of questions about that whole experience and from this sprouted numerous conspiracy theories. Was this solely an Islamic operation, or were our own intelligence agencies involved in some way? To this day, there are few answers. What I do know is that America came together for a week or two, even those on the left, and we united as one. America flags were flown from almost every car and building. Patriotism was in again.

When I look at what is going on around us today, the hatred, the violence, and the assault on our rights and liberties, it moves me to ask, what happened to those days of unity. What happened to the collective spirit of unity that brought us together as Americans on 9/11? I look at our urban centers, with the violence and chaos that is now typical in those areas, and I am still left wondering. Despite all that we are facing, I pray that the Almighty continues to bless America. . . .

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*Curtis S. Bennett is an author, a national conservative talk radio co-host, and a columnist. He is a decorated Gulf War veteran and served as Vice Chairman of the Putnam County Republican Executive Committee.*



## A Vote for Trump Is a Vote for Freedom and Liberty

*By William J. Skinner*

**E**asier said than done, you say? Wait a minute! Try this. Make a list of what you like about Trump and a list of what you like about the presumptive nominee for the Democrats. Resolve to make an assessment between having Donald J. Trump as President with all of his well-known quirks and Joe Biden with all of his well-known ethics and memory problems. For any complaint you have about Trump, you can find two or more similar complaints about Biden.

A top reason Trump deserves another four-year term is that the Trump Team favors freedom from government overreach and higher taxes. This alone assures more personal liberty than the Democrat wheeler dealer which China and Ukraine plans to give us.

Trump delivered on his promise of a border wall to reduce and stop illegal immigration, drugs, sex trafficking, and disease. Trump delivered on his promise to reduce regulations that burden efforts to conduct useful business. Trump delivered on strengthening our national defense. Trump aroused the other NATO nations to meet their commitments to our mutual defense. Trump insists on enforcing law and maintaining order at home. Trump modernized the NAFTA agreements with Canada and Mexico. Trump pulled the U.S. out of the Paris Accord on environmental matters. Trump pulled us out of a dumb, unsigned agreement that gave Iran the right to make nuclear weapons.

Trump opened serious trade talks with Communist China for the first time since China joined the World Trade Association. Trump has responded comprehensively to the escape of Covid-19 from China killing over 180,000 Americans and others around the world. All of these things Trump did or is doing preserves our freedom from government.

The other side with its progressive socialistic programs from cradle to grave will deplete individual efforts to contribute to the common good responsibly and voluntarily. The mainstream media have supported a fake investigation and fake impeachment of Trump utilizing the many “deep state” leaks of secret government plans and documents.



In our heart of hearts, we know that Trump is not a perfect person, and we believe that as President he has turned away from things he did from the past. Trump takes his duty to protect the American people seriously. You can see this in his taking control of the riotous behavior in several cities in recent weeks. You can see this in his calling out China.

We should resolve to make it our duty to support Trump for another four years. And we should send some more Republicans to represent us in the House and Senate. The 1776 experiment has more life and more freedom to give to more people in the world. We must strive to support what our forefathers started to provide with a “more perfect union.”

Vote for Donald J. Trump on November 3, 2020 for Freedom and Liberty. Tell your neighbors and friends you are voting Trump. This will push Trump over the top.

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*Skinner practiced law in D.C. and Maryland more than 30 years. Back in 1970, D.C. statutes covered about four volumes. Today the D.C. laws under the Home Rule Act are under constant congressional review for changes and they are available in digital formats.*

***Shout-out from Linda Johnson,  
a proud military mom:***

***So proud of my son Tom. He is celebrating  
his 14th wedding anniversary with his  
family in Japan. God Bless our Military!  
God Bless America! Prayers for us all.***



## Gold Star Mothers' Day

*By Colonel Arthur DeRuve (U.S. Army, Ret.)*

**G**OLD STAR MOTHERS' DAY is observed in the United States (on the last Sunday of each September) in honor of Gold Star mothers, as established in Title 36 of the United States Code. This was originally declared by Senate Joint Resolution 115 of June 23, 1936. It was designed to give recognition to the ultimate sacrifice a mother can make toward the protection of our great nation—giving up the life of one's child. I am honored by being allowed to participate in giving such recognition this year.

So many of our great nation's sons and daughters have brought credit to our magnificent country's 244 years of heritage: from those who died at Valley Forge, Trenton and Yorktown, to win our independence as a sovereign people; through Gettysburg and Bull Run, preserving the unity of our nation; through those who died defending our way of life in the Great World Wars, Korean War and Vietnam War against the barbarism of Fascism, Nazism, and Communism; and to those who currently protect our Republic and all Western Civilization against the devastating evil of Islamic Fundamentalism!

How grateful we are and should be for our sons who have made the supreme sacrifice in defense of this, the greatest freest nation in the history of the world. We ask what greater sacrifice is even possible than the supreme sacrifice made by these magnificent individuals? Our very instincts incline us to say that no greater sacrifice is possible.

However, I suggest to you today to say there is a greater sacrifice which in no way diminishes that which they made. That greater sacrifice is the one that our Gold Star ladies have made; for you have made the Ultimate Sacrifice. You have sacrificed the lives of your sons so that the greatest freest nation ever known on this planet can continue to sur-



vive. This is the Ultimate Sacrifice, and it is what makes the Gold Star Mothers the shining stars of our country—The United States of America.

Therefore, on behalf of a grateful party and nation I thank you. I commiserate with you! And, I salute you!!

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*Col. Arthur DeRuve was commissioned a second lieutenant through the college ROTC program, and after serving with the 2nd Armored Division as a Cold War soldier in Germany, he remained an additional 28 years in the Army's active reserve, including 11 years as a military liaison officer for West Point. He is a graduate of the Army's Artillery and Guided Missile School, the Command and General Staff College, and the Army War College and holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Fordham University and a master's degree in public administration from New York University. He and his wife Dorothy have been married more than 60 years, and after being "snowbirds" for many years, now reside in Wellington.*

## President Trump Visits Jupiter

On September 8, President Trump visited the Jupiter Lighthouse, where he signed an executive order banning offshore oil drilling, for the first time, off of all Atlantic coastal Florida for the next 10 years. Some of the guests were Gov. Ron DeSantis, Sen. Lindsey Graham, Cong. Brian Mast, Cong. Matt Gaetz, FL AG Ashley Moody, FL Lt. Gov. Jeanette Nuñez, FL CFO Jimmy Patronis, Cong. Mike Waltz, Cong. Steube, Rep. congressional candidates Byron Donalds and Carla Spalding, and from the Florida Trump Campaign Leadership Alex Garcia, Susie Wiles, and Jennifer Locetta.



## Loomer Aims to End Rep. Frankel's Reckless Spending

By George Blumel

Frankel was in the Florida House of Representatives for fourteen years (1986–1992 and 1994–2002) and she'd probably still be there had we not got the legislative Term Limits Amendment—which she opposed—passed.

She was mayor of W. Palm Beach (2003–2011) again leaving office due to term limits but not without a fight. She tried to upend the voter-approved eight-year term limit with a charter review commission stacked with political cronies. Everyone, including the *Palm Beach Post*, saw through this and due to public outcry, the city commission withdrew support for the scheme.

In each of her three offices she enjoyed a dominant Democrat voting majority and even now after eight years of a sorry record in Congress she is favored to win easily in November. It is due to the advantages of incumbency that 95% of incumbents are reelected.

Another reason is that few know of her socialistic progressive voting record which we'll explore here. She strictly follows the party line.

In January 2013, Lois Frankel was listed as a new member of the openly socialistic [Congressional Progressive Caucus](#) founded in 1991 by Bernie Sanders. In 2018 she was joined by a batch of freshmen as the Democratic party lurched further to the left including [Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez](#), [Rashida Tlaib](#), [Ilhan Omar](#) and a couple dozen others. It currently lists 98 members.

The *Sun-Sentinel's* endorsement of Frankel quotes her bragging that she has a “hundred percent report card” from the League of Conservation Voters, and the support of labor and of “every progressive organization” including Planned Parenthood. It should read “*especially* Planned (Un)Parent-hood.” No one is for abortion without any restrictions more than her. Seventy-seven percent of voters support legislation (H.R.962) to ensure that a baby who survives a failed abortion be given the same medical treatment as any other baby born prematurely at the same age. Not Frankel.

To paraphrase St. Matthew, it is “by their votes ye shall know them.” So, let's look at Rep. Frankel's record as scored by indicative groups (click on the name for voting details):

She recently voted for the following bills: (*these descriptions edited from the [Heritage Action Scorecard](#)*)

01/23/2019 **The Consolidated Appropriations Act**, which fails to fund the Department of Homeland Security. She opposes anything that includes increased border security funding.

03/08/2019 **H.R. 1—Federal Control of Elections**. For the People Act, would establish a taxpayer-funded bailout of political campaigns, eliminates the bi-partisan makeup of the Federal Elections Commission and creates a category of “campaign-related” speech regulated by Washington bureaucrats empowered to enforce these regulations with penalties and censorship.

11/15/2019 **H.R.4863 Reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank**. Sponsored by Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA), which would reauthorize the Export-Import Bank for ten years without any bipartisan reforms such as restricting taxpayer dollars from going to Chinese Communist Party-backed companies.



12/06/2019 **H.R. 4—Federal Takeover of State Election Processes**. The Voting Rights Advancement Act, is another effort to give left-wing activists powers to undermine the integrity of election laws. It gives the power of the federal government to overturn voter ID laws and prevent states from ensuring the integrity of their own elections.

12/18/2019 **Impeaching President Donald Trump**. The House voted on articles of impeachment against President Trump in a totally partisan process—no Republican voted for it and even some Democratic members opposed the process. Frankel voted FOR impeachment—she does as she is told by The Democrat Establishment.

Non-partisan organizations that examine her record rate her, as follows:

[Citizens Against Government Waste](#) awards her the lowest score of **zero** as “**Hostile to Taxpayers.**” Only Frankel and Rep. Wasserman-Schultz scored so low! That is how we get to a national debt well into \$trillions piled on our next generations.

[National Taxpayers Union](#) (NTU) scores her at 8% with an “F” grade as a “**Big Spender.**”

[The Club for Growth](#) rates on votes that affect economic growth such as lower taxes, balanced budgets, free trade, term limits, school choice and other factors affecting freedom and prosperity. The Club gives Frankel a lifetime 7 out of 100.

A more thorough examination of Rep. Frankel's votes tells a story of reckless spending, taxing and regulating every aspect of American life. The only beneficiaries of her votes are the lobbyists and the left-wing organizations she supports, often in violation of constitutional norms. See more at [my blog](#).

Which brings us to the alternative, the Republican challenger, **Laura Loomer**. Laura won the primary over several excellent citizens who offered to replace a supporter of the radical leftist anti-capitalist Squad types. See her [website](#) to contrast her positions for free markets, law and order, free speech, lower taxes and regulations—and her loyal support of President Trump.

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*George Blumel is a husband, father, grandfather; retired entrepreneur; blogger [www.posterchildrenfortermlimits.com](#); political activist—for freedom with responsibility.*

## Civic Responsibility

*By Vicky Deacon*

Originally posted to my Facebook page, I thought it might be useful to share this towards our goal of re-electing President Trump.

Although I try to avoid politics on Facebook, for me, this platform is a fun way to share family times, travel stories, and other activities.

However, the present-day situation in our country is much, much bigger than politics.

So . . . even though I am reluctant to stick my neck out with these thoughts because I don't want to have confrontations with any friends or family who may not agree with my point of view, I still feel the present moment calls for some personal courage . . . and an honest airing of some important perspectives.

I offer these thoughts in the form of insights I believe I have acquired, thanks to my experiences working in the CIA.

The central mission of the CIA was—and still is today—to combat the subversive efforts by then Soviet communist USSR in their constant attempts to infiltrate, weaken, undermine, and otherwise damage Western democracies.

This was the Cold War struggle in its essence.

All of us who worked at the Agency were trained in, and remarkably familiar with the tactics, the rule book and the script used by the Communist Marxist Left to achieve their goals.

When the wall came down and Soviet communism collapsed it seemed this Cold War was over. We had won.

But the Communist Manifesto as outlined by Karl Marx and put into place by Lenin does not accept loss . . . only temporary setbacks.

It believes its ideology is inevitable, until it is adopted throughout the world.

And so, more than 30 years after the Berlin wall fell, we now witness the rise to power in these United States of the only self-declared (and once marginal) committed Socialist in American politics: Bernie Sanders.

And in 2020, he is no longer alone.

Beyond not expecting this resurrection of a system that has proven to be a failure over and over, what I never expected at all was to see the communist leftist play book being used in our own country.

And used to the successful extent that is occurring right now.

It is very alarming to me to see that what were once considered radical ideas—as Bernie Sanders said at the Democrat Convention last night—have become mainstream, especially among our young people who have been brainwashed (a necessary element in this indoctrination process) into the belief that socialism/communism will improve their lives.

This would be OKAY, if those promoting leftist ideas were willing to run on a platform that openly explains what exactly they plan to do once they are voted into power.

But this never happens. Because the true goals are either denied, camouflaged, or otherwise downplayed.

Venezuela is a perfect example of how this works.

Hugo Chavez did not seize power—he was duly elected.

Running on the same ideas we hear from the Left today—free education, guaranteed income, free health care—a fairer form of government for all.

But what actually happened in Venezuela? Chavez and his hand-picked successor, Nicolas Maduro, quickly created their own power structure, headed by a corrupt police/security force today consisting of marauders on the street who control everyone. Democracy was kicked to the curb. The only ones enjoying all the promised wealth are the criminals. Via handouts and giveaways, combined with little real knowledge of economics, a once vibrant economy was quickly run into the ground. And a country once considered the richest in Latin America is poorer than Somalia.

And freedom? Completely gone.

It makes me heartsick to see that we are headed down this all-too-familiar road.

I was once a registered Independent. I admit to being a conservative today, but I have no problem with the two-party system that we once had. I was never dismayed if a candidate from the Democrat party was elected (Carter, Clinton) because as Americans we were all basically in agreement on our common principles.

This is not true today.

The Democrat Party has been taken over by the hard-core Left as surely as the Social Justice movement has been taken over by Antifa and other paid-for professional anarchists.

What we see playing out on the streets of New York, Seattle, Portland, Chicago—defunding the police, burning buildings, looting, attacking citizens—is the creation of chaos which is necessary for the Left to take control.

This is by the book. This is organized. This is intentional. And it is very scary.

Our understandable concerns over a pandemic which has wrecked the economy and caused so much death is the perfect cover to serve as a distraction away from the actual Virus we face—which is the breakdown of our social order—now being done methodically and purposefully, while we ordinary citizens worry about who is wearing a mask.

I do not believe this election is about choosing one candidate over another—or one party over another—it is about choosing one way of life over another. One system of government over another. And they are not compatible.

*Civic Responsibility—continued on next page*

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As I said at the beginning, I have watched this playbook used all over the world—but I never thought it would come to my own country, in my own lifetime.

I feel a civic responsibility to sound an alarm about what I see going on.

And I beg others to wake up and pay attention.

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*Vicky Deacon was born in Panama of an American father and a Panamanian mother of French heritage. Her father was an American executive with Goodyear Corporation in*

*Panama, Cali, Colombia, and Buenos Aires, Argentina, where Vicky attended bilingual schools and returned to the United States for high school. She attended college in Washington, DC, and upon graduation worked for the CIA assigned to the Venezuelan desk. Currently, Vicky has been married for 54 years to her college sweetheart and lives in Boca Raton. They are the proud parents of three adult children and grandparents of nine grandchildren. Vicky has experienced the reality of our volatile geopolitical world and realized the necessity to share her thoughts and the importance of re-electing President Trump to save the United States from socialism.*



Thank you to the Texas Municipal Police Association for this great new billboard that went up in Austin today. @austintexasgov ignored public safety and made a dangerous decision to #defundpolice #bigmistake #backtheblue #txlege

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**From the RNC Convention . . .**



## How Did We Get Here?

*By Ed McCarthy*

As a nation, we face two existential threats to our Republic: the consequences of the COVID-19 virus unleashed by China, and the insurrection undertaken by ANTIFA, the Black Lives Matter Organization, and other like-minded anarchists.

The COVID-19 virus continues to play havoc with our economy, and precipitated a hand-to-hand political struggle with the Democrat leadership looking to use it to gain some political leverage in advance of the elections. We need not ask where COVID came from. It was unleashed on the unsuspecting world by the Chinese Communist Party. America will not only survive this COVID pandemic but will emerge even stronger. China will be dealt with for their treachery, but substantial damage has been done to our economy, and to our population. The true existential threat with respect to the China Virus isn't China, it's the actions (or inactions) of the leadership and officials of the Democrat Party and the deep state in Washington, D.C., and in various Democrat-controlled state houses, legislatures and city halls, all in hopes of gaining some significant political advantage. They are the ones now impeding our economic recovery. They are the ones with blood on their hands.

The second threat is the insurrections recently manifest in Seattle, Portland, Minneapolis, Louisville, Kenosha and other jurisdictions in concert with the exponential rise in crime in cities and states long controlled by left-wing Democrats. That is a deadly serious threat. That threat is magnified by the tacit approval and cooperation of state and local elected and appointed democrat officials. Governors, city councils and mayors silently tolerate lawlessness by hamstringing their own police, thereby encouraging arson, looting, rioting and insurrection which is destroying their inner cities. Leftist attorneys general in certain states, along with various state, county and city prosecutors, drop all charges against anarchists and instigators who have been arrested, cutting them loose, thereby allowing them to return to the conflict. Just look at what the recent "Bail Reform Bill" has inflicted upon the citizens, the business owners, and the police in New York City. Same scenario in Philadelphia. In Chicago, gang members outnumber the police, and are actively stalking the police on the streets of that city with threats of assassination. They vow to shoot any cop who dares to draw his weapon for any reason. It's an obscenity concocted, planned and executed by the Democrats in hopes of winning the 2020 elections. They believe the turmoil will help them on Election Day.

Where did all this originate? Where did ANTIFA come from? Where did Black Lives Matter come from? Actually, ANTIFA has been around for awhile. ANTIFA emerged in Portland, Oregon around 2007. Not too many years ago one of the international economic meetings was held in Portland where ANTIFA mounted violent demonstrations to the conference, inflicting considerable damage to the city. They have rioted at other international meetings in Canada and Europe, and have violently protested various election results. They re-emerged again after the death of George Floyd and are currently dismantling Seattle, Portland and other cities.

Black Lives Matter (BLM) is a binary phenomenon. First there are the protestors who came out after George Floyd's death to demand an end to "police brutality" against Blacks. They have every right to protest so long as they do so peacefully. Often "peaceful" demonstrations get hijacked and swept up in the lawlessness. Those "peaceful" demonstrators are just as complicit in the violence and destruction when they just stand by, wringing their hands and allowing violent groups to take over and stampede their protests into insurrection; night after night after night.

Now to the absurdity that the police are racist. Out of a population of about 330 million people in the U.S., there are about 53 million police contacts (police reports) with the public each year. Everything from getting cats down from trees to welfare checks, to violent shootouts. They result in about 10 million citations or arrests. Inasmuch as there are about 100,000 police in the various federal agencies, and about another 700,000 state, county, and local police, including state police, highway patrols, county sheriffs, Texas Rangers, as well as school, housing, and transit police, the number of police shootings, fatal and non-fatal, is fairly small. Tragic as each one is, they are not all that frequent an occurrence.

The number of police shootings of unarmed individuals is infinitesimally small, as is the number of rogue cops. Of the 39 recent shooting deaths of unarmed individuals by police, 20 were white and 19 were black—39 shootings out of a population of 330+ million. Our police don't go out each day with the intent to just shoot someone. There is, however, a criminal element out there that often provokes or initiates the shootings. Often it's the law enforcement officer who is assaulted, shot or stabbed. Shootings of unarmed individuals by police are rare, and one has to ask how many of those individuals—for whatever reason—had attacked the police, resulting in their own deaths. The statistics are there for those who wish to pursue the truth. The suggestion that there is systemic racism spread across our nation's police is, by and large, not only a falsehood, it is Black Lives Natter. The assertion of widespread racism is easily debunked by the statistics above.

The second facet to Black Lives Matter is the organization itself, which has been set up by, and is run by self-admitted "trained" Marxists whose stated goal is the total and complete destruction of the Republic and our American way of life. There is no longer any reference to George Floyd's death here. This is a self-admitted, seditious group of Marxists who, as of late, arose out of the Ferguson police shooting involving Michael Brown. They seized on that incident and fabricated the patently false "Hands up—don't shoot" narrative which suggests that Michael Brown was shot in the back and murdered by the police. Nothing could be further from the truth. Michael Brown was a suspect in a shoplifting incident who, when questioned, suddenly and violently assaulted the white police officer and tried to seize the cop's weapon. Brown then walked away, turned and approached the police officer a second time. The officer shot

*How Did We Get Here?—continued on next page*



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Brown in self-defense. The Obama/Holder Justice Department thoroughly investigated the incident and concluded it was a justified use of force. The officer, who was injured in the first assault, feared for his life. He, the police officer, was the victim. We, the American public, are the victims of the BLM “hands up—don’t shoot” self-serving fabrication. Yet, should you be challenged on the street by a group of BLM operatives, and don’t agree with their demands for a “proper” answer to their demands, you run the serious risk of being severely beaten. This has become a regular occurrence. BLM will tolerate no pushback to their irrational narrative. So much for the First Amendment.

The Black Lives Matter organization emerged and seized on the incident in order to foment unrest and violence in furtherance of their Marxist goals. The Marxist Black Lives Matter Organization is nothing more than Black Lies Matter. Yet if you log onto their website in order to make a “donation” you will be referred to a website for the Democrats. Yep, the Democrats will then collect and distribute your donation. Some to BLM some, to Democrats. To date that totals billions of dollars extorted from gullible corporations and fuzzy-minded woke individuals.

Did those ANTIFA and Black Lives Matter activists just materialized out of thin air? Hell no! They are the culmination of the decades-long assault on our education system by communists, socialists, progressives, liberals and Democrats. As an aside, what is the difference amongst the individuals in those groups? The answer is that the only difference amongst them is their dates of birth. Otherwise they were all tarred with the same stick. They all have the same objective, the transformation of America into some hodge-podge idea of a socialist utopia. They only differ as to how to attain that Utopia. Of course, the rest of have no say in this!

But then along comes Donald J. Trump, the Candidate and the President. A man with a plan, and the ability to dismantle that insidious socialist campaign. And he sets about doing just that. He is an existential threat to the far left and the deep state. They have never before been seriously challenged by anyone—Democrat, Republican or Independent—and they are scared to death seeing what he is accomplishing. It’s not that they don’t hate Trump, they do. It’s that they see President Trump as the dismantler of their decades-long inroads. They are in a panic and have attempted everything from Russiagate, the Muller Investigation, to impeachment, to accusations of racism, to spurious, anonymous accusations of every stripe. Any fabrication that they think will erode the President’s support will be trumpeted, and those assertions will be spread far and wide by the far left compliant allies in the lame-stream media, both print and broadcast. To get their socialist conspiracy back on an even keel, they will do anything to prevent the re-election of Donald Trump, up to and especially election fraud. Remember, the Democrats have not thrown away their play book!

They are hell bent on destroying our Republic and replacing it with a flawed ideology that cannot, and will never succeed. That “utopian society” would be destined to fail, thus completely destroying this country in the process. Let me recite two events illustrating where this all originated, and why.

First, about 60 years ago, way back then, I had a high school home room teacher who announced one day that “I

cannot wait for the day that they outlaw private property!” I said to, her, “That’s communism!” That got me a trip to the assistant principal’s office. He was totally unsympathetic. She was a Communist who was trying to indoctrinate our youth. The assistant principal was complicit. The result of my encounter was that I was punished (but not cowed) for speaking out. But the seditious campaign of indoctrination has continued unabated for the six decades since that date.

Next, and a little more recent, Sean Hannity had one of his college professors as a guest on his show. The only instructor ever to give him a bad grade. Hannity challenged him, saying that he was given an unfair grade on a paper for a course because of the professor disagreed with his defense of his (Hannity’s) conservative views. The professor hemmed and hawed and finally said that he would go back and change the grade to a B or a B+. Problem solved! Hell no it wasn’t solved! The appearance on Hannity’s show occurred years after the fact, years and years in which that professor had downgraded hundreds if not thousands of students’ work because the professor wanted to punish them for their conservative views, wanted them to subscribe to his leftist clap-trap. Years and years after he intimidated other students in Hannity’s class by unfairly downgrading Hannity’s paper. Students who didn’t have their own TV show from which to challenge the insidious assault of our education system, an assault the “progressives” had carefully crafted and executed over more than seven decades.

So here we are now in the midst of insurrection, violence and destruction, and wondering how did we get here! The answer is simple—we as a nation, we as a people have over the past 70 or so years, allowed the Democrats and their far left allies to systematically, insidiously and relentlessly transform our education system into a program that brain-washes our youth with a malicious doctrine that portrays the United States as a flawed, evil, racist society that must be destroyed. Destroyed and rebuilt BY THEM as some pure, utopian socialist society. We are seeing the fruit of their decade’s long program of indoctrination that we all have allowed to fester and metastasize!

Today’s situation is primarily the result of the leftist manipulation of our system of education at every level. It starts with pre-school and permeates the entirety of the system, up to and including postdoctoral programs. Young students are taught that none of their failures in life are their fault. They are fed a fairy tale about self-esteem, diversity and victimhood. They are insulated from anything that upsets them or makes them uncomfortable (like reality), and are provided safe places to shelter them against that which that disturbs them. Everyone gets a trophy, no one loses. High school, college and university students are inoculated with the same flawed, idealistic trumpety (a real word, look it up) of a so-called failed America. The indoctrination is relentless and far reaching. Why do you think it is that a conservative cannot attempt to speak at a college or university without being ejected, assaulted and/or shouted down? They are even prevented from speaking off campus. We are realizing the results of a seventy-plus-year assault on the basic fabric of American culture and society. It’s playing out on the streets of America, in our schools and universities, and in Congress and various state and local legislative bodies. And now it is playing out as an open insurrection!

*How Did We Get Here?—continued on next page*

*How Did We Get Here?—continued from previous page*

It's on display nightly in Portland, Seattle, Kenosha, Washington, DC, and elsewhere.

Combine this assault on education with what the Democrats have done to convince minorities that they are victims who should be awarded "restitution" for the sins of America. That they should get all manner of "free stuff." A slightly different approach here from just subverting education, but from the same playbook. Dumb them down. Keep them ignorant. In this case, the program trapped minorities in inner-city schools that failed them. They were moved up from grade to grade without receiving a basic education. What they were "taught" was that they are victims of a racist society, and that that society must be held responsible. Even the majority of high school and college athletes are moved through the system, being indoctrinated rather than educated. For the majority (except for some lucky athletes) when they finally leave school and encounter the reality of the outside world they are pathetically unprepared to deal with the reality. They have embarked on a lifetime of failure that very few will, or can ever escape.

**Don't think we can just ride this out.** Think again! We are engaged in a take-no-prisoners war over the heart and soul of these United States. We must seize back the initiative. A war that will never end until one side decisively prevails. The first skirmishes, the 2020 elections, will be crucial in gaining an initiative but are just the latest battle in the ongoing war.

For starters, after the election we must come to grips with the U.S. Department of Education which is complicit in the failure of our education system and in the brainwashing of our students over the decades. Our Constitution, in Article 1 Section 8, sets forth the powers of the Federal Government. Any powers not specifically allowed the Federal Government in that Article are therefore reserved for the states. Nowhere in that Article does the Constitution ever mention education. Unless in the past there has been a ruling of the U.S. Supreme Court validating and allowing a U.S. Department of Education, then it would appear that the Education Department was set up and perpetuated unconstitutional! That being the case, the administration of education should revert to the individual states, as provided for in the Constitution.

With the country being so vehemently divided, it is unlikely that any effort to have Congress address the constitutionality of the Department of Education would be still-born. The various teachers unions have a chokehold on education, and are a very powerful block in the Democrat Party. More than half the delegates at any Democrat convention will be teachers union members. The Democrats would close ranks to consistently block any such effort.

Some other approach would have to be mapped out. That approach is the courts. In those states where Republicans control the state house and the legislatures, the governors should band together and join a lawsuit asserting that a federal Education Department is unconstitutional, and that they are refusing to follow any mandates from it, or to pay any taxes to support it. With enough states participating across various judicial districts, the issue would, most likely wend its way to the U.S. Supreme Court. Risky as that is with the composition of the court being what it is, the states just might pre-

vail, particularly if a newly-elected President Trump is given the opportunity to appoint another Supreme Court Justice to counter Chief Justice Roberts's flaky decisions.

If the states prevail and education is rightfully restored to the individual states, it won't have any effect on education in Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Illinois, Washington, Oregon, or California. But Oklahoma, Florida, Texas, Tennessee, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and other states will begin to reform their curriculums to correctly educate their students as to the true history and culture of the U.S. They will begin to teach accurate American history and civics, and to do away with all that malignant self-esteem nonsense that has been befuddling the minds of our youth for the past seven decades.

Should that transpire, the war won't have been won, just the opening battle. Once the various states set the new curriculums, it will take years for our youngsters to develop and grow under the new system. Some states won't participate, but a corner will have been turned. It could take 20 years or so to see today's pre-schooler's advance through a revised system of education and emerge as well educated adults. Meantime, we still have to deal with today's ANTIFA, BLM, progressives, the woke technocrats in Silicon Valley, and the virulently hostile, left-wing media.

Dismantling the Education Department won't affect colleges and universities, a program would have to be developed with them. The U.S. Justice Department and state attorneys might undertake to prosecute and fine individuals, educators' institutes of higher learning who/which deprive any person or group of their legitimate First Amendment rights. Let those affected individuals sue the perpetrators. Strip the institutions of their research contracts; they are just leaking secrets to China anyway. Strip them of the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) scholarship money, and cancel the programs. We don't want them indoctrinating our future commissioned officers anyway. There are plenty of other institutions that will keep their ROTC programs. Have a deep examination of the laws that relate to their huge, largely unregulated endowment funds, and place stringent limits on the hiring of employees, consultants and on the admission of students from China. Forbid the institutions from entering into any commercial or pure research joint ventures with China or Chinese companies, or with the Chinese government or the Chinese Communist Party.

As for Silicon Valley, subject them to prosecution and fines for each incident where they deprive anyone of their First Amendment rights. Reexamine the various laws and programs that shield social media from lawsuits when they defund or lock any social media accounts for purely political reasons.

Dismantling the Education Department and protecting our First Amendment rights would be a good start, but the battle will be won or lost at the ballot box. It's time for all of us to stay informed, to get involved in the political process by contributing more of our time and resources, and most of all, by voting in every election and encouraging all like-minded friends, family and acquaintances to also do so.

We may be on the verge of a breakthrough, but we cannot let up. Wars are decided in favor of those who win the most battles. We still have many battles yet to be won before this war is won. Steel yourself!

## Letters

### Laura Loomer Worries Democrats

Dear Members and Friends,

It's gratifyingly amazing to Republicans that the pundits of such Leftist media giants as CNN, *The New Yorker*, *The Washington Post*, CBS News, *Esquire*, Politico, *USA Today* and Vice, know or evidence any knowledge of the Madison Avenue truism, "There's no such thing as bad publicity," when they all simultaneously (and at the same time) dig their teeth into . . . Laura Loomer. You don't know who Laura Loomer is? Count yourself as among the millions of other in-the-dark Americans until, thankfully, the progressive's media attack dogs started snapping at Laura's heels. She's the 27-year-old woman whose primary victory over five other South Florida Republicans will have her face off against Lois Frankel, a four-termed, tired 72-year-old Democrat incumbent. The district is heavily Democrat and Loomer's chances of winning the seat were slim because of her political inexperience, youth and lack of name recognition. But . . .

Hold it there. That was until the aforementioned media got into the act by labeling Loomer as "Islamophobic," "a conspiracist," "a believer of law and order," "a loyal Trumper" and "a follower of QAnon," whatever the hell that is. Andrew Marantz, in *The New Yorker*, talks of her eating at Katz's Deli (the hint to one and all that's she's old-fashioned Jewish), that she lives in a "dreary apartment," that she had a "raucous victory party" after her election, and that she was "the most banned woman in America." Put all of these descriptions of Laura Loomer together and she'd be sentenced in a progressive court of law to at least, life imprisonment. Marantz also writes that she's "an unreconstructed guerilla." When pronounced aloud, the word, "guerilla" is heard as "gorilla." Would anyone in his/her right mind, get away with using that word to describe, let's say, Michelle Obama, Kamala Harris, or Al Sharpton? But in attacking a white, conservative, Jewish woman, anything goes and is accepted by the Radical Left.

It's eye-opening to search and find nothing negative from these media pundits about the overt Jew/Israel-hating rants from such Democrat congresspeople as Ilhan Omar, Rashida Tlaib and Georgia's Hank Johnson. Omar accused American Jews of treason and controlling our government with "Benjamins." Tlaib has doubts, publicly, about evidence of the Holocaust and Johnson called Jews, termites. "They get into your house and eat it up." He's also the dimwit who claimed that too much construction on the island of Guam might "tip it over and capsize it." But Laura Loomer is a racist, bigot and dumb? And what was seen, heard or read about Maxine Waters, a House committee chair, referring to Republicans as "scumbags"? Different rules for different folks depending on their political and genetic tinting, I guess.

So, let's get back to Laura Loomer. What stimulates the Progressive media to go after her? Are there fears that Lois

Frankel is vulnerable? That she needs their shoring up since she is rarely seen or involved in the community due to her cozying up to her buddies, Jim Beam and Johnny Walker? A strong incumbent never gives an opponent this kind of publicity. What does Loomer offer District 21 that makes the Dems edgy? She's a young woman, a total political conservative who is fearless and would take on all the radical women in the House if elected, and they'd come out bruised and bloody. She would not permit the deadly 13% Racial Quota integration system to be implemented in and destroy communities such as Palm Beach County. She would vote to ban illegal immigration. She would vote to lower taxes. She would vote to keep "God" in our Pledge. She would vote to build up our military. Ditto for our law enforcement personnel. She would vote in support of our nation's keeping Israel as an ally. She would vote against late term and abortion on demand. In short, she'd be a much needed, forceful, fearless, conservative leader in Congress.

And she'll stand strong alongside and fight for President Donald Trump. Your vote in Florida District 21 will topple the incumbent, invisible Lois Frankel, who has accomplished zilch during her four useless terms in office other than rubber stamp the lunatic legislation of Nancy Pelosi. Let's hope the media keeps beating up on and giving publicity to Laura Loomer. We need their help.

*Alan Bergstein*

*President, Judeo/Christian Republican Club*

### Responding to a Liberal

I received this from one of my liberal friends. My response follows. Does anyone else want to respond?

"The sentence I hear most from well-meaning, conservative friends since President Trump's election is this: "We suffered 8 years under Barack Obama." Fair enough. Let's take a look.

The day Obama took office, the Dow closed at 7,949 points. Eight years later, the Dow had almost tripled.

General Motors and Chrysler were on the brink of bankruptcy, with Ford not far behind, and their failure, along with their supply chains, would have meant the loss of millions of jobs. Obama pushed through a controversial, \$80 billion bailout to save the car industry. The U.S. car industry survived, started making money again, and the entire \$80 billion was paid back, with interest.

While we remain vulnerable to lone-wolf attacks, no foreign terrorist organization has successfully executed a mass attack here since 9/11.

Obama ordered the raid that killed Osama Bin Laden.

He drew down the number of troops from 180,000 in Iraq and Afghanistan to just 15,000, and increased funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

*Letters—continued on next page*

*Letters—continued from previous page*

He launched a program called Opening Doors which, since 2010, has led to a 47 percent decline in the number of homeless veterans.

He set a record 73 straight months of private-sector job growth.

Due to Obama's regulatory policies, greenhouse gas emissions decreased by 12%, production of renewable energy more than doubled, and our dependence on foreign oil was cut in half.

He signed The Lilly Ledbetter Act, making it easier for women to sue employers for unequal pay.

His Omnibus Public Lands Management Act designated more than 2 million acres as wilderness, creating thousands of miles of trails and protecting over 1,000 miles of rivers.

He reduced the federal deficit from 9.8 percent of GDP in 2009 to 3.2 percent in 2016.

For all the inadequacies of the Affordable Care Act, we seem to have forgotten that, before the ACA, you could be denied coverage for a pre-existing condition and kids could not stay on their parents' policies up to age 26.

Obama approved a \$14.5 billion system to rebuild the levees in New Orleans.

All this, even as our own Mitch McConnell famously asserted that his singular mission would be to block anything President Obama tried to do.

While Obama failed on his campaign pledge to close the prison at Guantanamo Bay, that prison's population decreased from 242 to around 50.

He expanded funding for embryonic stem cell research, supporting groundbreaking advancement in areas like spinal injury treatment and cancer.

Credit card companies can no longer charge hidden fees or raise interest rates without advance notice.

Most years, Obama threw a 4th of July party for military families. He held babies, played games with children, served barbecue, and led the singing of "Happy Birthday" to his daughter Malia, who was born on July 4.

Welfare spending is down: for every 100 poor families, just 24 receive cash assistance, compared with 64 in 1996.

Obama comforted families and communities following more than a dozen mass shootings. After Sandy Hook, he said, "The majority of those who died today were children, beautiful little kids between the ages of 5 and 10 years old."

Yet, he never took away anyone's guns.

He sang Amazing Grace, spontaneously, at the altar.

He was the first president since Eisenhower to serve two terms without personal or political scandal.

He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

President Obama was not perfect, as no man and no president is, and you can certainly disagree with his political ideologies. But to say we suffered? If that's the argument, if this is how we suffered for eight years under Barack Obama, I have one wish: may we be so fortunate as to suffer eight more."

*Here is my response. If you care to add anything you can send it to my friend Frank at mrfcv1@aol.com.*

"He gave weapons to drug lords in Mexico that were used to kill dozens of people including two American customs officers. 'Fast and Furious.'

His IRS was used to go after anyone who opposed his political views.

He also used the EPA to destroy and bankrupt innocent Americans only because they were conservative.

He weaponized every government agency against his political enemies.

He only got the stock market back to where it was after the crash caused by the disastereous Democrat "Dodd-Frank" legislation that caused the crash. But it took him eight years to get it back just to where it was. Slowest recovery in America's history.

He destroyed our manufacturing industry taxing thousands of our companies so high that they relocated abroad mostly to China. Making us completely dependent on China. Ultimately allowing China to send us the worst pandemic ever. And said Trump would need a magic wand to get it back.

He took part, along with the FBI, in allowing highly illegal spying on Americans, including the opposing candidate for POTUS.

After Ferguson he praised the BLM for chanting 'What do we want, Dead Cops. When do we want it now.' 'Pigs in a blanket.' And he said he supported their chants.

He had the terrorist Muslim Brotherhood to a prestigious White House Dinner to support them.

He gave our worst enemy, Iran, \$150 billion, which we now know they used to support the killing of American soldiers around the world and spend terrorism and destruction as they chanted, 'Kill all Americans.'

He knew and supported his vice president allowing his son to sell out to the Ukraine receiving millions of dollars for influence, not to mention he took his son on a government plane to a meeting in China whereby he received a \$1.5 billion contract, again only for buying influence.

He destroyed our great health care and later admitted he knew he was lying with 'you can keep your doctor' and people were forced into plans where their deductibles were thousands of dollars. Meaning they really had no usable insurance at all. Even after their premiums skyrocketed.

He almost destroyed our great military to a point where we didn't have parts to repair our outdated planes and ships and were salvaging parts from old junk yard aircraft, literally jeopardizing our national security.

I could go on for hours but what would be the point? If the left ever takes control of our great country those who supported them will suffer the same pains as those who didn't but it will be too late."

*Ed Primoff  
Loxahatchee*

## Book Review

***The Breakdown of Higher Education: How It Happened, the Damage It Does, and What Can Be Done*, by John M. Ellis, Encounter Books, 2020, ISBN: 9781641770880, 209 pages.**

This small book is full of common sense thinking that everyone else at our colleges and universities are hiding from us. John Martin Ellis is a Distinguished Professor Emeritus of German Literature at the University of California, Santa Clara. He taught at universities in England, Wales, and Canada before coming to UCSC in 1966, serving as dean of the Graduate Division in 1977–86. He has founded and served as an officer of several scholar associations and is currently chairman of the board of the California Association of Scholars.

There are eight chapters. A Preface, Acknowledgments, Notes and Index are included. The chapters are titled: Chapter 1—What Do Those Near-Riots Tell Us about the State Higher Education? Chapter 2—Who Are the People Destroying our Universities? Chapter 3—How Was It Possible for This to Happen? Chapter 4—Sabotaging Education for Citizenship; Chapter 5—Graduates Who Know Little and Can't Think; Chapter 6—The Wretched State of the Campuses; Chapter 7—The Campus World of Lies and Deceit; and Chapter 8—What Can Be Done to Restore Higher Education?

Ellis starts off by admitting that the situation has been written about for thirty some years by numerous authors trying to persuade colleagues to do something before higher education became disastrous. He says there is no point in another book to diagnose the problem. It is too late because higher education has become disastrous. The professors are the locus of the problem. Instead the book is addressed to people outside higher education that have the good sense they were born with who want the universities to provide what they used to provide.

Chapter 1 tells us that political advocacy has replaced analysis as the central concern of campuses. This advocacy is completely closed-minded and intolerant. People try to defend these incidents, but the campus deals with violence-backed advocacy. Students got this new advocacy from their teachers who want nothing to do with academic analysis. The main event, involving Bruce Gilley, showed thousands of people with professorial appointments who rejected the idea of academic thought and analysis. Ellis says this is the real source of “mulish intransigence” among students that resulted in the riots at UC Berkley. He gives other examples of similar incidents.

Ellis describes Chapter 1 at the beginning of Chapter 2 as:

The situation we found in the previous chapter is both extreme and depressing, and it's natural to ask: How can this have happened to our once magnificent universities? Before we can understand *how* it happened, we need to

have a clear sense of *what* has happened, and that in turn leads to the question of *who* has caused it. When we see professors ganging up on colleagues whose opinions they disapprove of, we might surmise that the root of the change on our campuses can be found in the composition of the faculty who now staff them. In fact it is radically different from what it used be, tilting much further left. Who are these people?

*Ibid.*, p. 25.

Ellis then tells us what has happened to cause the new strident political advocacy and what has caused it. The Carnegie Commission of Higher Education in 1969 found that 45 percent of faculty had political views that were left or liberal, while 27 percent were middle-of-the-road, and 28 percent either moderately or strongly conservative. Since then there have been many additional surveys. By 1999 the tilt was more obvious.

Soon, one in five professors in the social sciences is identified as “Marxist” in surveys, leading to the question of “why?” Ellis says these people were attracted to social science faculty positions because they were having a hard time in the real world as Marxists. In the last two or three years, Ellis says the tilt has increased more. Those in the departments were so large they could make the group think on campuses happen. The ratio is now 12 liberals to 1 conservative in studies.

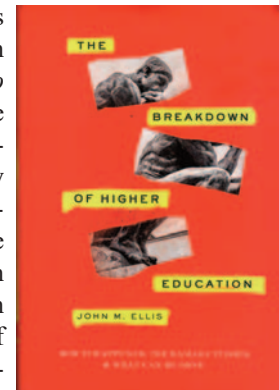
As Chapter 3 opens, Ellis summarizes Chapter 2 as:

We can summarize the major findings of the last chapter as follows: the political tilt to the left has now reached a degree not remotely matched in the past, in many areas so extreme that it amounts to exclusion of any but left-of-center faculty; the leftism now prevalent on campus is far more extreme than it is off campus; the more that politics is relevant to a field of study (the most obvious being political science and sociology), the greater the preponderance of left-wing faculty; and younger faculty members are more solidly left-oriented than older faculty, so that the degree of the tilt continues to grow as retirees are replaced by new appointments.

*Ibid.* p. 47

At the end of Chapter 4, Ellis concludes:

By teaching such nonsensical notions, the campus radical culture has destroyed education for citizenship. It has



*Book Review—continued on next page*

*Book Review—continued from previous page*

left us with graduates who are ignorant of the history of their own country and its institutions. They have not acquired an understanding of the history of their civilization, but instead are encouraged to entertain foolish ideas that poison their attitude to it.

*Ibid.* p. 98

This is a book that make a lot of sense out of much of the cancel culture movement and other happenings in higher education. Skipping ahead to Chapter 8, Ellis gives some suggestions to improve the situation, which he describes as a “national crisis of vast proportions” (*Ibid.* p. 172). He explains why idea after idea will not work under the present circumstances, so you will have to carefully read his comments in order to come up with some ideas that might work to improve higher education.

But Ellis does recommend dismantling the political clans and removing the individuals from the faculty. No amount of tinkering will change anything. Ellis mentions that the Florida legislature is requesting a report on faculty diversity of opinion. He expects the results to be embarrassing and will lead to a movement for change.

Another idea that Ellis proposes is to place departments into a “receivership.” A new department chair would be

appointed to take over to make new hires to bring the department back to health.

The last paragraph of the book explains Ellis’ thoughts as follows:

The measures I’ve discussed in this chapter will all depend on the public will to reform academia. Ultimately, reform will depend on the people who demand it. It must include an end to the one-party faculty, the removal of radical activists who politicize classrooms, an end to condoning thuggish intolerance, the dismantling of the campus diversity apparatus, the reintroduction of knowledge of and respect for our history and our Constitution, the replacing of cowardly administrators with people who will maintain and protect the integrity of their campuses, and the appointment of trustees who are watchdogs and not lapdogs. In the end, a citizenry that will not accept a thoroughly corrupt higher education must prevail.

*Ibid.* p. 193

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*William J. Skinner, reviewer of this book, is a retired attorney who once represented the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy during the 1970s when it was undertaking reorganization of the curriculum and association support for the then 72 universities with pharmacy colleges.*

*The Women for Trump of Boca Raton are pleased to announce a donation of \$1800.00 has been made to the Trump Victory Campaign in honor of the memory and the wishes of Florence Teisch.*

*Florence was a devoted and enthusiastic supporter of our President, Donald J. Trump. She founded the group, Women for Trump of Boca Raton, and built it from a small group of supporters to over 120 activists.*

*Florence was an inspiration to all who met her and her energy and enthusiasm were contagious. She was a fearless fighter for democracy and her conservative values and she will be greatly missed.*



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## Editor's Postscript

### In Memory of Poncho

*By Tom Mullings*

Although it's been over 50 years since I saw him last, my memories of him are still quite vivid. He was such a strikingly beautiful dog; a three-year-old Belgian Shepherd in his prime with a coat of long black hair. And memories are nearly all I possess, since I don't have so much as picture to remember him by. That's why I've included with this article a photo of a member of his breed that I found on the internet that looked like him. Like I said, a beautiful dog. Sometimes, under the right conditions, I'd marvel in awe at the sight of his magnificent coat, upon which on rare occasions, the bright, equatorial, sunlight of Vietnam would cast a faint bluish tint.

His name was Poncho and together we served in combat as a scout dog team, walking point for infantry companies of the 173rd Airborne Brigade, United States Army, in 1968. I do have his choke chain, which I cherish, graciously sent to me by Murph, a fellow handler with the 39th Scout Dog Platoon, after I was wounded in action.

The first dog they gave me while I was in training to be a scout dog handler, didn't work out for reasons I've forgotten, so they gave me what they said was "a special dog." He was already very well trained and would obey a number of commands. I remember, the first time they put us together I had him on a choke chain and leash on my left side and he leaned up against me and looked up at me with these loving eyes, causing the army trainer to comment, as if in surprise, "He likes you."

While on point, I always worked him with a harness, and the suffocating heat of Vietnam was harder on him than any of the rest of us infantrymen laboring under the stiflingly-oppressive, humidity in the field. I had to carry a considerable amount of extra water to prevent him from overheating in the jungle and by evening, after a full day of "humping the boonies," he just wanted to be left alone. One night, an officer got too close and Poncho knocked him down.

On another occasion, I was sitting on the floor of an open-door chopper with my feet dangling outside as we came in for a heliborne assault on the South China Sea. I had an 80-pound rucksack on my back, a CAR-15 (Colt Automatic Rifle) in my right hand and was looking to the right, admiring the coastline with Poncho seated on my left, his leash in my left hand. Suddenly, he jumped out of the

chopper when we were still a good hundred feet above the beach! Fortunately, he was on harness and, somehow, didn't pull me out of the helicopter, despite exiting while I was distracted, and neither of us were hurt.

They say that the "brotherhood of combat" is a special kind of friendship and I can attest to that since I experienced it first-hand. But there is also another kind of "brotherhood," the brotherhood between man and dog, that is much rarer, but the bonds of which are just as strong and sentimental, at least in my opinion, and I have first-hand knowledge of that too. The last time I saw Poncho was when I was taken out of the field after being wounded in an enemy ambush. We were instructed that if wounded, our dogs should be put on the Med-evac choppers with us, and I tried to tell that to the paratroopers I was with, but they didn't want to, and given the situation, which I won't go into here, they were probably right. Nevertheless, in my mind is that last memory of him, up on his hind legs while being restrained on leash by one of my comrades, as if he was pleading "I want to go too," as he saw me being removed from the scene of that awful last day in combat.

And he should have gone home with me. He deserved it, as did all the other American war dogs who served faithfully alongside us soldiers, airmen and Marines in the Vietnam War. But that was another time, when colder, more thoughtless attitudes prevailed, and all of them were left behind, some of them to be eaten by the Vietnamese and none of them to see their homes again, leaving me to wonder, who were the heartless idiots who decided such things?

Today it is different, and more humane policies have been promulgated to give military dogs the kind of retirement they richly deserve. To briefly tell that story it is best to turn to another gentleman, much more qualified than I to do so, Mr. John C. Burnam, MSG USA (Ret.). Mr. Burnam



*Editor's Postscript—continued on next page*

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was a combat infantryman and scout dog handler during the Vietnam War from 1966–1968, who was awarded, the Purple Heart, Legion of Merit Medal, Combat Infantryman's Award, Bronze Star and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm Leaf for his service to our country, and what follows are quotes from his book, *A Soldier's Best Friend*, that I read when it was published in 2003:

"Thanks to the late Dr. William W. Putney, World War II veterinarian, and Congressman Roscoe Bartlett of Maryland, Public Law 106-446 to Congress 'to facilitate the adoption of retired military dogs by law enforcement agencies, former handlers of these dogs, and other persons capable of caring for these dogs,' was signed into law in 2000 by President Bill Clinton.

"[In addition, a salute goes out] to U.S. Congressman Walter P. Jones, North Carolina, for championing the efforts of a small group of Vietnam veteran war dog handlers for submitting a bill to Congress to mandate a National War Dog Monument in Washington D.C. It was signed into law by President George W. Bush and it is the first time in the history of the U.S. Armed Services, that an animal, a dog, has been elevated to national monument status."

Time and therapy have helped me make peace with the war in Vietnam and the guilt so many of us feel about our experiences. And, in my case, it has also helped me come to terms with the guilt I feel for the wonderful dog I left behind. I've never known what his ultimate fate was and I don't really want to, but in my mind's eye I prefer to see him as he was in his prime of life on the other side of the world, with the direct equatorial sunlight casting that rare, but awesome, faint bluish tint to his magnificent coat. The Marines have a Latin motto that is emblematic of their heroic service to our country—*Semper Fidelis*—but it could easily be used for just such a purpose with other members of our "Band of Brothers" who have gotten far too little credit for their sacrifices, and I use it now as a salute to Poncho, a fellow comrade in arms. Farewell, old friend, and *Semper Fi* (Always Faithful).

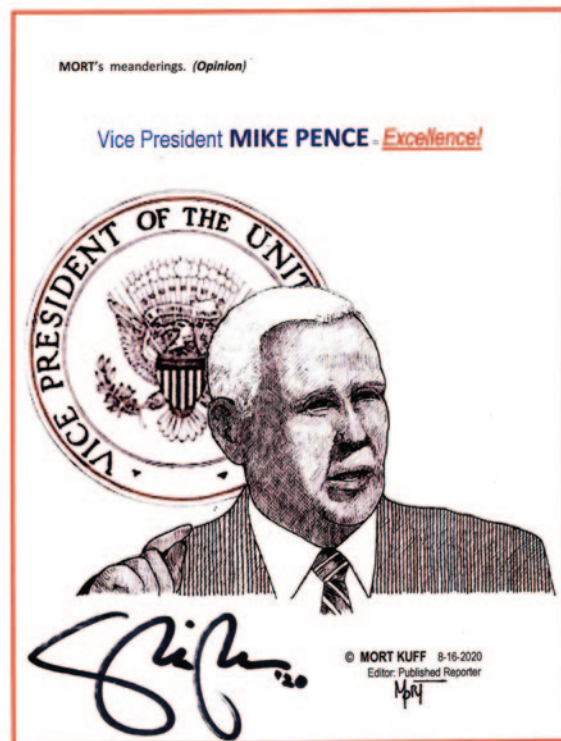
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*Tom Mullings is a decorated Army infantry combat veteran of the Vietnam War, who served as a scout dog handler with the 173rd Airborne Brigade. He was one of the three original incorporators of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC, and is a long-time Republican Executive Committeeman from precinct 5154 in Palm Beach County.*

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### Mort's Meanderings . . .

Today, the mailman delivered a large envelope addressed to me. It contained a copy of the pen-portrait I did of Vice President Pence that was posted on the *Published Reporter* site. Evidently, it was picked off the internet site by someone in the Administration responsible for collating news and ephemera related to the VP. It was hand-signed by VP Pence and accompanied by a hand-signed letter to me, from the Vice President. A delightful surprise that I wanted to share. —MORT KUFF







# Republican Executive Committee Membership Application

The Republican Executive Committee (also known as the REC) is the governing body of the Republican Party of Palm Beach County. The REC elects the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Party. Members of the REC also approve the Party's constitution; Rules, Policies & Procedures; and budget.

Members of the Republican Executive Committee represent registered Republicans who live in their precinct and serve as the Party's liaison to the Republicans within that precinct. REC members are expected to maintain contact with Republicans living in their precinct and to keep them informed as to what is going on in the Republican Party. This can be done through E-mail or other means like regular mail, phone calls and/or walking your precinct. The REC is the basis for our grassroots efforts and we rely on REC Members to organize and develop their precincts, recruit new volunteers, recruit candidates to fill vacancies on the REC, find sign locations for Republican candidates, register new Republican voters and work to get out the Republican vote in their precincts during elections. The role of committeeman or committeewoman is essential to Republican Party's and our candidates' success in Palm Beach County.

### REC Committeeman & Committeewoman Duties and Responsibilities

1. Expected to donate financially to the Republican Party of Palm Beach County
2. Attend REC Meetings
3. Organize your precinct and carry out the policies and programs of the Party within your precinct. Active participation in the various programs of the Party is expected.
4. Serve on a Party Committee.
5. Develop a presence in the broader community by joining a Republican Club; serving on a local board or committee; or monitoring local media for relevant material.

*ALL APPLICANTS FOR THE REC MUST BE A REGISTERED REPUBLICAN IN PALM BEACH COUNTY. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS REC APPLICATION FORM AND RETURN IT ALONG WITH A PHOTO COPY OF THE FRONT OF YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION CARD. ANY APPLICATION RECEIVED WITHOUT A COPY OF THE APPLICANT'S VOTER REGISTRATION CARD WILL NOT BE PROCESSED. YOU WILL ALSO NEED THE SIGNATURES BELOW OF TWO CURRENT REC MEMBERS. THE DEADLINE FOR ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS IS 11:00 AM, 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE REC MEETING.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Check here if you DO NOT want your email reported to the Supervisor of Elections thus making it a matter of public record under Florida law. \_\_\_\_\_

Profession: \_\_\_\_\_ Precinct #: \_\_\_\_\_

I am applying for the position of: Committeeman \_\_\_\_\_ Committeewoman \_\_\_\_\_

### Two Current REC Members' Sponsor Signatures:

1). \_\_\_\_\_ REC Precinct # \_\_\_\_\_ 2). \_\_\_\_\_ REC Precinct # \_\_\_\_\_

Please return your REC Application to the Republican Party of Palm Beach County Headquarters,  
1555 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., Suite 500, West Palm Beach 33401 Phone (561) 686-1616

Paid for by the Republican Party of Palm Beach County, independent of any candidate or committee. [www.pbcgop.org](http://www.pbcgop.org)



## Republican Party of Florida Party Loyalty Oath

I, \_\_\_\_\_, swear and/or affirm that during my term of  
(Name of Member – Please write clearly)

office I will not actively, publicly, or financially support the election of any candidate other than the Republican Candidate in a partisan unitary, general or special election, or a registered Republican in non-partisan elections, other than Judicial races governed under chapter 105, Florida Statutes, if there is a registered Republican running for the same office.

Further, in a contested Republican primary election, I will not support the nomination of one Republican candidate over another in my capacity as a Republican County Executive Committee member unless the Party has voted to endorse under RPOF Rule 8. This rule does not preclude me from supporting in any manner my personal Republican candidate of choice, provided I do not express such support with public reference to my title or office within the Republican Party of Florida.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
County/Precinct #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Office: \_\_\_\_\_  
(State Committeeman, State Committeewoman; Precinct Committeeman, Precinct Committeewoman;  
Alt. Precinct Committeeman, Alt. Precinct Committeewoman)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address, as it appears on voter registration

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

**CANDIDATE OATH –**

**Committeemen and Committeewomen**

Check applicable one:

- Precinct Committeeman or Committeewoman
- District Committeeman or Committeewoman
- State Committeeman or Committeewoman

OFFICE USE ONLY

**Candidate Oath**

(Sections 99.021(1)(a) and (2), Florida Statutes)

I, \_\_\_\_\_

(Print name above as you wish it to appear on the ballot. If your last name consists of two or more names but has no hyphen, check box . (See page 2 - Compound Last Names). No change can be made after the end of qualifying.)

am a candidate for the office of  **Committeeman**  **Committeewoman**

**Precinct/District Number** \_\_\_\_\_ (Not applicable to State Committeemen and State Committeewomen),

I am a qualified elector of \_\_\_\_\_ County, Florida; I am qualified under the Constitution and the Laws of Florida to hold the office to which I desire to be nominated or elected; and I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Florida.

**Statement of Party**

(Section 99.021(1)(b), Florida Statutes)

I am a member of the \_\_\_\_\_ Party; I have not been a registered member of any other political party for 365 days before the beginning of qualifying preceding the general election for which I seek to qualify; and I have paid the assessment levied against me, if any, as a candidate for said office by the executive committee of the political party, of which I am a member.

**Candidate's Florida Voter Registration Number** (located on your voter information card): \_\_\_\_\_

**Phonetic spelling for audio ballot:** Print name phonetically on the line below as you wish it to be pronounced on the audio ballot as may be used by persons with disabilities (see instructions on page 2 of this form): [Not applicable to write-in candidates.]

**X** \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Candidate Telephone Number Email Address

Address City State ZIP Code

**STATE OF FLORIDA**

**COUNTY OF** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Notary Public**

Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public below:

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Personally Known: \_\_\_\_\_ or Produced Identification: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Identification Produced: \_\_\_\_\_