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"The essential quality of a market system, contrary to popular thinking, is not that it promotes greed; But rather, that it renders greed harmless." Israel Kirzner

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Why Is Trump Winning?

By AMAC, Robert B. Charles

Why is Trump winning? The media and leading Democrats are stumped, as they would be – given all they have done. Yes, he is a proven quantity, former president. Yes, times were good economically, and there was domestic and international security. Yes, he weathers storms well. But it is more than all this.

Here is the raw truth. Trump is winning for a thousand small reasons, but mostly because people are in pain, their love of country, history, families, work, faith, and common sense being mocked.

They want someone who believes in their dreams, not the government's dreams, their independence, their right to be free from mandates and dominance, their right to be safe from illegal aliens, drugs, Iran, China, terror, and wrong-headed, unconstitutional abuses of power.

They want to have Washington's elites back off, back away, stop profiting from all the abuses, unchecked insider trading, private deals with America's enemies, and subjecting those that believe in truth and integrity to harassment, arrest, prosecutions, fake crimes, oppressive acts with no place in the lexicon of America.

They do not want more masks, shutdowns,

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Congress and courts enable energy and climate fantasy and tyranny

Supreme Court should end "Chevron deference" to restore checks, balances and reality

By Paul Dreissen



The left end of the political spectrum is relentlessly pursuing the transformation of America's society, history, economy, speech, borders, governing systems, healthcare, energy and living standards. What it cannot secure via the ballot box and alliances with the legacy media and academic institutions, it works to impose

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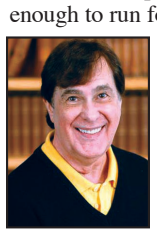
Who Do Elected Representatives Think They're Representing?

By Tom DeWeese

How is it possible that someone is talented and involved enough to run for political office and win the election – but once



in office, has no clue of the origins or purpose behind the very policies they are forced to consider? Specifically, policies dealing with comprehensive planning, such as Smart Growth, 30×30 land issues, energy, and transportation, all of which affect day-to- day life in the community. These are the issues

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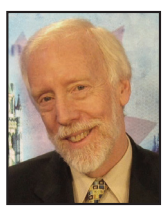
Its High Time to Stand Up to Climate Change Bullies

By Tom Harris

What do car manufacturers, farmers, ranchers, coal, oil and



natural gas companies, electricity providers, cement companies, bird lovers, everyday consumers and pro-life activists have in common? They are all victims of the irrational and unscientific idea that humanity is causing dangerous climate change by our so-called greenhouse gas

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Victory as dangerous "natural asset companies" proposal fails

By Craig Rucker

Last Fall, radical Greens and their woke allies in Big Business moved to create something called "Natural Asset Companies" [NACs] . These were cockamamie firms, designed to be placed on the New York Stock Exchange for the purpose of tying up public and private lands by doing nothing on them whatsoever. They wanted to stop stop any so-called "unsustainable practices" like mining, logging, energy production, etc. that might (perish the thought) make a profit.



The Securities and Exchange Commission initially bought into this wacky Green scheme. But last week the New York Stock Exchange withdrew its request to the SEC to create these firms. Voila, another victory for private property rights in America!

When we learned

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A Strategy for Climate Skeptics to Gain Public Support

By Williams Kovacs (Part III of III parts)

Parts I and II suggest climate skeptics change their lobbying strategy from the current focus on the scientific flaws in green technology to a strategy that addresses the very high cost to



taxpayers of federal green subsidies and product bans. Part III sets out a proposed strategy to force cost transparency on the government and develop tactics to defeat overpriced facilities and programs that are very costly to the consumer.

As long as business has unlimited access to tax expenditures,

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The FDA Has Become a Vaccine Marketing Unit

Congress no Will to Call for Market Removal, Mass Vaccination Campaign Rolls On

By Dr. Peter McCullough



Most of my patients have not had a COVID-19 vaccine or booster since 2021. When I go in CVS or Walgreens, I rarely see a sullen vaccine recipient in the back waiting for a reaction to one of the hopeless XBB.1.5 boosters. I was asked on February 2, 2024, more than three years

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Climate Agenda Makes Vital CO2 a Dangerous Pollutant

By Larry Bell

To get some sense of powerful political agenda influences on



global climate and environmental policies, it's instructive to revisit the acid rain hysteria of the late 1960s, which led quite directly to the demonization of carbon dioxide (CO2) as a "climate pollutant."

This second manufactured scare continues today, thanks to active

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Steve's Say . . .

Life, Elections and Rabbit Holes to Explore if you Dare



Last week a sincere Republican desiring to win elections again put forth a group e-mail directed to Brian Schimming imploring that the party move off the pro-Life stance of its platform and take abortion off the ballot this year. The e-mail chain included more than 50 people. How and why they included me I can't tell you. And I'm sure many regret that this plea reached my inbox.

A flurry of responses ensued, all agreeing with the premise that the Republican Party should be the conduit to re-establish abortion in the state of Wisconsin. The sickening and misguided support for this premise forced me to compose an opposition e-mail demonstrating its falseness while pointing out the salient issue of why Republicans "lost" elections since 2016, election integrity.

The Wisconsin Constitution outlaws abortion. Contrary to media spin, legal abortion never existed in our state even during the "Roe vs. Wade" days. The abortionists and their accomplices freely violated the law, confident that the criminal syndicate operating the Federal government protected their backs. With that mask of faux protection removed, the obviousness of the legal status of abortion in Wisconsin cannot be disputed.

I have to admit, I marvel at the mental and moral yoga one must exert to come to the conclusion that destroying an innocent life births some greater good. How do they know what future lay before that innocent they assisted in slaughtering? I would trade every electoral win for eternity if no more innocent life be shed again, whether by abortion or the elimination of the elderly, disabled or unpopular. And if that dream became reality, I'm certain the election results would reflect that staunch morality of God's immutable law.

"But Steve, the 100% pro-Life position is politically untenable. What about rape and incest?" Actually, this objection strengthens the pro-Life position greatly by allowing the perversion of language to be exposed, the failure to address the root causes leading to abortion and highlight the real agenda driving the entire abortion industry.

Let's start with the true meaning of the words rape and incest. Rape, a violent crime committed by forcing sexual intercourse upon an unwilling person or someone too young or mentally incompetent to provide consent. Incest refers to sexual intercourse within the immediate family. When juxtaposed as above, one can see that the incest argument evaporates - incest is actually either rape or consensual sex, rape if minors or force are involved, consensual if both individuals are above age, competent and willing. So the argument boils down to rape.

Throughout history rape punishment often included the death penalty, which many of us still believe to be highly appropriate. Today, many rapists get off with little punishment if apprehended at all. And hordes of documentation demonstrate that abortionists and their abetters provide cover for rapists in a myriad of ways. Thus by allowing abortion you aid and abet rapists, perpetuating the crime instead of punishing the perpetrators and extending healing to the victims.

The lasting consequences of rape violence on victims cannot be overstated including the pregnancy which may result. It's certainly not fair to the woman to have to deal with this result of the crime, which is why rape must be punished severely. Yet the created life cannot be held responsible for the manner in which it was created. If that's the case, then we truly have determined that some lives are better than others, some lives matter and some don't. The manner in which you came into being determines your worthiness as a human being. A caste system results.

The fact that rape and war went hand in hand throughout all of man's history resulted in many people being conceived and born in this manner. In fact, most of us probably have some ancestor, close or distant, that came into being this way. The grace and holiness of those women that understood how God could turn this horrible transgression into a holy gift provided the world with many exceptional people. As individuals and people of God, we embrace these victims with all of the loving and physical support they need to face this challenge thrust upon them. God does not make mistakes. He can transform evil into a miracle of His will. We just need to trust Him. Is it fair to these victims? No way. But that's exactly why we need to bring these violent perpetrators to justice swiftly and with appropriate punishment.

So that covers the <2% of "rape and incest" abortions. So what drives the remaining 98%? Sexual promiscuity, the lack of regard for marriage, parental responsibilities and the family as the basic unit of society, the huge and very lucrative market for baby parts, organs and tissues, and, yes, satanic rituals. Please see the excellent posts from Laura Aboli presented on p. 21 and also some items on p.22. She really covers it all.

The overwhelming reality about abortion comes down to preying on the naive, laziness, convenience, irresponsibility, cover-ups of sins and crimes, and just pure evil. A women's health and her right to choose has nothing to do with any of this. Money drives the abortion industry. They could care less about the health and welfare of any of these women. They want the children. They want the bodies and the parts. We've seen many direct testimonies from big time insiders spelling out in detail what they do and how they do it, i.e. Project Veritas, James O'Keefe.

If any of these characters gave an ounce of compassion to women considering abortion they might start with the risks inherent in the actual procedure. The ever present and understated risks of serious complications, permanent injury, infertility and even death never get disclosed to these women in any meaningful way, unless the multipage release of liability they sign prior to being victimized qualifies as being informed.

After surviving their nightmarish ritual, the woman now faces the well-documented long-term effects both physical and psychological. The record of early onset health issues like ovarian cancer and others stands out for women who had abortions as do the trauma associated with guilt and regret which often manifests into physical ailments. Tell me these people care for women, their bodies, and their "right to choose."

Bottom Line: Abortion is Evil in all forms and destroys the moral fabric of any society. Liberty can only be present in a moral people as John Adams so astutely articulated.

So back to the elections. The Devil and all his minions love to get their opponents to do their dirty work. So they feed them fantasies based upon false cause using circuitous routes cloaked in what appears to be wisdom on the surface. Instead of focusing on the actual and very real problem of election integrity, fake votes, procedural violations and machine tampering, the party insiders keep marching down the dead end road, oblivious to the cliff they're about to fall over, pining how they're going to win the next election by sacrificing innocent lives.

This strategy, if followed by the GOP, will end in disaster. If you think the Left will ever allow the abortion issue to disappear, regardless of what actions you take to try to appease them, you're beyond naive. I, and many like me, will have nothing to do with it. Following this pathway guarantees the destruction of America and the end of our Republic that the Founders created for us.

Rabbit Holes for Reality News Readers:
Here are some words you should look up and investigate into how they fit in to what is really happening in the world.

World Economic Forum
Davos
Antarctica
DUMBS
Adrenochrome
Azov Battalion
Khazarian Mafia

Here are some people you need to know about and their background:

Klaus Schwab
Yoval Noah Harari
Tony Podesta
John Podesta
Anderson Cooper

Here are two rumble reports you should consume regularly for updated info:

X22 Report
And We Know

Telegram provides the best platform in my opinion to find the latest real world info. These two people's site have tremendous posts:

Laura Aboli
Lee Merritt MD: FreedomDoc1

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"I choose gratitude and forgiveness over anger and bitterness. This allows me to see and apprreciate the beauty and blessings in most everything."

-Page 182 in "Something Beautiful is Going to happen..."

Order Melissa's Book on Amazon!
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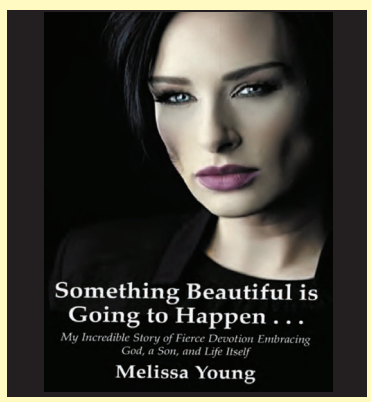

Our Vision

We aspire to a world in which people, made in the image of God, reconciled to Him by Jesus Christ, and reflecting God's own creativity, work together to enhance the fruitfulness, beauty, and safety of the Earth, enabling more and more of our neighbors to enjoy good health, long life, freedom, justice, and spiritual and material abundance, for the glory of God and the good of our fellow man, thus fulfilling the two Great Commandments to love God and love our neighbor.

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We seek to magnify the glory of God in creation, the wisdom of His truth in environmental stewardship, the kindness of His mercy in lifting the needy out of poverty, and the wonders of His grace in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

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Naked Power: Now Gov Wants to Regulate Our Clothes — in Climate's Name

By Selwyn Duke

One generally unmentioned reason prices are so high is that government taxation and regulation increase businesses' costs, which then are handed down to consumers. A prime example is a regulation dictating that not only must a herring fishing vessel have a federal monitor aboard, but that its owner also must pay the cost of the observer, which reportedly can be $710 a day (this requirement is currently before the Supreme Court). And now there's another example:

The Emperor Has Your Clothes — in the crosshairs — and aims to regulate their makers and sellers, supposedly to combat "global warming."

What's more, this is apparently based on a lie that the fashion industry pollutes more than it does.

Per website GlobalData:

[Washington state's] fast fashion regulation bill[,] titled House Bill 2068, would mean large fashion retail sellers and fashion manufacturers would need to establish, track, and disclose progress towards due diligence and environmental performance targets from 1 January 2027.

If the targets are not [met] the Department of Ecology could issue penalties that would need to be deposited into a community benefit account.

The bill explained the expenditures from the account could be used for the purpose of implementing one or more environmental benefit projects that directly and verifiably benefit overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

… The bill, which was sponsored by Washington State Representative Sharlett Mena, D-Tacoma[,] states that: "In terms of greenhouse gases, the fashion industry accounts for about 8-10% of global carbon emissions, more than both aviation and shipping combined."

The bill would apply to manufacturers and sellers that earn "more than $100 million globally and operate in Washington," Northwest News Network adds. Furthermore, California and New York lawmakers have proposed similar bills.

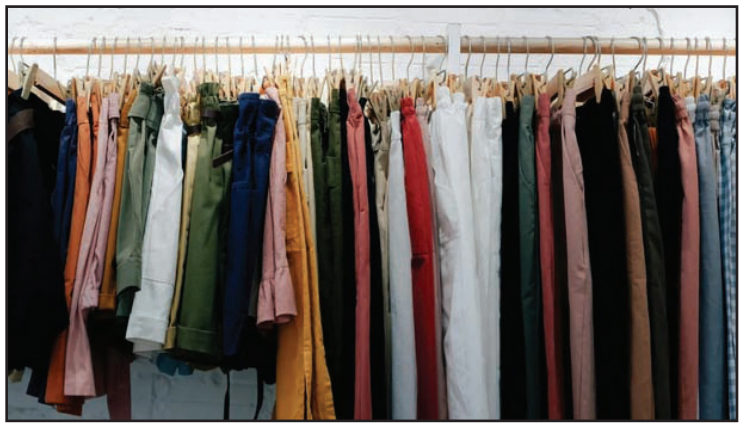
Now, this is where the passion kicks in. "This is terrible!" some will say. "Government intervention is needed! Others will get angry, saying this isn't the government's role or that the anthropogenic-climate-change thesis is invalid. In fact, emotions run so high that one can overlook a very basic question:

Where did this idea the fashion industry accounts for approximately 8-10 percent of global CO2 emissions come from? Is it valid?

Certainly, everyone is repeating it, including the notorious WEF. I began researching the stat's provenance online and found it cited time and again, axiomatically, with no source provided. But then I discovered that the research had already been done and the stat debunked — by the left-wing New York Times no less.

Calling it "The Biggest Fake News in Fashion," writer Vanessa Friedman stated in 2018 that she was untangling "the origins of a myth repeated so often that no one thought to question it." In a nutshell, Friedman "followed a ponzi scheme-like trail of sources; Friedman would ask a source where they got the statistic, and most either couldn't remember, or had heard the information from another person without ever getting the actual numbers from them," website Stitch related in 2019, summarizing the Times investigation. "Someone most likely made up the statistic around 2008 when it first appeared, at which point laymen and experts alike accepted the fact without question."

This is an old and tiresome story. For example, you might've heard years ago that Americans "use 500 million plastic straws daily." This is inaccurate and originated with a nine-year-old's science project (moreover, straws account for only 0.025 percent of the plastic waste in our oceans). More *continued on page 7*



Brewing Truth: Climate Doomsayers' Cooked up Coffee Crisis



By Vijay Jayaraj

Every day, people across the world wake up to news about climate change affecting their lives. With the seeming randomness of a capricious roulette wheel, the doomsday clique of the climate world daily selects a fresh topic to sow seeds of anxiety among the populace.

Popular things easily recognized — even cherished — by people are continually identified as being at risk of being damaged or destroyed by climate change. Coffee, for example, is a commodity experiencing a surge in popularity, and there are no gifts for guessing what climate doomsayers are saying now.

Yes, coffee is now said to be under threat from man-made climate change. CNN, in a recent article, made the statement, "climate change poses a huge threat to the coffee business and to farmers." Keeping with its customary approach of presenting climate change as a threat to all manner of things, CNN quotes the Inter-American Development Bank as warning that "rising temperatures will reduce the area suitable for growing coffee by up to 50%."

Is this claim true? If so, plenty of people would be affected because coffee is selling like hotcakes.

The brew is a staple in nearly 98% of households in Brazil, according to the 2023 National Coffee Data Trends Report, coffee consumption in the U.S. has hit a 20-year peak, with over 50% of consumers gravitating towards specialty coffee.

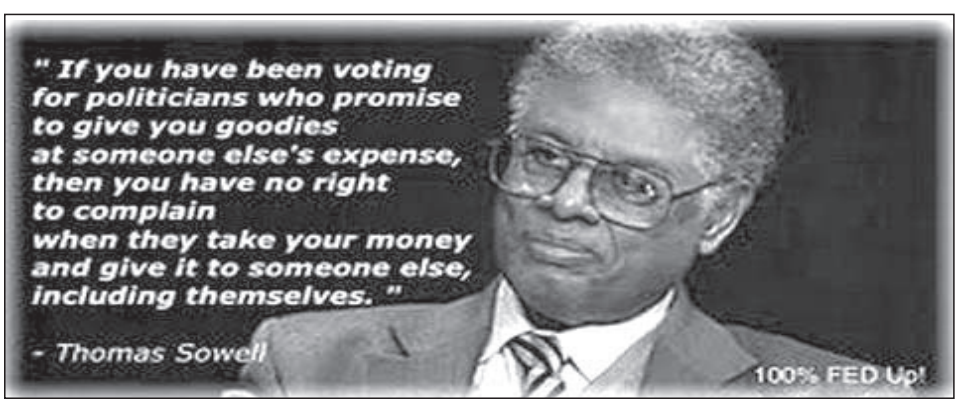
Even in my home country, India, there is a sudden deluge of boutique coffee shops. Some chains have opened as many as 50 branches within a span of five years, and that is not an easy task in a country of 1.3 billion tea lovers. India is now the eighth largest producer of coffee beans.

More than 99% of global coffee production is comprised of the arabica and robusta species, which are just two of over 140 different species in the Coffea genus. Coffea, especially arabica, depends highly on soil fertility and temperature.

The purveyors of climate apocalypse are particularly interested in the temperature aspect as it provides a legitimate pathway for indulging in climate scaremongering. Despite widespread concern about increasing warmth, satellite temperature data collected from 1979 to 2023 indicates that there has not been a significant rise in temperatures.

Despite widespread concern about increasing warmth, global satellite temperature data collected from 1979 to 2023 indicates that there has only been a modest rise of less than one-degree C in temperature.

Besides, it is widely acknowledged that warming since the *continued on page 7*



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Ideas that empower people

The Heartland Institute is a national nonprofit research and education organization devoted to discovering, developing, and promoting free-market solutions to social and economic problems.

Mail-in Voter Fraud Was Rampant in 2020: Here's How to Stop It in Future Elections

By Justin Haskins

In November and December of 2023, The Heartland Institute and Rasmussen Reports conducted a landmark survey of voters, which former President Donald Trump called "the biggest story of the year" and "the most important poll released in the last 20 years." According to the results of the survey, a massive number of voters who cast ballots by mail admitted to committing at least one form of voter fraud in the 2020 election.

Some of the most important findings from the poll include:

Seventeen percent of mail-in voters admitted that in 2020 they voted in a state where they are "no longer a permanent resident."

Twenty-one percent of mail in voters admitted that they f illed out a ballot for a friend or family member.

Seventeen percent of mail-in voters said they signed a ballot for a friend or family member "with or without his or her permission."

Nineteen percent of mail-in voters said that a friend or family member filled out their ballet, in part or in full, on their behalf.

Immediately following the publication of the poll, several of Heartland's analysts, myself included, reported that when taken together, the results of the 2023 Heartland/Rasmussen survey suggest that one in-five mail-in ballots cast in the 2020 presidential election were likely fraudulent. As shocking as it might sound, this was a conservative estimate, because, among other reasons, our initial analysis did not include the most comprehensive set of data from Rasmussen's survey. We settled on the "one-in-five" figure because one of the fraud questions on its own yielded a result of 21 percent, creating a floor for mail-in fraud in the election.

In a subsequent, comprehensive report, published in January 2024, Heartland's Jack McPherrin, Chris Talgo, Donald Kendal, James Taylor and I published a more detailed study about the Heartland/ Rasmussen voter fraud survey. After receiving the raw survey data from Rasmussen and engaging in a thorough review, we were able to determine that the poll showed more fraud than we initially reported, a conclusion that has since been confirmed by Rasmussen. We determined that 28.2 percent of respondents who voted by mail admitted to at least one kind of voter fraud, which means that more than one-in-four ballots cast by mail in 2020 could have been fraudulent, not one-in-five, as we initially asserted.

Our report further showed that if one applies the results of our survey to the known data about the 2020 election, there is a high likelihood that had mail-in ballot fraud been severely limited, Donald Trump would have won the election. In fact, as our study shows, of the 29 different scenarios presented in the study, Trump wins the Electoral College in all but three. Thus, we concluded that the best available evidence strongly suggests that mail-in ballot fraud significantly impacted the 2020 election, in favor of Joe Biden.

The reasons behind the widespread voter fraud discovered in our survey are likely many and varied, but they share at least one commonality: mail-in voter fraud was relatively easy to commit in many states in 2020. And, unfortunately, the same is true today. Although some states have passed reforms of their election laws in the wake of the controversies surrounding the 2020 race, few have put reforms into place that would truly safeguard future elections from mail-in ballot fraud.

Climate Change Is Not Behind Lake Mead's Decline, Overuse and Poor Management Are

By H. Sterling Burnett

With an atmospheric river dumping trillions of gallons precipitation on California and other western states, some news outlets have asked how the precipitation might affect Lake Mead, suggesting that the rainfall will do little for the lake or the Colorado River basin which feeds it because it's drying out due to climate change. Although it is true that the current storm will likely do little to reverse Lake Mead's decline in the long-term, the reason for its decline is not climate change, but instead, overuse and poor management of the reservoir.

A number of mainstream media outlets ran stories in recent days remarking on the fact that the recent atmospheric river event is dumping more water in a few days than Lake Mead, America's largest reservoir by volume, can hold at full capacity. On February 7, for example, Newsweek, ran two stories on the heavy rains, "Bomb Cyclone To Dump More Water Than in Lake Mead on California," and "Atmospheric Rivers Won't Refill Lakes Mead and Powell, says expert."

These two stories were largely straight forward reporting, the kind of honest journalism Americans used to expect from the media outlets. Newsweek did not attribute the present atmospheric river or Lake's Mead or Powell present water levels to climate change.

Also, Lake Mead's water levels are dominated, not by a single rainfall event, affecting areas primarily downstream of the reservoir, but by seasonal snowpack across the course of the winter which, when it melts over time, flows into the lake, its feeder streams, and Lake Powell above it, which is the primary source of stream flow feeding Lake Mead. Last season's record snowfall on mountains of the Colorado River Basin boosted lake levels.

Courthouse News and the Missoula Current each ran stories covering a trial in which climate activists are suing U.S. Department of the Interior for setting a management plan that fails to account for the impacts of climate change, which they claim is causing lake and river levels to fall.

As detailed at Climate Realism, here, here, here, and here, for example, this is not the first time climate activists, often with the support of the mainstream media, have falsely claimed climate change has caused a precipitation decline in the Western United States, which they blame for recent declines in Lake Mead, the Great Salt Lake, and Lake Tahoe. Mismanagement is part of the story of the decline in some Western rivers, reservoirs, and lakes, but there is no evidence long-term climate change is contributing to the decline. Myriad other factors are, though.

As Newsweek reports, Lake Mead did reach its lowest measured water levels since filling in history in 2022, but it had similar low-level seasons in from 1955-1957 and again in 1964 and 1965, nearly 70 and 60 years of global warming ago, respectively, when temperatures were cooler.

The U.S. Drought Monitor reports that under 35 percent of the Colorado river basin, touching on seven states and parts of northern Mexico, is currently suffering any drought, and only approximately 3 percent of the area is suffering extreme or exceptional drought. A review of the history shows that record lake levels were recorded between 1965 and 1983, with Lake Mead remaining consistently above average through 2002, a representing a 37-year period of sustained above average water levels, even as temperatures were rising. As is noted in Climate at a Glance: Water Levels – Lake Mead, after 37 years of abundance, some decline was bound to eventually occur.

Since then, the Colorado River Basin has on average experienced below average precipitation, but it is in the arid West so that is to be expected. The U.S. drought monitor shows some years with severe, widespread drought for extended periods of time, and some years in which less than 10 percent of the basin was experiencing any drought at all. Regardless there is no clear trend of droughts of increasing intensity that would suggest climate change was causing a sustained decline in precipitation across the basin.

Since climate change can't be shown to be contributing to Lake Mead's decline, we must examine other factors which might, and there are many. The National Park Service (NPS) discusses two factors contributing to Lake Mead's decline that are entirely ignored by climate alarmists: sedimentation and evaporation. Concerning evaporation, the NPS writes, "[e]vaporation in the area is extremely high and represents a significant water loss [equaling] … almost 10% of the average annual inflow."

In addition, the NPS cites research which suggests that by 1970 the build up of sediment behind the Hoover Dam had already robbed Lake Mead of

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We have deep expertise on climate change and energy policy, budget and tax issues, school reform, health care policy, and the rise of socialism.

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Stop Wasting Water

By Viv Forbes

Almost every river in Eastern Australia is now pouring surplus water into the sea.

But only two dams have been built in Queensland in the last 20 years - the <https://www.seqwater.com.au/dams/wyaralong> Wyaralong Dam built 13 years ago and Paradise Dam built 19 years ago.

Droughts will come again and we will wish for another dam-builder like Joh Bjelke Petersen whose government built at least eight dams in Queensland - the Burdekin, Wivenhoe, Hinze, Beardmore, Haig, Fairbairn, Bjelke-Petersen and Eungella dams.

But that all came to a halt in 1988 when the plans to build the Wolffdene Dam were scuttled by all the usual suspects.

Taxpayers also spent some $460 million on preliminaries for the Traverston Dam, but then cancelled it when the infamous Peter Garrett got the Commonwealth to interfere. And recently it was revealed that the Paradise Dam in the Bundaberg Region had faults in the wall and a new wall would have to be built.

So while our water storages are stagnant or declining, our politicians support dangerously high levels of immigration as well as promoting tourism, games and circuses, all of which add to the demand for water. The population clock managed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics tells us that Australia's population increases by one person every 50 seconds. They all need water.

And some fools want to use more of our precious stored fresh water to produce hydrogen fuels (every tonne of hydrogen produced by electrolysis consumes at least nine tonnes of fresh water.) The "green hydrogen" cycle needs lots of water and will always be a net consumer of electricity.

The climate alarmism of Tim Flannery and others resulted in a rash of artificial desalination plants being built in Australia about 15 years ago.

Just recently, Hunter Water announced that it was going to spend $500M on a desalination plant south of Newcastle. All desal plants are costly to build and operate, and many stand idle most of the time. And of course green politicians want the power to be supplied from wind-solar adding greatly to the costs and environmental destruction.

To let surplus fresh water escape to the oceans and then try to recover it using artificial desalination plants is the ultimate water stupidity.

Right now, Cyclone Kirrily is demonstrating nature's power of desalination - sucking moisture from the Pacific Ocean and dumping it on land. This is free fresh water with no costs to taxpayers.

Sensible people have their water storage facilities ready - new dams and weirs built, silt cleaned out, dam walls and overflows checked, no leaves clogging the tank strainers.

Australia must build more dams for flood mitigation, urban water supply and irrigation. Most East Coast Rivers have surplus water that races to the sea during floods. It could be conserved.

And it is time to apply our engineering skills to building the Bradfield water scheme - it will certainly provide better returns to Australians than green energy dreams like Snowy 2 or powerlines from Northern Territory to Singapore.

A sensible society would identify the best dam sites and have a long-term plan for acquiring and preserving the land rights needed for them. We do the reverse. Decisions are postponed until the need is critical. Then landowners with vested interests, green busybodies and media stirrers manage to scare the politicians, and the water conservation proposal is killed.

Then the "No Dams Ever" Mafia takes over, trying to sterilise the site for all future dams by quietly changing land-use or vegetation classifications.

Then they search for (or manufacture) evidence of native title or endangered species, and declare national parks over critical areas.

Green destroyers have also grossly mismanaged stored water by insisting on excessive and ill-timed "environmental" flows. This is a scheme where you build a dam to catch water and then try to manage the water as if the dam did not exist. It is very slow and expensive to get this lost water back from the sea using the Flannery desalination plants.

Existing dams have two great enemies - silting which gradually steals their water capacity, and evaporation which continually steals the water itself.

Our engineers can manage "desilting" and CSIRO could divert some resources

from climate alarmism to reducing evaporation from water supply dams.

But most of all we need more stored water. The wet La Nina will inevitably

be followed by a droughty El Nino.

Let's find a new Joh who will build more dams.

Climate Change *cont. from page 4*

approximately 12 percent of its volume. Some of that sediment has likely compacted since then, but over the 54 years since that study study was done sediment has continued to flow into Lake Mead and accumulated, so its volume had undoubtedly shrunk even more. Sustained dredging operations would both increase Lake Mead's volume and provide valuable, fertile soil for those who might want it.

The most important single factor in Lake Mead's decline, however, is the tremendous growth in population for the region. Arizona and Nevada are two of the fastest growing states in the United States. The number of agricultural, urban, and industrial users of water from Lake Mead and its feeder rivers has grown tremendously in the past 30 years. More people farming in, living in and building homes, golf courses, businesses, in Arizona, California, Nevada, and Mexico, means more demand for water from Lake Mead, whether or not precipitation in the basin has declined. Since 1993:

Arizona's population increased by approximately 3.44 million people; Nevada has added about 1.81 million people; And, California saw its population grow by about 7.82 million people.

Ever more people drawing water from the limited and variable resource that is Lake Mead, would naturally result in declining lake levels, unless the stream flow into it were dramatically increased. The latter is precluded by the fact that other states that draw water from the Colorado River, and other tributary rivers in the Colorado River Basin, have also experienced dramatic population growth, meaning there is less water flowing into Lake Mead simply because more people are taking more water out of its tributaries for more uses upstream. The largest source of water for Lake Mead is outflow from Lake Powell, yet Lake Powell is also oversubscribed and has the same problems with sedimentation and evaporation that Lake Mead does, limiting the water sent downstream to Lake Mead. Less flow in, more water withdrawn is a recipe for declining water levels.

And that's not even counting the increase in water demand from Mexico.

Both California and the Federal government basically acknowledged in December 2023 that over withdrawal is the prime cause of Lake Mead's declining fortunes. As reported by Fox News, "water districts representing California farmers and other major water users in the state agreed to significant cuts in exchange for hundreds of millions of dollars from the federal government." The government estimates that this agreement by itself will result in Lake Mead rising at least 10 feet. Similar agreements with Arizona, Nevada, and Mexico would be expected to increase Lake Mead's volume even more.

In short, myriad factors have resulted in Lake Mead's substantial water loss. Climate Change is not among them.

Yes, Popular Mechanics, Scientists 'Have Miscalculated Our Global Warming Timeline'

By Anthony Watts

An article published in Popular Mechanics magazine titled, "Oops, Scientists May Have Miscalculated Our Global Warming Timeline" with the subtitle "Clues have emerged that reveal a much hotter history than we thought" makes a refreshing admission that confirms what Climate Realism has pointed out since its inception – Earth has already surpassed the arbitrary 1.5°C limit imposed at the 2015 Paris Climate Accords.

It is important to note that the 1.5°C threshold is an arbitrary number, not one established or defined by science. It was defined by political negotiations in the Paris Accord agreement of 2015. An Associated Press article, The magic 1.5: What's behind climate talks' key elusive goal, admits this stating, "in a way both the '1.5 and 2 degree C thresholds are somewhat arbitrary,' Stanford University climate scientist Rob Jackson said in an email. 'Every tenth of a degree matters!'"

The Popular Mechanics article, by writer Darren Orf published on February 9th says this:

A new study from University Western Australia Oceans Institute studied long-lived Caribbean sclerosponges and created an ocean temperature timeline dating back to the 1700s.

By analyzing strontium to calcium ratios in these sponges, the team could effectively calculate water temperatures dating back to 1700.

The study concludes that the world started warming roughly 80 years before the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has maintained throughout its history, reports, and treaty negotiations, and that the Earth had likely already experienced more than 1.7 degrees Celsius by 2020.

While some scientists are questioning the validity of that data and conclusions of the article, since it goes against the dominant narrative, it does in mesh with the instrumental temperature record from Europe which ClimateRealism has written about extensively.

Climate at a Glance: Tipping Point – 1.5 Degrees Celsius Warming, succinctly sums up the issue, pointing out: climate alarmists (and the IPCC) say we need to limit global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial times to avoid disastrous consequences, but data show we have already exceeded such temperatures, with no confirmed ill effects.

As seen in Figure 1 we've actually exceeded 2.0° C rise in temperature according to the European temperature data.

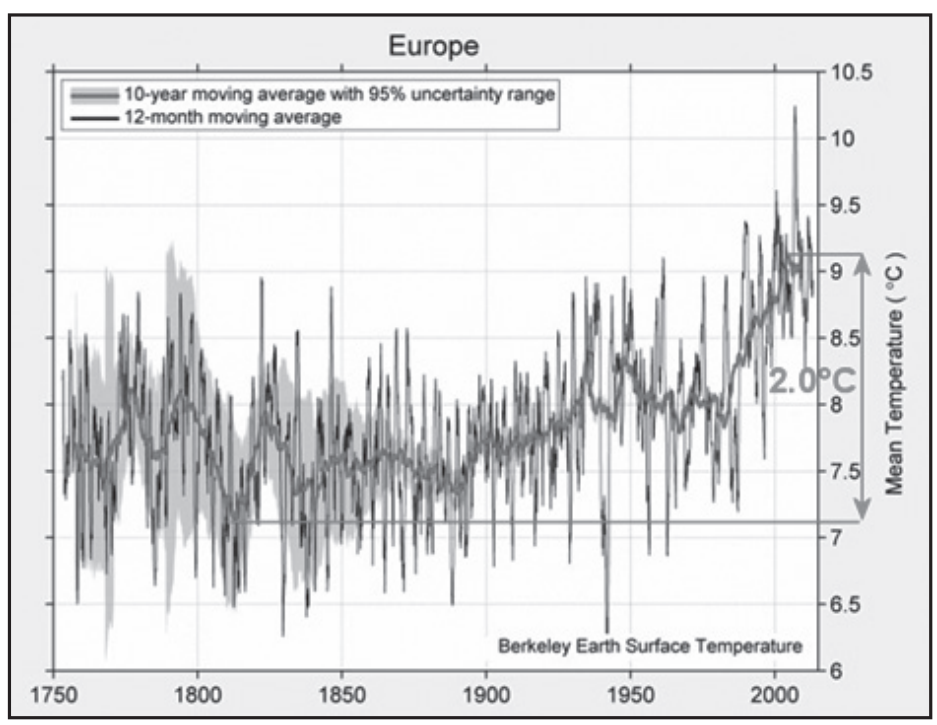


Figure 1. Berkeley Earth average European temperature showing a 2.0°C rise since about 1820. Source: http://berkeleyearth.lbl.gov/regions/europe Annotated by Anthony Watts

The European temperature data show temperatures began rising about the year 1820. Note that this was 130 years before the large modern rise in carbon dioxide emissions began, that are claimed to to be driving dangerous warming.

Going hand in hand with the arbitrary 1.5°C temperature limit, climate alarmists warn we must take drastic steps within the next 10 years to keep warming to below or near 1.5°C above pre-industrial conditions. They claim that warming beyond that 1.5°C threshold will unleash a crisis of substantially worse extreme weather events and other climate harms. Yet the evidence suggests that we have already exceeded the much hyped 1.5°C threshold, and data shows no disasters are arising.

Extreme weather is not becoming more common or severe, and fewer people every year are dying due to temperature and weather-related causes. Those predicting disaster from 1.5°C have been wrong for decades. Climate Realism reported on the lack of "tipping point" occurrences in the article, Media Can't Agree on the Number of Climate Tipping Points, Much less When, for example.

The bottom line is that climate science is very likely wrong on both the temperature record as well as the catastrophic predictions that are made from extrapolations into the future by climate models and other predictive methods. Kudos to Popular Mechanics for highlighting research which undermines this climate catastrophe narrative.

Quote of the Week:

"Without Freedom of Thought there can be no such thing as Wisdom; and no such thing as Public Liberty, without Freedom of Speech."
— Benjamin Franklin (1722)

Number of the Week:

$4 Trillion

This Week:

By Ken Haapala, President, Science and Environmental Policy Project (SEPP)

The Science & Environmental Policy Project began in late 1990 as a research effort by atmospheric physicist S. Fred Singer and a handful of graduate students working out of a small office in downtownWashington, D.C.The Project had two goals: (1) to gather material for a book on global environmental issues,and (2) to conduct a survey of scientists affiliated with the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to determine the extent of what was, even then, being touted as scientific "consensus" on global warming.

What the graduate students discovered with their survey convinced Dr. Singer to set his book aside and instead to circulate among senior members of the American Meteorological Society a "Statement by Atmospheric Scientists" on greenhouse warming, which was quickly endorsed by 46 leading climatologists and atmospheric physicists (and eventually by nearly 100). That statement, issued on February 27, 1992, drew widespread media attention and was cited more than 150 times in the press. It was the first inkling journalists had that there was no scientific consensus on the reality of a global warming. Indeed, there was raging debate.

The Science & Environmental Policy Project was incorporated in the state of Virginia in 1992, and established as a nonprofit, 501(c)3 educational organization in late 1993.Today, having expanded from that core of 46 scientists, it draws on an international network of some of the finest minds in science who donate their time to promoting sound, credible, peer-reviewed research as the only basis for the health and environmental policies that affect us all.

You can help in two ways:

1. Download SEPP reports, press releases, and articles and pass them on – to newspaper editors, journalists, educators, civic leaders, and others. Help stop the fearmongering and the distortion of science.This is the most important thing you can do.

2. Support SEPP with your tax-deductible contributions. The environmental pressure groups, which present so much wrong information, have a combined clout of more than $1 billion a year.The Science & Environmental Policy Project has had far-reaching impact on less than one-hundredth of one percent of that figure. It's money well and effectively spent.

Send your contributions to:

The Science & Environmental Policy Project
Attn: Fundraising
1600 South Eads Street, Suite #712-S
Arlington,VA 22202-2907
Tel/Fax 703-920-2744

And thank you.

SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY PROJECT

The Week That Was February 10, 2024

Scope: Using graphs, Roy Spencer demonstrates that his graphic techniques of presenting datasets reveal differences in data rather than hiding them. In another post, Spencer explores why different time periods fit different models better than other time periods. As discussed in two reports, the high cost of wind and solar power has become evident in Europe. Mann v. Steyn is discussed including the view of climatologist Judith Curry.

Hide or Reveal? Richard Feynman set a high goal for scientific research when he wrote: "The first principle is that you must not fool yourself – and you are the easiest person to fool." Many of those who are motivated by a passionate interest in a topic easily fool themselves by ignoring data that questions their desired result or adjusting the data to give their views the most favorable impact. The graphs presented by Al Gore in the movie "The inconvenient truth" are an example. He shows graphs indicating that temperatures and carbon dioxide (CO2) concentrations move together based on Antarctic ice cores. He claims this "proves" that changes in carbon dioxide concentrations cause temperature changes.

Actually, it does not. The graphs just show that there may be a correlation. Certainly, based on experiments, carbon dioxide is absorbed more readily in cold water than warm water, and as water warms CO2 is released. This can be seen in ocean upwelling, which are rich primary producers of aquatic sea life. They bring to the surface cold water that is rich in carbon dioxide, nitrogen and phosphorus promoting phytoplankton which begins the energy base for a complex food chain including providing food for fish, marine mammals, seabirds, and other creatures.

Numerous studies have pointed out that Mr. Gore had the timelines wrong to claim causation. In general, temperature changes occurred before CO2 changes, by an average of about 800 years. Al Gore has no explanation for the actual timeline which he hid, probably unintentionally. Al Gore fooled himself on the timeline, thus the causation claim.

Gavin Schmidt, the director of NASA-GISS has been posting criticisms of the work of Roy Spencer and John Christy claiming the manner in which they present data is misleading. Spencer writes that:

Since the blogosphere continues to amplify Gavin Schmidt's claim that the way John Christy and I plot temperature time series data is some form of 'trickery', I have come up with a way to demonstrate its superiority. Following a suggestion by Heritage Foundation chief statistician Kevin Dayaratna, I will do this using only climate model data, and not comparing the models to observations. That way, no one can claim I am displaying the data in such a way to make the models 'look bad'.

The goal here is to plot multiple temperature time series on a single graph in such a way their different rates of long-term warming (usually measured by linear warming trends) are best reflected by their placement on the graph, without hiding those differences.

A. Raw Temperatures

Let's start with 32 CMIP6 climate model projections of global annual average surface air temperature for the period 1979 through 2100 (Plot A) and for which we have equilibrium climate sensitivity (ECS) estimates (I've omitted 2 of the 3 Canadian model simulations, which produce the most warming and are virtually the same).

Here, I am using the raw temperatures out of the models (not anomalies). As can be seen in Plot A, there are rather large biases between models which tend to obscure which models warm the most and which warm the least." [graph not shown here]

"B. Temperature Anomalies Relative to the Full Period (1979-2100)

Next, if we plot the departures of each model's temperature from the full-period (1979-2100) average, we see in Plot B that the discrepancies between models warming rates are divided between the first and second half of the record, with the warmest models by 2100 having the coolest temperature anomalies in 1979, and the coolest models in 2100 having the warmest temperatures in 1979. Clearly, this isn't much of an improvement, especially if one wants to compare the models early in the record… right?" [graph no shown here]

Spencer goes through two other methods of presentation before showing the Spencer & Christy method. Spencer writes that:

E. Temperature Departures from Linear Trends (relative to the trend Y-intercepts in 1979)

Finally, I show the method John Christy and I have been using for quite a few years now, which is to align the time series such that their linear trends all intersect in the first year, here 1979 (Plot E). I've previously discussed why this 'seems' the most logical method, but clearly not everyone is convinced.

Admittedly, Plots C, D, and E all look quite similar… so how to know which (if any) is best?

How the Models' Temperature Metrics Compare to their Equilibrium Climate Sensitivities

What we want is a method of graphing where the model differences in long-term warming rates show up as early as possible in the record. For example, imagine you are looking at a specific year, say 1990… we want a way to display the model temperature differences in that year that have some relationship to the models' long-term rates of warming.

Of course, each model already has a metric of how much warming it produces, through their diagnosed equilibrium (or effective) climate sensitivities, ECS. So, all we have to do is, in each separate year, correlate the model temperature metrics in Plots A, B, C, D, and E with the models' ECS values (see plot, below).

When we do this 'scoring' we find that our method of plotting the data clearly has the highest correlations between temperature and ECS early in the record. [Graph not shown here]

I hope this is sufficient evidence of the superiority of our way of plotting different time series when the intent is to reveal differences in long-term trends, rather than hide those differences. [Boldface was italics in original]

As TWTW has frequently stated, the climate model data is near surface-air data. There are no standards regarding where the temperatures are taken, time of day, instrumentation, or frequency. Even in the US which once was the gold standard, as Anthony Watts and his team have shown, the standards for the US are overwhelmingly ignored. Further, as Tony Heller has shown, the data have been so heavily manipulated by politicized government agencies that the original data has been lost. There is no question that there is a greenhouse effect which keeps the land masses on earth warm enough to support complex life and carbon dioxide (a gas critical for green life which creates food for all complex life) is a secondary greenhouse gas, after water vapor (another gas critical for life on Earth). See links under Challenging the Orthodoxy and Measurement Issues – Surface & Lowering Standards for some of Heller's recent work.

Which Time Period? Spencer has another post which asks: What Period of Warming Best Correlates with Climate Sensitivity? He writes:

"When computing temperature trends in the context of 'global warming' we must choose a region (U.S.? global? etc.) and a time period (the last 10 years? 50 years? 100 years?) and a season (summer? winter? annual?). Obviously, we will obtain different temperature trends depending upon our choices. But what significance do these choices have in the context of global warming?

Obviously, if we pick the most recent 10 years, such a short period can have a trend heavily influenced by an El Nino at the beginning and a La Nina at the end (thus depressing the trend) — or vice versa.

Alternatively, if we go too far back in time (say, before the mid-20th Century), increasing CO2 in the atmosphere cannot have much of an impact on the temperatures before that time. Inclusion of data too far back will just mute the signal we are looking for.

One way to investigate this problem is to look at climate model output across many models to see how their warming trends compare to those models' diagnosed equilibrium climate sensitivities (ECS). I realize climate models have their own problems, but at least they generate internal variability somewhat like the real world, for instance with El Ninos and La Ninas scattered throughout their time simulations.

I've investigated this for 34 CMIP6 models having data available at the KNMI Climate Explorer website which also has published ECS values. The following plot shows the correlation between the 34 models' ECS and their temperature trends through 2023, but with different starting years.

The peak correlation occurs around 1945, which is when CO2 emissions began to increase substantially, after World War II. But there is a reason why the correlations start to fall off after that date." [Boldface added]

Spencer explains:

"The CMIP6 Climate Models Have Widely Differing Aerosol Forcings

The following plot (annotated by me, source publication here) shows that after WWII the various CMIP6 models have increasingly different amounts of aerosol forcings causing various amounts of cooling.

If those models had not differed so much in their aerosol forcing, one could presumable have picked a later starting date than 1945 for meaningful temperature trend computation. Note the differences remain large even by 2015, which is reaching the point of not being useful anyway for trend computations through 2023.

So, what period would provide the 'best' length of time to evaluate global warming claims? At this point, I honestly do not know."

continue reading at www.sepp.org

Number of the Week: In his report "The Struggle to Achieve Net Zero Emissions – While Balancing Security, Affordability and Sustainability" Morten Springborg references Statista that over the past 20 years new investment in renewable energy worldwide has been over $4 Trillion. Yet, no one has a demonstration project showing how much it would cost to make renewable energy reliable. As Dolly Parton reportedly said: "It costs a lot of money to look this cheap."

Naked Power *cont. from page 3*

recently, ex-health official and Covid "point man" Dr. Anthony Fauci admitted that the six-foot social-distancing rule "just sort of appeared" and had no scientific basis. (Note: The New American pointed this out early in the pandemic.)

What's more, the Times wasn't even the first to debunk the fashion-polluter lie; this happened at least as early as 2017. That it nonetheless is being used to justify legislation, however, illustrates a problem with government.

Rep. Mena devoted effort to crafting a bill, but either A, didn't even demonstrate the due diligence necessary to determine if the statistic central to her legislation was valid; or B, was willing to peddle a lie if it advanced her agenda. Note here that for me to uncover the truth involved less than 10 minutes of research.

In other words, the most charitable explanation is that Mena and her allies are ignorant due to laziness — and are willing to micromanage our lives based on that sloth-enabled ignorance.

For the record, the data here indicate that "manufacturing and construction" of all kinds account for no more than 20 percent of world CO2 emissions. But then there's a deeper question:

Even if fashion did produce 10 percent of the emissions, so what?

Something has to.

Be wary here of the Red Light Phenomenon. To wit: Someone justifies a new red light at a corner because it's "the most dangerous intersection in the area." The issue?

Even if it increases safety, now another corner is "the most dangerous intersection in the area."

Erect a red light there, too?

Continuing this process long enough guarantees painfully slow traffic, with the attendant fuel waste, vehicle wear and tear, and lost productivity.

This doesn't mean red lights are never necessary, only that there often are no solutions in life, only trade-offs. And a wise planner understands that there are dangers associated with trying too hard, and one-dimensionally, to eliminate dangers.

Likewise, even if you consider CO2 problematic, burdening an industry or sector with regulations has downsides; for one thing, it generally means higher consumer prices and increased poverty. Moreover, even if the regs have the desired effect, another industry is then "one of the biggest emitters." When does the shackling of producers and creators end?

The answer is that the pseudo-elites don't care. Their goals aren't discovery of Truth and good policy, but involve power, pocketbook, and moral preening.

Brewing Truth *cont. from page 3*

Little Ice Age and increased atmospheric CO2 since the Industrial Revolution have boosted agricultural production and the general greening of ecosystems.

Scientists in Brazil have discovered that "carbon dioxide fertilization offsets negative impacts of climate change on arabica coffee yield." They say that the CO2 fertilization effect will cause a net increase of the average Brazilian arabica coffee harvest by the years 2040-2070.

CO2 enrichment studies in Latin America show that elevated CO2 increased photosynthesis by 40% and increased the efficiency plants' water use by approximately 60%. Higher CO2 eventually caused a 7-14% increase in plant height and a 12-14% increase in yield. Another study showed that there were significant increases in all leaf area and biomass markers in response to increased CO2.

The research indicates that we might already be reaping the rewards of increased productivity rates in both arabica and robusta coffee varieties thanks to the recent rise in atmospheric CO2. This reality is reflected in the plantations across the globe. Production in South America and Southeast Asia have shown increases in yield during the past two decades.

Brazil and Vietnam are the top two coffee bean producers. Both countries have seen remarkable increases in their yield, with Vietnam's production climbing from 1.2 metric tonnes per hectare in 2002 to 2.48 tonnes per hectare in 2021. Meanwhile, Brazil's yield has also shown significant growth, rising from 1.1 tonnes per hectare in 2002 to 1.95 tonnes per hectare in 2020.

Even if the temperatures were to increase dramatically, experts say that coffee cultivation would be possible in cooler regions at latitudes away from equator or at higher altitudes.

So, sit back and drink that morning cup of Joe. Climate is not going to steal your coffee and thank CO2 for keeping the plantations productive.

This commentary was first published at American Thinker on December 7, 2023.

Vijay Jayaraj is a Research Associate at the CO2 Coalition, Arlington, Virginia. He holds a master's degree in environmental sciences from the University of East Anglia, UK.

"The reason so many people misunderstand so many issues is not that these issues are so complex, but that people do not want a factual or analytical explanation that leaves them emotionally unsatisfied. They want villains to hate and heroes to cheer - and they don't want explanations that fail to give them that." -Thomas Sowell

A Strategy *cont. from page 1*

green technology will spread, regardless of the economic harm. Fixing this problem should be easy. Due to the nation's massive national debt, it should be apparent to Congress that tax expenditures, which are actually unlimited appropriations, must be eliminated. Unfortunately, this will not happen; the business community and the Progressive Left control too many votes in Congress to stop the giveaways.

Alternatives that might work include requiring disclosure of the economic and job impacts of subsidies, stop purchasing products made competitive only by green subsidies, oppose any bailouts of energy generating utilities that rely on government subsidies, and do as the environmentalists do, litigate, litigate, litigate.

Part III: Seek disclosure of the economic and job impacts of subsidies.

Shame the corporate green welfare queens into disclosing what the subsidies cost taxpayers, the cost of the few jobs created, the low wages paid to workers, and the ratio of officers' pay to workers' pay. Compare the dollars spent on lobbying and political donations with the subsidies received. Inform the public of the corporation's rate of return on its lobbying dollars. An excellent newsletter on corporate subsidies is "Good Jobs First." Its motto is "Tax breaks do not create jobs."

Germany, however, may be leading the way in disclosing the real costs of green energy. Recently, a German court was so concerned the government wanted the citizens to believe there is no cost of green energy it declared the government's fiscal gimmicks unconstitutional and ruled it "must level with voters about how much the net-zero energy transition will cost."

Stop purchasing products made competitive only by green subsidies.

Climate skeptics should educate consumers on the actual cost of subsidies. Whenever the government subsidizes "energy-efficient products," it must raise taxes on other items or individuals or reallocate taxes from different parts of its budget to pay for the subsidy. In essence, anytime the government subsidies a product, it merely passes the cost of the subsidy to other citizens or eliminates needed programs. The skeptics should explain to consumers how consumers are paying for the government's gifts to others. Consumers need to appreciate that the government only provides subsidies for products it wants to be purchased and will not be purchased under market conditions.

Oppose any bailouts of electric utilities on subsidies.

As the federal government forces more and more wind and solar units onto the market to generate more renewable power, it increases the number of facilities needing additional subsidies to avoid bankruptcy. These facilities are only viable because they receive subsidies. The skeptics must expose and oppose every rate increase due to the high cost of green technology. Educating consumers on the increased costs of green energy and its adverse community impacts will bring consumers to the skeptics' side. Since citizens are only willing to pay $100 a year to address climate change, climate skeptics must educate them on the cost of green technology, which is thousands per year.

Advocate that all levels of government provide the actual costs of green technology to consumers.

The skeptics should lobby the government to disclose a complete and accurate accounting of the green energy project, including the actual cost of construction, the amount of tax relief, the land to be used, tax abatements on the land, the cost of the project without subsidies, who pays for the disposal of hazardous waste contained in the green technology at the end of its life, and who pays for removing abandoned bankrupt facilities. These disclosures alone may stop the construction of many marginal facilities as residents become fearful of adverse health impacts and concerns over future remediation costs.

If a German court can order disclosure of the real costs of green energy, American taxpayers should be able to persuade Congress, the courts, or federal agencies with appropriate jurisdiction to order similar disclosures.

Do as the environmentalists do: litigate, litigate, litigate.

Litigation is where the skeptics' studies, reports, and scientific calculations are of the most value. Litigation can take many forms and, in many places, including state and federal courts, administrative agencies, municipalities, zoning boards, and against any government agency that hears a matter in dispute. The route taken most often by environmentalists is to sue under the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") against any facility (usually a pipeline or refinery) or project needing an Environmental Impact Statement ("EIS") prior to permitting. The legal argument is the project's EIS is insufficient to provide the information necessary to comply with NEPA. Filing a lawsuit can tie up a project in court for years. The time delays are costly and can often turn an alleged profitable project into an unprofitable one. That is the path taken by the environmental community. It needs to become the path of the skeptics if they are to bring sanity to the climate debate.

A recent study by David Wojick and Paul Driessen titled "Offshore Wind Cannot Be Justified" is an excellent example of how skeptics can use data to delay or stop a project over EIS concerns. The authors examine the emissions reductions achieved by offshore wind energy, which is the primary justification for its use. The authors conclude that global emissions from mining, processing, manufacturing, and transportation offset any reduction from power production. Their study focuses on the many aspects of the supply chain. These types of facts force projects to make disclosures neither the federal government nor the project developers want to make. These types of disclosures can place conditions on permits that make the project non-viable.

NEPA addresses far more than environmental protection. It requires examining the actions pursued to assure all Americans "a safe, healthful, productive and esthetically and culturally pleasing surrounding." This type of broad language allows litigants to persuade a court to make new laws by litigation while avoiding Congress. It also requires consideration of national heritage, community diversity, and individual choice. NEPA provisions can protect rural communities and life in America from the pock-marking of the land by wind and solar facilities.

The climate skeptics might also be able to include specific international concerns since NEPA promotes international cooperation to anticipate and prevent the decline in the quality of "mankind's" world environment. The skeptics should be creative by using NEPA litigation to address the use of slave labor in the mining of rare earth materials and the environmental harm caused by the mining of rare earth materials by oppressive regimes. Since most green energy facilities contain rare earth materials, which are often hazardous when disposed of, an analysis of these materials' environmental impact is the purpose of NEPA, especially those that are presently unquantified.

A NEPA review will allow the skeptics to raise all the environmental and economic concerns created by interconnection difficulties, abandoned projects, the management of the hazardous wastes in the projects, and the end-of-life remediation that is not calculated in the project's economics. The skeptics need to connect the dots between the projects with these problems and their environmental impacts. Once the dots are connected, there will be public opposition against the projects.

How it all ends.

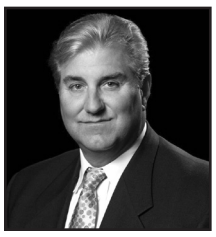
The non-disclosure of the real costs and environmental impacts of green energy is nothing short of another deception of the American people by its government. The adverse impacts of a green economy are environmental, economic, cultural, and degrading to our national security. The American business community is bought and paid for, so it will not challenge the federal government unless it seriously hurts them financially. Fortunately, the nation's citizens can be educated on how to fight federal green policies that are causing them economic harm and impacting their lives and communities. It is the responsibility of the climate skeptics to undertake this task. If the skeptics cannot end the green utopian delusion, no one will.

William L. Kovacs has served as senior vice president for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, chief counsel to a congressional committee, chairman of a state environmental board, and a partner in law D.C. law firms. His book Reform the Kakistocracy received the 2021 Independent Press Award for Political/Social Change. Kovacs also led the business coalition's lobbying activities against Obama's legislative climate proposals. He can be contacted at wlk@ReformTheKakistocracy.com.

Part I. Memo to Climate Skeptics: You're Losing, Change Strategies

Part II. Climate Skeptics Win by Revealing Costs Not Disputing Science

Real World Causes of Poverty And Economic Inequality



By Gary Wickert

The Harvard Gazette reported recently in a series entitled "Unequal", that "the wealth gap between Black and white Americans has been persistent and extreme. It represents, scholars say, the accumulated effects of four centuries of institutional and systemic racism and bears major responsibility for disparities in income, health, education, and opportunity that continue to this day."

I will digress for a moment and perhaps you noticed that Harvard capitalized "Black" but did not capitalize "white." Believe it or not, the Associated Press recently revealed that this reflects a recent stylistic change in 2020 which "conveys an essential and shared sense of history, identity and community among people who identify as Black, including those in the African diaspora and within Africa." White people, the AP stated, "have much less shared history and culture, and don't have the experience of being discriminated against because of skin color." Let's dig further to see if that is true.

Returning to the first paragraph above, a key neoliberal Washington, D.C., think tank called "The Hamilton Project" blames economic inequality and gaps in wealth between "Black and white" (note the capitalization again) households on "accumulated inequality and discrimination, as well as differences in power and opportunity that can be traced back to this nation's inception." It says that "The Black-white wealth gap reflects a society that has not and does not afford equality of opportunity to all its citizens." According to the Hamilton Project and most leftists, the evidence of racism is a sort of reverse proof—there is a gap in wealth and income, so there must be racism.

And sure enough. They have evidence to support the fact that according to the U.S. Bureau for 2018, the average income for white families was $70,642. For Hispanic families it was $51,450 dollars, and for black families it was $41,361.

The left wags their finger as though this is probative evidence of systemic racism and white privilege. But is that true?

South Africa is a good example of income inequality which results from racism. South Africa has the world's highest income inequality and apartheid is a real reason why. For generations, South Africa's society openly practiced racial segregation which restricted the activities and movements of black South Africans. Even though they made up most of the population, black Africans couldn't marry white people, travel without passbooks, or start businesses in white areas. South African culture was designed to uplift white people while holding back black South Africans. Even after apartheid ended in the 1990s, many of these inequalities remained indelibly etched in South African culture and practices.

America has no such institutional racism. If anyone disagrees, I beg them to show me the law, rule, or accepted practice which qualifies as racist. To be "institutional" means it has become part of the system or institution of a society. In other words, it is legal and encouraged. Not only is racism not legal or encouraged, but America is also teeming with civil rights laws and overwhelming societal pressure against any acts or sentiments of racism. If a photo of a successful celebrity or business icon with him or her wearing blackface from four or five decades ago is uncovered, that person's life and career are ruined instantly. Fire a black American and the burden is suddenly on you to prove in court that the motive was legitimate. This is a strong anti-racism institution in which we live.

Sadly, the mantra of "institutional racism" has morphed into orthodoxy much like Communism. Are you a "Party" supporter or not? If not, you are not enlightened and will be branded a bigot. Without anything more than "there is a difference in income, therefore there must be institutional bigotry", the left goose steps into the orthodoxy that structural characteristics of the American economy, heavily infused at every point with both an inheritance of racism and the ongoing authority of white supremacy, are the causes of income inequality.

Assume for a moment that the left is correct: that numbers don't lie and the income disparity between blacks and whites definitively prove that racism is the culprit or at least a chief culprit. Even if that is true, the Census Bureau also shows that the average family income for Asians was $87,194, significantly higher than that of whites. That must, then, mean that whites are the victims of racism. Right? It couldn't be that single-parent families have significantly lower incomes and an astonishing 67% of black children are born into a single parent household. It couldn't possibly be that family background and the education levels of a child's parents have significantly more to do with a child's achievement than do a school's resources or the color of a child's skin, could it? It couldn't possibly be that there is a strong correlation between home life and school performance, as revealed by a recent Johns Hopkins study, or that disparities in school or neighborhood quality matter less than family influences, could it? Same question for family education, family income, parents' criminal activity, and family structure. It couldn't possibly be that better-educated parents are more likely to consider the quality of the local schools when selecting a neighborhood in which to live, could it? Or that once their children enter a school, educated parents are also more likely to pay attention to the quality of their children's teachers, work closely with their children during homework assignments, attend all parent-teacher conferences, and take extra steps to ensure that their children are adequately served by their teachers?

It couldn't possibly be that highly educated parents are more likely than their less-educated counterparts to read to their children or buy books instead of hand-held video games or cell phones for them? Or could it? Educated parents enhance their children's development with advanced language skills and by using proper grammar in speaking with their children. They are more likely to pose questions instead of directives and have a more complex vocabulary. Studies have shown that children whose parents receive public assistance hear less than a third of the words encountered by their higher-income peers. As a result, the children of highly educated parents are capable of more complex speech and have more extensive vocabularies before they even start school. They are put into higher-achieving classes and benefit exponentially.

So, instead of calling out some of the real world causes of disparity of income and wealth in America, our culture defaults to victimhood, because it feels good, looks good on a resume, and gets votes. Real racism can cause a disparity in income. Joe Biden said there is a difference between being rich and being black. Putting aside for a moment the ignorant racism subtext running under those words, Joe was right. The National Museum of African American History has said that punctuality, cause and effect, and the scientific method are "white people things." Culturally, those "white things" are avoided in black communities where children pay penalties for "acting white." Diligence and punctuality are "white things"? If so, they also help people of all backgrounds and all colors to get and keep higher-paying jobs.

When black store owners in crime-ridden urban areas are hamstrung because liberal policies (which some of them even support) result in defunding the police and increased crime or voting against school choice to get them out of dysfunctional schools where the teachers cheat to give undeserving children of color higher grades as eloquently and factually described in Stephen Dubner's book, "Freakonomics", the children are victims—but not of racism. They are not held back as a result of system or institutional racism. They are chopped off at the knees by liberal policies and virtue signaling. Their actions are the chief drivers of more poverty and less success. When liberal, black district attorneys ignore crime, fail to prosecute crime, and turn away from organized retail crime, they exacerbate the problem. The same leftists who claim we need more opportunities in urban areas are the very people responsible for a lack of opportunities in urban areas. Less police, more crime, fewer opportunities. This isn't rocket science.

Perhaps it has nothing to do with race and everything to do with culture. Elements of culture which are driving income inequality include:

- Educational opportunities.
- Single parent families.
- High crime neighborhoods.
- Kids not spending time on homework.
- No fathers as the head of the household.
- Eschewing good personal practices thought of as "white".
- Black college graduates major in worthless, liberal arts degrees after getting admitted only because of truly racism affirmative action programs.

But then reality hits when the numbers reveal that white college graduates earn much less than Asian graduates. There are areas of white Appalachia which do not value education and white poverty exists there in great numbers. It isn't because of racism. White households have a median household wealth of $187,300, compared with Asian householders with a median household wealth of $206,400. Racism or culture? You cannot have it both ways.

Of course, we live in a sinful world and there will always be racism. But from my seat, I see racism against white significantly more than the converse. Imagine the hysteria and violent protests we would witness if we lived in our American society where whites made up 10% of the population but 90% of the characters appearing in television commercials. Imagine the outcry if we had dozens of shows about white culture, white history, white music, and white experiences. It is as though the left can't survive without real racism, so they invent it.

If there is racism which can in some small way be blamed for income inequalities based on skin color, it is the fact that today, woke public policy and liberal political correctness punishes any effort to help solve the problems underlying income inequality. Mention any of the cultural factors mentioned above and you will be blacklisted from speaking at institutions of "higher learning."

It isn't even accurate to suggest that there is equality of opportunity in America. Opportunity for African-Americans has been placed on steroids with affirmative action, quotas, and other programs based solely on skin color and true racism. In every legitimate study which lacks a political motive, parental education has been identified as the single strongest correlate of children's success in school, the number of years they attend school, and their success later in life. It's a shame we cannot say so out loud. For if we do, it is labeled "racist" and added to the pretend list of reasons why there is income inequality in America. The left has engaged in a holy war of fighting phony racism with real racism. The goal of ignoring skin color has been tossed in the dumpster and replaced with a belligerent license to discriminate based not on the content of our character, but on the color of our skin. The real victim is American society—because we can no longer call out the real and obvious causes of income disparity around us. And as a result, we cannot even begin to address them.

Why do elected *cont. from page 1*

that every city council and county commission in the nation is now faced with imposing on the community.

Yet when citizens attend council meetings and seek to speak out in opposition, discussing how such policies are negatively affecting their property rights, small businesses, and their neighborhoods, they are often met by their elected council members staring at them, with arms folded, scowls on their faces, and gavels in hand, ready to stop their testimony. Even worse, if opponents try to explain that such policies are rooted in the global Agenda 2030, the Green New Deal or the Great Reset, now the officials really become agitated. You will get several different responses. A council member will say, "I have never heard of this before." Another will chime in and say, "These policies are all local." And then comes the final comment on the issue, "This is just how it's done; everyone is doing it."

A growing tactic by local and county governments is to hide behind the edicts of government-appointed boards. As I've worked across the country to stop the assault on private property and the farm industry, many elected officials have responded saying they oppose such plans, but there is nothing they can do because appointed utility boards oversee the issue. This was the case in Iowa and South Dakota as local residents fought to stop the enforcement of the Carbon Capture Pipelines in which private corporations were using appointed public utility boards to gain the power of eminent domain to just take the land they wanted for this private corporate project.

The fact is appointed boards are created by elected officials, usually to be the workforce to carry out programs that they approved. These appointed boards represent no one. They do not have the right or the power to make policy. They certainly do not have the power to prevent elected officials from representing and protecting the wishes of their constituents. The elected officials are the Boss of appointed boards! Any politician who uses the lame excuse that they have no authority to stop the actions of the appointed board has a different agenda. They want to avoid dealing with the very people who put them in office specifically to protect their rights. In short, they are cowards working against the people!

Where is the Republican Party? As insanity spews out of the Democrat Party, the long-time overseer of limited government, free enterprise and individual liberty has no response, no unified plan to counter the Democrats, and, indeed, seems confused rather than offended by the Socialist antics.

For the election of 2023, the Virginia Republican Party's official plan to win the statewide election to control the Legislature was to encourage Republican voters to sign up for mail-in ballots or to be sure to vote early rather than to wait and vote on election day. For the past three election cycles the Democrats have proven this ballot strategy to be the kingpin of ballot insecurity. Democrats have the people in place to watch all of the early ballots as they arrive. This allows them to gain an early knowledge of how the vote is *continued on page 9*

Can the RPW (and Amy Binsfeld) tolerate such a grass roots organization?

By Bill Savage

This past Saturday (January 20, 2024) the Republican Party of Sheboygan County (RPSC) held its annual caucus. The members passed, overwhelmingly, a mission statement, a patriot statement, and an amendment to their constitution.

Amy Binsfield spoke to the group for just over 17 minutes in what can only be described as a unpleasant and condescending rebuke of the grass roots party that the RPSC has become. I will take you through the entire speech point by point. There's quite a bit to discuss. Much of what is happening in Sheboygan County is happening elsewhere in the state. We have just learned that the Republican Party of Barron County has had its charter pulled due to squabbles between board members and elected Republicans who consider themselves above reproach. Much of Binsfeld's speech is eerily similar. As WCD has stated many times, elected officials promise to go and fight for the republican platform, a very conservative platform, but end up falling in line with the establishment. The reason I am taking the time to put together this presentation is because Binsfeld clearly is using the talking points from leadership (sometimes referred to as the swamp or the establishment). Most grass roots party members don't have the experience I do, so it's important that I clarify some of her statements.

Amy Binsfeld, one and half minutes in – she responds to the caucus passing the mission statement and patriot definition by saying you won't see her at GOP events, she's taking her ball and going home. Haven't patriots, tea party members, and conservatives, been told again and again by the establishment, be part of the team? But have the local party pass a resolution that they are pro-life and she's not coming there no more… I guess party leaders and elected officials don't mind platforms as long as they don't need to abide by them, and don't interfere with swamp activities.

At three minutes into her spiel, she actually uses the term "the 1849 Act" to address the ban on abortion that was passed in 1849. News for Amy, stop using democrat talking points. Statutes do not expire after a certain amount of time. The State Constitution is that old, we still honor that don't we? The first thing we all need to do is get control of the language. Two plus two is four, and abortion is illegal until the legislature makes it legal, simple as that.

At 4:43 she says that a 14 week abortion laws is reasonable, and the governor will veto a shorter period (she must be delirious, the governor will veto this one). At 6:40 she claims she is not a patriot because the RPSC patriot clause that was passed with overwhelming support, says she would need to protect life starting at conception.

At 9:40 in she decides that the resolution passed by the RPSC caucus, legally assembled, is not free speech. She calls it "group think" because it puts her at odds with the real "group think" folks over at the state capitol. She voted for Vos, Wedding barns, the Monday Count bill, a moronic "rape and incest" bill and much more. But again, "group think" really?

At 10:45 in, she talks about the constitutional amendments (Zuckerberg money and legal status to vote) that the governor can't stop. So, she is aware that constitutional amendments bypass the governor. No one asks why the legislature doesn't do a 8 week abortion bill as a constitutional amendment. Let's revisit the 14 week abortion bill that they are putting forth with not one item that someone who professes to be pro-life can hang their hat on. Not a dollar for counseling or adoption. No mandate to provide proper information at the abortion clinic. Nothing. The only thing they did is to make a 14 week abortion window the new "Republican position" and starting point for future bills and efforts. By the way, Binsfeld voted for Rep. Donna Rozar's amendment to not include rape and incest in the 14 week period because 14 weeks isn't "reasonable enough" time to decide you were raped. Furthermore, there is no enforcement of the the rape clause. It appears that all one has to do is say they were raped and they can get an abortion right up to the moment of birth! Nice job Amy!!! NOT!!!

At 14:50 she says drop boxes were "deemed" illegal by the Supreme Court. No Amy they were CONFIRMED illegal by the supreme Court, big difference. The statutes were and remain clear; ballots must be returned to the clerk's office. At 15:00 she actually stated that Wolfe declared them legal under her authority as WEC administrator! WEC has NO authority to circumvent state law! We now can precisely understand why there is no movement on AR-18. These legislators just listen to Vos's talking points and go on their merry way. But she's against "group think"!

At 17 minutes she ends her speech talking about education. Amy Binsfeld is the one who needs to be educated. You can't represent your people on the issues if you don't yourself understand the issues.

Binsfeld is not the only one who doesn't understand the issues. Chaz Green and his staff don't even know how to spell Meagan Wolfe's name (not the biggest deal but it was official correspondence).

So… An impeachment resolution that is the responsibility of the Assembly, doesn't belong in the Assembly? Who knew? Green also thinks that the impeachment of Meagan Wolfe is all about 2020? What about 2024? She is still the administrator of WEC. She still authorized illegal drop boxes. She failed to protect seniors in nursing homes. She allowed "democracy in the park" and the two clerks in Milwaukee and Madison to promote "indefinitely confined" so that people didn't need to show an ID. Message to Chaz… Meagan Wolfe is STILL the administrator of WEC! And broadband is NOT more important that valid elections! smh.

For all of you who doubt Meagan Wolfe's role in the Zuckerbucks scam… below is a picture from my Substack 10# . After being confronted by the Campaigns and Elections Committee, Meagan Wolfe said she didn't know Rubenstein or Hillary Hall. Hillary Hall is the infamous clerk in Colorado that was sued by Republicans twice for not allowing observers at the polls and was shut down by the Colorado Supreme Court for illegally marrying gay couples. It's hard to believe the head of our elections commission didn't know who she was! I did.

Both Green and Binsfeld are freshman and have already handed your voice over to Robin Vos … So do you wonder why we are in the shape we're in?

I don't…

Why do elected *cont. from page 8*

going and where they need to push for more ballots for their own candidates. The result of the Virginia election was no surprise to anyone knowledgeable in how the Democrats operate – the Republicans lost everything!

How could the leadership of the party not understand that they were falling right into the Democrat trap? Why won't the Republican Party, nationwide, take up the fight to demand election day voting with paper ballots, as the means to assure election integrity? A great example of how effective this works is the recent Iowa Republican Caucus, where votes were all cast at the same time on paper ballots and the results were known almost instantly. For over two hundred years this is how the United States conducted elections in a fair and honest process. Yet the Republican Party remains silent and complicit in assisting its own demise.

At the congressional level it gets even worse. A few years ago, as Republicans were faced with the most open and blatantly radical agenda yet proposed by the Democrats, they missed their greatest opportunity to go on the attack and expose the insanity of the real goals of the Global Left. The Green New Deal represents the largest step ever taken by the Socialists/ Sustainablists forces that have been pushing Agenda 21 for over 30 years.

Introduced by one of the most radical members of Congress, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortrez, Republicans like Senate leader Mitch McConnell simply laughed, saying it was just too radical to be taken seriously. Then the laughing really started when the Republican-controlled Senate brought the Green New Deal up for a vote and the tally was 57-0. The Dems didn't even vote for it themselves, went the joke. Such a silly, stupid little girl, they said with great hilarity!

Leaders of many establishment conservative organizations in Washington, DC laughed too.

Well, the fools are the Republicans, and some of those establishment Conservatives, as they failed to understand the determination of these forces behind that "silly little girl." The Democrats set a trap and the Republicans marched right into it.

What really occurred is that the Socialist Democrats made a classic negotiating tactic. They came to the table and delivered the most radical, complete, all-inclusive agenda for the total take-down of the American Republic, our free enterprise system, our property rights, and our way of life.

The Republicans were completely unprepared for it. Since they have ignored the warnings of those of us who have led the fight against Agenda 21 for 30 years the Green New Deal sounded too nuts. Too far out. No one would fall for it. They laughed and dismissed it without a thought. The Senate vote showed them!

But, true to form for these elected officials who refuse to take the time to research and understand the true goal of such policy, the Republicans fell into the trap! For example, Florida Republican Representative Matt Gaetz announced that he was working on the Green REAL Deal! Said Gaetz, his bill would be more reasonable. The classic response. In the Senate, Tennessee Senator Lamar Alexander countered with his "Manhattan Project for Clean Energy." The difference from the Green New Deal? Almost nothing! Senator Lindsey Graham said "We owe it to the country to have an alternative to the Green New Deal." He said he was frustrated because large parts of the Republican Party still resist the idea of climate change legislation.

Did any of these "leaders" ever take the time to study the roots of such legislation and read what the forces behind it say it's all about? Sen. Graham and other faltering Republicans seem to not understand that any attempt to provide "an alternative to the Green New Deal" actually serves to legitimize the dangerous, wrong-headed leftist environmental movement.

This is exactly what the Democrats were counting on. They made an outrageously radical proposal that moves the agenda miles down the road and then – to be more "reasonable" the stupid Republicans join right in with just a little smaller proposal. That's how we lose our nation – by being "reasonable" to tyrants.

This is the tragedy that is taking place across the nation, at every level of government. Those elected to represent the people don't take the time to research and understand the true origins and purposes of the issues. They are surrounded by Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) that serve as the ground troops for the global forces. The NGOs bring them the legislation, the talking points, and the grant money – all in a neat little package. And they apply pressure to ensure the officials support their agenda. Incredibly, the officials call the NGO's stakeholders – like they are their constituents who elected them. Meanwhile, except for a few, we aren't there. They feel no pressure from us, no threat to their future. Is it any wonder why local citizens who do try to speak out, get the evil eye when they come to oppose those policies?

To change this situation before the nation is completely lost, Americans who oppose such policies must learn a very important lesson. The other side has a clear agenda, and they will not back away from it. They will not accept defeat. BUT – supporters of the American tradition of Freedom do not have such an agenda. We have simply been reduced to defending freedom. It's not working as we have lacked the ability to express what we mean by freedom.

We must find a way to define our own agenda and get on the offensive, demanding freedom in every government action at every level of government. We must learn to paint a clear picture as to what life in America will be like under our vision of freedom. Make your opponents responsible for their own policies. Put their names to them. Make them defend their plans.

In the founding documents of this nation, we were assured that the government didn't grant us our rights -we are born with them. Our rights are not "Constitutional" rights. The Constitution and the Bill of Rights grant us nothing. You have those rights despite those documents. We are "endowed by our Creator," Government's job, according to our founders, is to protect what we have naturally.

In the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson said that our liberty is "self-evident." In today's language that would mean "obvious." Unfortunately, there is nothing obvious. As sad as it is, Liberty should be obvious. It is to some, but we make the mistake of thinking it is obvious to our fellow Americans.

Today, we do not have a government that respects those rights. Just as our founders experienced with the King, we now have a long train of abuses from the government. We now stand in the same place as our founders stood in 1776 when they took action to end the tyranny of a king who refused to address their grievances.

We the People created Congress and all other levels of government. Unlike a kingship, they work for us! They're out of control because earlier generations allowed them to do so. For too long, we haven't been there to ensure they are listening to the people. But the forces who seek total control are there, and so elected representatives think they are representing them, not you and me.

Today's freedom activists must organize effectively. That specifically requires action at the local level. The further government gets from the people, the more corrupt it becomes. Let's organize to change that. Now is the time to prepare for this year's vital election. Do not accept 'the defeatist attitude' that we can't win. Get involved. Don't let your local Board of Elections cop out by saying the State legislature makes the rules, so there is nothing they can do. Organize to keep the pressure on them to make sure all is run fairly and legally. Volunteer to be election observers and ensure votes are counted legally and accurately, and don't allow anyone to push you out. Forces which may want to do harm are less likely to do it if they know they are being watched.

Tyranny ends when free people stand strong. That is our duty for this new year.

Election Integrity Must Be States' First Priority in 2024

By Christopher Talgo

The United States is facing a crossroads vis-à-vis how our elections are conducted. Will we take the tried-and-true path, which we have trekked successfully for more than two centuries? Or, will we go down the dangerous road that was paved in 2020?

In other words, will we continue to conduct our elections in a manner that minimizes the potential for voter fraud or will we succumb to those who want to exploit the inherent vulnerabilities that go alongside mass mail-in voting?

As most Americans probably instinctively knew at the time, the 2020 election was not the most "safe and secure" in our nation's history. On the contrary, the 2020 election was almost certainly one of the most corrupt elections in modern U.S. history.

This is not speculative, nor hyperbole. In fact, the voters, themselves, have made this abundantly clear.

In late 2023, The Heartland Institute conducted a poll with Rasmussen Reports to determine the degree of voter fraud in the 2020 election. The results speak for themselves: At least one-in-five mail-in voters admitted to committing at least one type of election fraud in 2020.

Let that sink in for a moment. In 2020, approximately 65 million ballots were cast by mail—the most in U.S. history, by a country mile. If 20 percent of those ballots were cast fraudulently, that means nearly 13 million illegal votes were counted in the 2020 election.

However, it gets worse.

Shortly after releasing the aforementioned poll, my colleagues and I began wondering if the flood of fraudulent mail-in ballots could have impacted the outcome of the 2020 election. Unfortunately, we concluded that yes, widespread mail-in voter fraud almost surely changed the outcome of the election. For more on this, check out our latest Policy Study: Who Really Won the 2020 Election?

Now, back to election integrity.

In recent years, the Pew Research Center has tracked Americans' "views of election administration and confidence in vote counts." In 2018, 81 percent of registered voters said they believed elections were run and administered "very" or "somewhat well." In 2022, that declined to 70 percent.

Even more importantly, there is a stark contrast now between Republicans and Democrats when it comes to confidence in the election process. In 2018, 87 percent of GOP supporters said they had confidence that elections were administered well. Four years later, that dropped to 56 percent. On the other hand, over the same period, Democrats confidence in the administration of elections increased from 79 percent to 88 percent.

The same trend applies to mail-in voting. In 2022, only 37 percent of Republicans trusted that mail-in ballots were counted correctly whereas 87 percent of Democrats trusted in the accuracy of mail-in voting.

Gee, I wonder what could account for this huge partisan gap

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The Left and Chaos

By Dennis Prager

It is impossible to understand what is happening to America — and to the rest of the West — without understanding the most dynamic ideology of the last hundred years: leftism.

We need to begin with the understanding that leftism (or "progressivism") and liberalism are not only not the same ideologies, they are in fact opposed to each other on virtually every major issue.

Leftism and liberalism have only two things in common:

One is belief in big government, which, given that individual and societal liberty decline as the state grows, is a significant similarity.

The other Left-liberal commonality is antipathy to the Right. This is even more important than commitment to big government because it explains why liberals vote for the Left despite the fact that liberals differ with far more left-wing positions than with conservative positions.

Unlike the Left, most liberals love their country. Unlike the Left, most liberals do not believe that there are more than two sexes/genders; that prepubescent boys and girls who claim they are members of the other sex should be given hormone blockers; that girls under 21 should be allowed to have their breasts surgically removed; or that men who say they are women should be allowed to compete in women's sports. So, too, liberals do not believe that capitalism is evil, that America is systemically racist, that all whites are racist, that Israel is the villain in the Middle East and Zionism is racist.

So, then, given that those leftist positions are as destructive as they are absurd, how are we to explain leftism?

This question has preoccupied me all my adult life. It is why I was one of fewer than 10 graduate students in all of Columbia University to major in what was called "Communist Affairs." (I was a fellow at the Russian Institute at Columbia's School of International Affairs.) In other words, I have studied the Left all my life.

Early on, I recognized that the Left opposes liberty — the clearest example being that wherever the Left gains power, whether at a university or in society as a whole, it suppresses free speech — and that it destroys everything it touches. But while I (and many others) have always understood that the Left (again, not liberalism) has always, everywhere, been a force for evil, I needed to understand why.

How can people believe that men give birth; that a country to which more than 4 million black people have emigrated and which twice elected a black president is systemically racist; that the freest country in the Middle East, one in which millions of Arabs live as equal citizens, is the villain, while its barbaric enemies are worthy of support?

Here are some answers:

Throughout their history, Americans have had three great providers of meaning: family, religion and

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firings, lost businesses, closed schools and churches, arrogant teachers' unions, socialist lessons, the end of two sexes, and ridicule from national leaders who line their pockets with money taken from their calloused hands. They want the freedom they know is theirs to make choices.

They are sick of all the public corruption, electoral corruption, racial, radical, and social justifications for violence, giveaways, loan forgiveness, and entitlements.

They disdain those who cry victim and make others pay, who harass those of faith, who invade girls' bathrooms, locker rooms, and privacy, who take away the aspirations and competitive rights of girls, who make parents terrorists, push provocative, anti-American redefinition of words like girl, woman, boy, man, illegal alien, illegal drug, illegal bribe, impeachment, insurrection, and the woke, broken, leftist ideas that dismiss, distort, and disrespect history, biology, and law.

They are sick of being talked down to, brazenly lied to, and accused of not knowing what they know. They are sick of being disrespected as hardworking taxpayers, consumers, parents, thinkers, and believers – the people who, unlike many in government, get things done, fix things, sweat, suffer, and make the nation run.

They are tired of being told children late in a pregnancy are not children, that murder at birth is fine, that standing up for life deserves an arrest, and that peaceful protests are violent while violent ones are peaceful. BS.

They are tired of lies, half-truths, and abuses by leaders in the US State Department, Justice, Homeland, and Defense Departments, and lies by leaders at FBI, FISA, IRS, EPA, Transportation, Education, and White House – all unpunished.

They are tired of anti-democratic people in power dictating to the rest of us, making big money by corrupt acts, then calling those who call them out undemocratic, "enemies of the people," enemies of "democracy." Bull.

They are tired of top-down, do-as-I-say, definitionally fascist actions covered as this, that, and the other "justice," somehow permissible, socially acceptable. Crap.

They are tired of leaders who stay in power forever, live off taxpayers' toil while spending and stealing them blind and broke, robbing future generations for fancy dinners.

They are outraged by the lack of accountability, one-party privilege, and the audacity to lie big, cover, target, and harass those who question, then let felons go, turn innocents and those who dissent from a concentration of power into criminals.

They do not want the sky. They do not want some transformative new form of activist government. They do not want an end of American history, a new narrative, more COVID money, bailouts for bad debtors, reparations, or anything else.

They want the simple rights promised in the Bill of Rights. They want those rights honored, like freedom of speech, religion, gun ownership, self-defense, defense of others, no warrantless home invasions, federal violations of privacy, or unfair trials.

They want their government to be limited, accountable, not large, lumbering, repressive, and uncontrolled. They want a free market economy, not one twisted by mindless socialism, backbreaking debt, high inflation, high interest, taxes, and overspending.

They want a border treated like a border, one side this country and the other another, and no free entry. They want a military ready, equipped to fight and win.

In short, they want what most American citizens throughout our noble, hard-bitten history have had: the right to be free and to be free of corrupt, overreaching, untethered, off-their-nut arrogant, increasingly lawless leaders.

What they want is not too much to ask, not long ago understood by those in power and those seeking power. They want their Constitution back, their rights, government, control over their lives, families, money, language, and laws back.

They want leaders who appreciate and respect their God-given freedoms. Trump does. That is why Trump is rising across every region, religion, and demographic slice of America and in every recent poll. People want their country and lives back.

Fear and freebies matter far less than freedom and fairness. Americans are finding their voice, increasingly unafraid to speak up, and have had enough. That is the raw truth. America is voting for America. Trump gets it. That is why he is winning.

Robert Charles is a former Assistant Secretary of State under Colin Powell, former Reagan and Bush 41 White House staffer, attorney, and naval intelligence officer (USNR). He wrote "Narcotics and Terrorism" (2003), "Eagles and Evergreens" (2018), and is National Spokesman for.



GOVERNMENT CIRCUS

THE WISCONSIN CONSERVATIVE DIGEST

RNC is Broke

February 9, 2024
Wisconsin Weekly Wrap-up

It's hard to have missed the hubbub about Ronna McDaniel stepping down as chair of the Republican National Committee after announcing that the RNC is broke. I said again and again, the Republican voter can hardly stomach the thought of saying the words "Republican Party" out loud. Everyone in my circle is quick to point that they are "Conservative" not Republican. Why? Do we need to say it? The debates are a joke, the campaigns are ineffective, and the list of achievements is slim to none. Trump certainly isn't having trouble raising money, is he? There is no doubt that the problem is the disconnect between the voter and the party.

RPW Hammering County Chairs

If course the Republican Party of Wisconsin is no better at connecting. Recent activity suggests the state party is prepared to punish any county level party that doesn't fall completely in line with the top brass. Recently they sent the letter below to county chairs.

This letter is a message to all county parties... "We are not a grass roots organization" and the real question is why? I've been trying to tell you for years, the leadership has a different agenda than lowering taxes, protecting the unborn and keeping governmental largess in check. That's only campaign rhetoric and anyone who thinks beyond that is labeled unflatteringly' a "true believer." Their agenda is making themselves money, and the only way to protect ourselves from their selfish agenda is to primary bad Republicans as well as defeating Democrats.

The Connection with Congressman Mike Gallagher

Perhaps "connection" is not the right word here. Maybe "prime example" fits better. I remember Gallagher blocking Trump's efforts to build a border wall because the millions of people who were illegally crossing the border didn't rise to a "national emergency." Now he thinks that impeaching a cabinet member for "lying to congress" or failing to do his constitutional duties is not all that important no matter how many terrorists, fentanyl smugglers and human traffickers are invading the country. A message to those "Republicans" defending Gallagher; every fentanyl death from here on out has your name on it. Any terror attack from within has your name on it, every young child that is sentenced to live the life of a sex slave is on you. We won't forget it either, will we, Mr. Esenberg?

Good News Regarding Mike Gallagher

The good news is that the pushback has been swift and substantial. Sheriff Clarke has denounced him and called for a primary challenger while making an appearance on the Regular Joe show. Both the Oconto and Brown County Republican Parties have issued statements regarding his no vote on impeachment. It appears that the frustration with the "do-nothing" Republican Party is growing rapidly. I think it's safe to say that the "the era of finding reasons to not take action" is ending for the RNC, RPW and Mr. Gallagher. It's time to make changes.

Peter Bernegger

Peter Bernegger of https://electionwatch.info/ is continuing to investigate election fraud and has been filing complaints against some fairly high-profile democrats.

From his Facebook and/or account:

1. A campaign finance violations complaint was filed against Mandy Meagan Roberts for $906,425.92. She is a financial advisor for Thrivent, up in the Rothschild, WI, area. She is also the Treasurer of Josh Kaul for State Attorney General. The very corrupt Josh Kaul, see tweets far below as evidence, cheated in his 2018 and 2022 elections by criminally laundering money into his campaigns. He, Roberts, and others committed other

continued on page 14

February 12, 2024
Wisconsin Weekly Wrap-up

Gallagher is Done

As reported in Friday's weekly Wrap-up, Congressman Mike Gallagher decided to vote against impeaching Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas who not only lied to congress but has failed to follow the law. The push back was swift with multiple county parties in his district sending terse letters, and former Sherriff Clarke promised to help find a challenger for his seat. Gallagher issued an "explanation" in an op ed in the Wall Street Journal, but the damage was done. Gallagher has announced he will not seek reelection.

NOTE: The WCD commends the County Chairs and their Executive Committees for taking such swift and decisive action.

Brandtjen Will Continue to Fight for AR-18 (see below)

State Representative Janel Brandtjen will once again attempt to use legally recognized Assembly policy to ask for a vote on AR-18, the resolution to impeach Meagan Wolfe. Wolfe's inability to follow the law is well documented in separate studies by the non-partisan Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB) and the Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty (WILL). The Wisconsin Senate has the 22 votes necessary as they have already voted 22-11 to expel Wolfe from office. Brandtjen's office released the following press release last week.



JANEL BRANDTJEN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Wolfe Must Go

For more information, contact:
Rep. Brandtjen (414) 915-8425

February 8, 2024

Madison – State Representative Janel Brandtjen released the following statement regarding the Assembly's final opportunity to pass AR 18, enabling the Senate to proceed with its investigation:

"This Tuesday, February 13, once again represents the first business day of the month, and according to Assembly Rules, a resolution can be pulled to the floor for a vote. I will once again try to get a floor vote on AR 18 to start an impeachment investigation into WEC administrator Meagan Wolfe.

The impeachment action was requested by Senate President Kapenga on October 4, 2023, due to a lack of consistency from Wolfe and staff members when carrying out election laws. I believe Wolfe and her staff have created the greatest threat to our Constitutional Republic by disregarding existing election laws.

The legislature's role is to hold these agencies accountable; AR18 outlines the serious offenses Wolfe has committed. The Assembly only needs to pass a simple non-binding resolution to start the Senate's impeachment investigation.

Wolfe is well past her four-year term limit, yet she keeps her position because Democrat Commissioners gamed the system by refusing to vote. The Senate has overwhelmingly voted her out, and adding insult to injury, Wolfe used taxpayer money to sue both the Assembly and Senate. Her continued presence is outrageous.

This resolution, or any resolution the speaker or leadership wishes to bring to remove Wolfe from her administrative position, is not meant to threaten or intimidate but to start a process in the Senate that may or may not lead to Wolfe's removal.

As we approach the end of this session, I urge all members to revisit AR 18 and recognize its pivotal role in safeguarding our liberties and securing future freedom for future generations.

Please support AR-18, ask the Senate to investigate Wolfe, and bring transparency and confidence to the 2024 elections. Wolfe must go."

###

State Capitol: PO Box 8952 | Madison, WI 53708-8952
Office: (608) 237-9122 | Toll-Free: (888) 534-0022

Rep.Brandtjen@legis.wi.gov
www.RepBrandtjen.com

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Sorry Biden, CO2 Is Not Pollution. It's The Currency Of Life

ByJoseph Fournier

I don't know about you, but I am tired of being bombarded everyday by the claim that CO2 is a pollutant and that as a polluter I must pay.

I seriously doubt the average person would accept this perspective, if they understood that CO2 is in fact a prerequisite of Life, and that global food production will expand by trillions of dollars in the coming decades as CO2 levels continue to rise.

Even fewer would accept CO2 as a pollutant if they understood that over a century ago, Svante Arrhenius, the Nobel Laureate and Father of the Enhanced Greenhouse Gas Hypothesis (EGGH), predicted that:

"By the influence of the increasing percentage of carbonic acid [i.e. CO2] in the atmosphere, we may hope to enjoy ages with more equable and better climates, especially as regards the colder regions of the earth, ages when the earth will bring forth much more abundant crops than at present, for the benefit of rapidly propagating mankind."

In other words, the father of the EGGH argued that humanities' use of hydrocarbons and rising tropospheric CO2 concentrations would benefit Planet Earth.

Oh, the irony!

The examples that I will showcase that demonstrate that Arrhenius' predictions are coming true are 1) the expanding Plant Kingdom, 2) the acceleration of agricultural productivity, and 3) the climate stabilizing effects of rising CO2.

The CO2 fertilization effect in plants is a reference to the fact that both the rate of photosynthesis and H2O use efficiency increases in lockstep with ambient CO2 concentrations.

As a result, the drought resistance of the Plant Kingdom naturally improves as CO2 concentrations increase, and most plants will produce more foliage per mm of precipitation.

This is why commercial greenhouses artificially raise ambient CO2 by 3x to 4x above atmospheric concentrations.

Remote sensing data from satellites have shown that the expansion of the Plant Kingdom from 1982 to 2015 was equivalent to adding over 20 million square kilometers of leaf surface area or twice the size of United States.

Numerous studies have shown that the higher latitude Boreal Forests and semi-arid desert ecosystems along the Horse Latitudes are where the Plant Kingdom has experienced the greatest benefit. The illustration provided here shows that leaf area in the Arctic region has expanded by 25 to 50 percent over this short time span.

Thus, it should not be surprising that global agricultural productivity has likewise been steadily rising as a function of increasing atmospheric CO2 concentrations.

CO2Science.org, a not-for-profit public relations organization that advocates for Climate Realism, have done a great job at summarizing the extensive literature that exists on the positive impact that the CO2 fertilization effect has had on modern agricultural yields.

The acceleration in global agricultural productivity between 2012 to 2050 due to projected growth in atmospheric CO2 concentrations is estimated to be worth an additional $10 trillion (in 2006 dollars) in increasing yields for 45 different cereals, fruits, and vegetables.

When we consider that current atmospheric CO2 concentrations are around 425 ppm and that the saturation limit of the CO2 fertilization effect in most species of plants is in the 1,100 to 1,300 ppm range, it is reasonable to suggest that humanity has only begun to realize this benefit in food production.

Beyond this caloric benefit of CO2 fertilization, there is also the climate stabilization effect that occurs from plant biomass accumulation, which include enhanced soil moisture retention, cloud seeding, and higher rainfall recycling rates.

In fact, numerous recent studies have estimated that the natural cooling influence of the Plant Kingdom has limited the warming since the 1970s by upwards of 0.5 C on a global average basis.

Conversely, numerous studies have also demonstrated that the replacement of natural landscapes with urban infrastructure like parking lots and skyscrapers (aka Urban Heating Influence or UHI), has a warming effect on air temperatures that can be detected at both regional and global scales.

In this sense, UHI is a form of anthropogenic global warming and ironically the CO2 fertilization effect functions as an antidote.

So, the next time that someone argues that CO2 is a pollutant, remind them that even the father of the Enhanced Greenhouse Gas Hypothesis viewed human CO2 emissions as a net positive for Mother Earth.

Remind them that current atmospheric CO2 concentrations are three to four times lower than the saturation limit that most plant species have evolved to flourish under and that any increase from current levels to this limit will act to expand the terrestrial Plant Kingdom and by so doing, benefit all lifeforms that are its dependents.

In closing, the most cost-effective way to offset anthropogenic global warming is to invest in greening our metropolitan city centers.

Joseph Fournier is a research scientist with 15 years experience in technology innovation specific to industrial environmental performance.

"No one will really understand politics until they understand that politicians are not trying to solve our problems. They are trying to solve their own problems – of which getting elected and re-elected are number one and number two. Whatever is number three is far behind."
-Thomas Sowell

High Time *cont. from page 1*

emissions. Yet virtually none of these groups contest the climate scare. Indeed, many support it, like hostages who identify with the goals of their captors in what has become known as the Stockholm syndrome.

For example, rather than explain that their products have negligible impact on climate, oil and gas companies and their associations acquiesce to the scare by spending hundreds of billions of dollars reducing their emissions to appease the climate bullies. They even waste untold sums of cash trying to capture and store benign carbon dioxide (CO2), the gas of life, underground in what they call Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS). For example, Pathways Alliance, a group of companies with major operations in Canada's oil sands, boasts,

"Canada's oil sands are on a path to reach net-zero emissions from operations…Pathways has outlined a planned $16.5 billion investment in the foundational CCS project and a further $7.6 billion on other emission-reduction projects."

Coal companies are often frequently worse, meekly accept their designation as the bad boy of hydrocarbon fuels due to their CO2 emissions, ramping down production (at least in Canada and the US) and slowly dying: **See Figure 1 and Figure 2**

Coal company and association leaders would apparently rather see thousands of their workers laid off than dare contest one of the major causes of their companies' decline: the climate scare. But then, unlike their workers, coal company presidents are frequency wealthy and so can quietly retire to their hacienda in Mexico when their companies go belly-up.

And how about electricity providers? In the United States, the Electric Power Supply Association (EPSA), the national trade association representing America's power suppliers list their first three policy positions as follows on their website: **See Figure 3**

Concerning the last item, their position on the Paris Agreement, EPSA state:

"The risks of climate change are real. EPSA member companies have and continue to play a significant role in reducing power sector greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions while ensuring reliable electric supply. EPSA members have invested billions of dollars to deploy new, low and zero carbon emitting solutions.

"EPSA supports the ambitions of the Paris Agreement to reduce GHG emissions, along with state and federal market-based policies, that seek to meaningfully, rapidly, and economically lower GHG emissions."

Rate payers who foot the bill for these costly, woke policies have a right to be angry that power suppliers support an agreement that will ultimately result in price spikes and widespread blackouts.

Cement companies also bow to environmental political correctness, with the Cement Association of Canada even asserting:

"Our #ConcreteZero Action Plan shows that greater emissions reductions are possible. Relying on developed and proven technologies and processes, #ConcreteZero is about finding "true" net-zero emissions. It will require many actions, from changing the way we make cement, to imagining new ways of designing and constructing our infrastructure."

The American Automotive Policy Council (AAPC), which Bing AI defines as "a trade association that represents the common public policy interests of three American automakers: Ford, GM, and Stellantis," have apparently succumbed to the climate scare as well, for example asserting in their December 9, 2021 press release:

"Governor Matt Blunt, president of the American Automotive Policy Council, today issued the following statement on the Biden Administration's executive order on lowering emissions and promoting electric vehicles for the federal fleet:

"We applaud the Biden administration for this announcement. American Automakers Ford, General Motors and Stellantis produce the vast majority of all government fleet vehicles, and they look forward to continuing to supply the vast majority of these vehicles as they do their part to reduce emissions and produce and sell more electric vehicles to help achieve these goals."

Considering the problems with EVs and how most consumers have rejected them, the last thing these companies should really want is to produce more EVs. But they are too frightened of political correctness to speak out against the climate scare. And, of course, there is money to be made producing vehicles for the government, no matter how useless.

Farmers and ranchers are somewhat better, at least protesting now and then about the imposition of unreasonable fertilizer and livestock reduction mandates in the name of "stopping climate change." But look how the U.S. Farmers and Ranchers start the "Our Story" section of their website:

"Over the next ten years, we have the ability to collectively shift agriculture to be net-neutral for greenhouse gas emissions and ultimately a net positive sector, effectively erasing the footprint of how our food is grown while offsetting other industries.

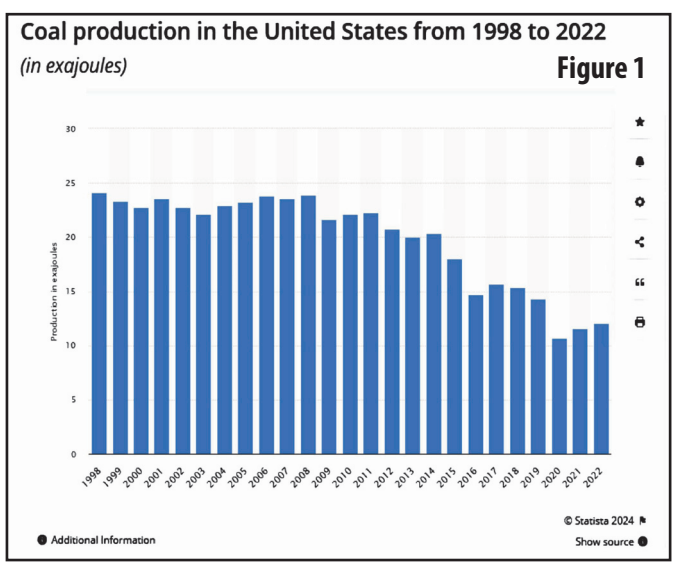
"It will take collaboration and action across the entire food value chain.

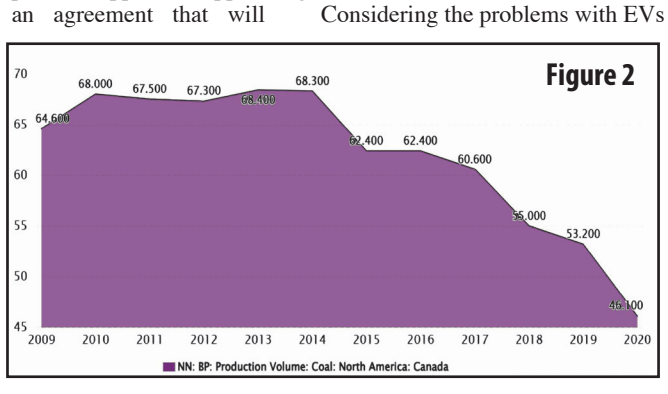
"...Today farmers face the largest challenge of this generation – creating sustainable food systems and solving climate change. And they only have 30 harvests until 2050 to do it."

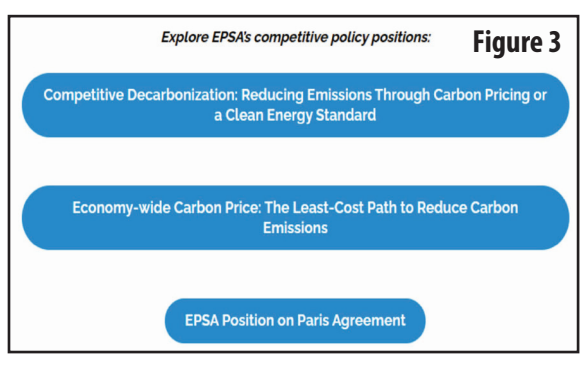
Did Al Gore write the U.S. Farmers and Ranchers "Our Story" webpage?

You would assume that the last people to support the climate scare would be bird-lovers. After all, one of the main consequences of the climate scare is the mass proliferation of 60-story-high industrial wind turbines across the world. And, as Suzanne Albright, a founding member of the Great Lakes Wind Truth, my guest on the December 11, 2023 edition of The

continued on page 17







Short Takes

By Ken Van Doren

The roots of all goodness lie in the soil of appreciation for goodness.
-Dalai Lama

Wisdom is oftentimes nearer when we stoop than when we soar.
-William Wordsworth

When your work speaks for itself, don't interrupt.
-Henry J. Kaiser

Gestures, in love, are incomparably more attractive, effective and valuable than words. -Francois Rabelais

Art is a collaboration between God and the artist, and the less the artist does the better. -Andre Gide

"Millions saw the apple fall, Newton was the only one who asked why?"
-Bernard M. Baruch

"To surrender to ignorance and call it God has always been premature, and it remains premature today."
-Isaac Asimov

Great art picks up where nature ends.
-Marc Chagall

I'm the only man in the world with a marriage license made out to whom it may concern. -Mickey Rooney

The counterfeit and counterpart of Nature is reproduced in art.
-Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Breathless, we flung us on a windy hill, Laughed in the sun, and kissed the lovely grass. -Rupert Brooke

Inspiration arrives as a packet of material to be delivered. -John Updike

"Perhaps it is a universal truth that the loss of liberty at home is to be charged against provisions against danger, real or pretended from abroad."
-James Madison (1798)

"There are two motives for reading a book; one, that you enjoy it; the other, that you can boast about it."
- Bertrand Russell

Wisdom to Live By

"Letting a man with dementia run our federal government just proves how little we need a federal government"
- DJ Freedom Rockets

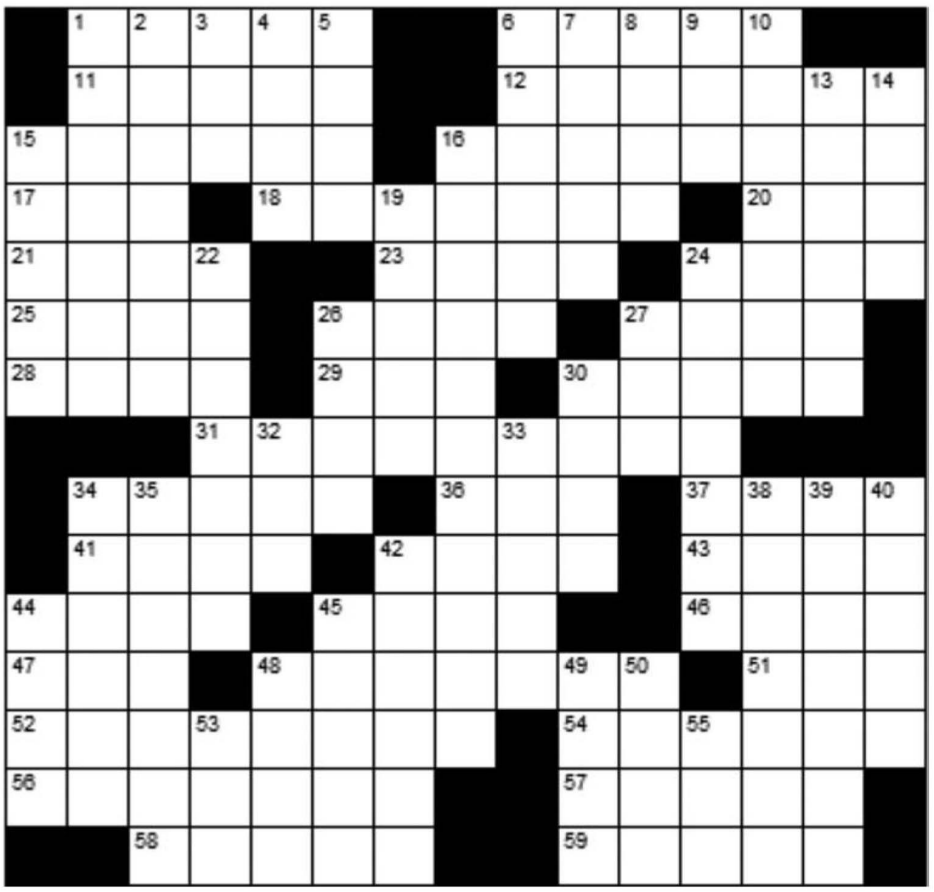


THE GAME PAGE

Crossword Puzzler

ACROSS
1. Woodworking tools
6. Horrible
11. Corridor
12. Military quarters
15. Serving dish
16. Someone not present
17. Ensign (abbrev.)
18. Sports competitor
20. Mistake
21. Dull pain
23. If not
24. Smile
25. Voucher
26. Former lovers
27. Historical periods
28. Hoopla
29. Regulation (abbrev.)
30. Practical
31. Pillaged
34. Compacted
36. Foot digit
37. Fathers
41. "Oh my!"
42. Cans
43. 57 in Roman numerals
44. Barter
45. Not barefoot
46. Overhang
47. Commercials
48. Frugality
51. 18-wheeler
52. Bullfighters
54. A type of tincture
56. Omission
57. Not just once
58. Bitchy
59. Church officer

DOWN
1. Lewd
2. Balloon
3. South southeast
4. Entreaty
5. Dispatched
6. Mother superior
7. Garbage
8. No charge
9. A large vase
10. Sidelong
13. Cherry
14. Composer Jerome ____
15. Instruct
16. Accusations
19. Spells
22. Continuing forever
24. Pan for pancakes
26. Sea eagle
27. French for "Summer"
30. Hawaiian strings
32. Donkey
33. Condominium
34. Intricate
35. Stretchable
38. Greed
39. Seer
40. Blockade
42. Full of complexities
44. Matron
45. Dash
48. Modify
49. Small amount
50. Distressed cry
53. An Old Testament king
55. Accomplishe



Answers on page 19

Soduko

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contain all of the digits 1 thru 9.

1	9						6	
4			9					
5	3				6			7
	2		7	4				1
		7	3		5	4		
3				8	2		5	
7			4				8	2
					1			4
	4						9	6

Answers on page 19

Congress *cont. from page 1*

through rule by unelected, unaccountable Executive Branch bureaucrats, collusive sue-and-settle legal actions, and court decisions that too often rubberstamp agency rules.

Instead of three co-equal divisions of government, the powers and functions of America's Legislative and Judicial Branches have steadily been subsumed into an ever expanding, progressive and aggressive Executive Branch. Many legislators and judges have acquiesced or actively participated.

The federal workforce has swollen to two million non-military employees, who "liberally" interpret, apply and enforce laws and policies. The Federal Register of regulations, explanations and justifications has ballooned from 50,998 pages in 1984, to a Jabba-the-Hutt 90,402 pages in 2023. Few can read, much less comprehend and comply with the intricate edicts.

Members of Congress want to be seen "doing something" to address perceived problems, often by passing new laws and spending more money. However, instead of actually tackling difficult, controversial issues, they frequently make policy declarations, enact deliberately ambiguous statutory provisions, and rely on Executive Branch cohorts to interpret, stretch or even rewrite the vague language, mostly advancing agency powers and agendas.

The US Supreme Court's landmark 1984 decision in Chevron v. Natural Resources Defense Council expanded this centralization of power even more significantly.

The "Chevron deference doctrine" holds that – when faced with regulations that are based on ambiguous, or nonexistent, statutory text – lower courts should always defer to administrative agencies' interpretations of the text, as long as the interpretations are "reasonable."

Chevron deference has let federal agencies expand their domain and control in hundreds of instances. Affected citizens often have little recourse, as long as the impact of an individual rule can be viewed as small and the agency interpretation as not patently unreasonable.

In those situations, the 2022 Supreme Court decision in West Virginia v. EPA is of little help, because it only addresses "major questions," agency decisions that have "major" economic or political significance.

However, the Court recently heard oral arguments on two cases that give it an opportunity to curtail or end this wholesale deference to federal agencies. Both cases ask whether small fishing boats can be required to pay $700 per day to take observers along with them, to ensure the boats are following fisheries rules. Relevant law allows the government to require fishing boats to carry observers – but does not say the boats must pay for them, and Congress never appropriated any funds to cover observers.

So, on its own, the National Marine Fisheries Service decided it had the authority to compel boats to shoulder the cost. The case could have enormous implications for the perpetually expanding Deep State.

The Justices could rule in favor of NMFS, even though monetary impacts that are small by federal governing and budgetary standards are major, even potentially ruinous for fishing boats.

They could hold that the agency interpretation in this single instance was "unreasonable" – and overturn this single rulemaking out of thousands issued since 1984, while leaving the Chevron doctrine intact and available for future abuse.

Or they could overturn Chevron. Doing so would end the appalling deference to powerful government agencies; reduce the growing imbalance between the Executive and Legislative Branches; and make it harder for circuit and appellate courts to support activist regulators.

A reversal might even prod Congress to enact laws that tackle hard questions, use precise language, and tighten the reins on unelected regulators, especially when they serve presidents who want to "fundamentally transform" our energy use, immigration system, economy and military.

The third option would also help America curb climate and energy fantasy and tyranny.

It's certainly true that most federal actions taken to "save our planet from the existential threat of manmade climate change" are "major" or "significant" in their societal, economic, ecological and national security impacts – and thus subject to the Supreme Court's "major questions doctrine."

However, that Court has not defined "major." Moreover, even actions that most Americans would call "major" can end up being upheld, and agencies can claim significant actions are actually "minor" or can simply ignore court decisions that don't apply explicitly to the agency or action in question.

Even in the climate and energy arena alone, hundreds of "minor" decisions can coalesce into massive disruptions and costs. It's certainly reasonable to argue that questions of Chevron deference should examine the totality of impacts – and whether a decision can actually pass a rational, evidence-based "reasonableness" test. To cite just a few examples, is it reasonable to defer to federal agencies that:

• Impose government-wide mandates to terminate America's coal, oil and natural gas extraction and use, based on computer models whose scary forecasts: (a) are built on the assumption that climate change and weather events are driven by fossil-fuel-related carbon dioxide and methane, which together represent barely 0.042% of Earth's atmosphere; and (b) are not supported by actual, real-world data on temperatures, tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, droughts and sea levels?

• Keep oil and gas locked in the ground before they have any workable plan for replacing feed stocks for plastics, pharmaceuticals, fertilizers and thousands of other vital products?

• Compel families and businesses to replace gasoline vehicles and gas ovens, stoves, furnaces and water heaters with electric models – while regulators replace reliable, affordable fossil fuel power with intermittent, weather-dependent wind and solar power?

• Close down coal and gas-fired generators before sufficient, reliable, affordable replacement electricity is available – and before a single project anywhere in the world has demonstrated that wind, solar and battery electricity alone can power even a small village?

• Demand that families purchase supposedly energy- or water-efficient washing machines and dishwashers, even though the new machines must run longer or even twice to get clothes or dishes clean – thereby requiring more electricity and water?

• Effectively mandate electric vehicles before there are sufficient charging stations, electricity for those stations, or even metals and minerals to manufacture all the EVs, charging stations, wind turbines, solar panels and transmission lines?

• Assert that wind, solar and battery power are clean, green, renewable and sustainable, while ignoring the monumental amounts of mining and processing – and attendant habitat and wildlife destruction, toxic air and water pollution, and child labor – involved in obtaining the nonrenewable metals and minerals for those technologies?

• Insist that the United States slash or eliminate its fossil fuel use, while China, India and 100 other countries (including Germany) are extracting and burning more oil, gas and coal every year?

Courts should not view government actions in a vacuum. Many agency decisions are reasonable only in an alternative universe where individual and cumulative economic, ecological and social realities play no role. The era of Chevron deference should be brought to a close.

Paul Driessen is senior policy advisor to the Committee For A Constructive Tomorrow (www.CFACT.org) and author of books and articles on energy, pollution, climate change and human rights.

RNC *cont. from page 11*

campaign finance violations also in addition to smurfing i.e. campaign money laundering. Josh Kaul was an attorney for Hillary Clinton, and we caught him repeatedly lying to Wis. state and federal judges about Trump and Russian collusion. I will be filing with the SEC also on Roberts asking them to take her securities license away.

2. Complaint filed against the campaign of Tatterson, Bob. For $16,924.05 in campaign finance violations including smurfing, i.e. money laundering. Tatterson ran for the State Assembly, District 24 (Mequon area). He'll have to pay back this money. His last campaign report filed this month shows a cash balance on hand of just $1,972.41. Tatterson will have to pay the money to the Wisconsin General School fund out of his own pocket, plus fines if any are applied. Most liberal campaigns across the nation used, are using, smurfing to launder money into their campaigns. Joe Biden is number one violator, Mitch McConnell is in on it also. I'd say, 'on the other side of the aisle', but there is no aisle. See my tweet 2 down of the millions laundered by the Democratic Party of Wisconsin. @PeterBernegger Tatterson.

3. An ethics complaint has been filed against Michael J Steinle for campaign finance violations for $1,447,196.38. This is just the tip of the iceberg with this guy for campaign money laundering and other finance violations. He is an attorney out of Milwaukee. But he is also the Treasurer for Janet Protasiewicz's campaign. Justice For Janet, as I call her, is the drunk Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice. Protasiewicz is the one I had a private investigator follow. She would have court dates set for 8am (back when she was a circuit court judge) and would not even leave her house until 8:20am or later - making all of the court staff and both parties sit and wait for her. Then, every time, she was speeding like a maniac while talking on her cell phone held up to her ear. Janet is an alcoholic. Her own staff would take her car keys away from her on the bad days so she would not get caught driving drunk. Yes, some of these are personal problems, but they are extremely relevant to us all when she is making decisions about all of our lives. The bottom line is she didn't win her election to the bench; she purchased it with criminally laundered money. Steinle conspired with her, with the Democratic Party of Wisconsin, with ActBlue along with others to do it. I will be going after Steinle's law license.

Still lots of activity scheduled for next week at the Capitol, be sure to read our Madison Monday Morning Report this coming Monday!

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11324 W Potter Road, Wauwatosa, WI 53226

Chaos *cont. from page 10*

patriotism. Leftists lack the latter two (indeed, they seek to get rid of them), and increasing numbers of them lack the first. Since human beings cannot live without meaning — it is as great a need as food, and even greater than sex — they seek meaning elsewhere. So they create new meanings through creating secular religions: socialism, communism, feminism, environmentalism, DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion), "anti-racism," anti-Zionism, LGBTQIA+ pride, and trans activism, among others.

All these are united by one overarching aim: destroying the institutions of Western civilization (e.g., religion, art, music, the nuclear family, moral norms, schools and universities, free speech, capitalism, even medicine).

Those of us who appreciate Western civilization and wish to preserve it (while, of course, correcting its flaws) cannot understand why anyone would want to destroy it. That is a major reason it is so difficult for non-leftists to understand the Left.

After decades of mulling this over, I think I have discovered one answer that is not obvious even to all leftists.

What opened my eyes are the Left's beliefs that men can become women and women can become men; men give birth; there are more than two genders/sexes; men who say they are women should be placed in women's prisons, women's colleges and women's shelters; men who say they are women should be allowed to compete in women's sports; and children should be taken to drag queen shows.

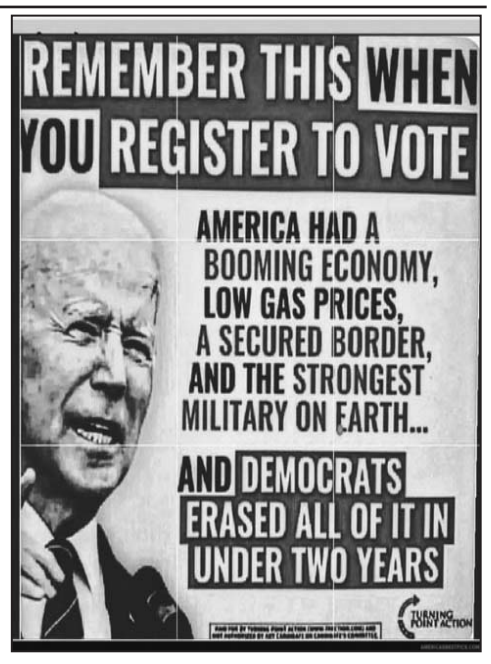
All these positions represent … chaos.

The Left's trans-positions are the most obvious areas of Left-induced chaos, but there are many others. These include the Left's contempt for the ideal of the nuclear family (i.e., a married mother and father and children); its support for defunding police; its raising the dollar value of stolen goods that qualifies as a felony, which can only incentivize theft; and its support for progressive district attorneys.

Fighting crime represents order; crime represents chaos.

And why does leftism seek chaos? Because the Left hates the opposite of chaos: order. And order ultimately represents a religious view of life. Order represents divine order. The proof is that no religious people say, "Men give birth." Not all secular people believe men give birth, there are more than two sexes, men can compete in women's sports, children should be exposed to drag queen shows, or children should be given hormone blockers if they claim to be a member of the other sex. But only secular people believe those things. Virtually no one who believes in the Bible and the God of the Bible believes them. We believe in a God-created social order.

Chaos is the normal state of the world. The second verse of the Bible states that the world was in a chaotic state. God then made order. Which is why the Left is undoing it.



Our Mission...

At the heart of CFACT, our goal is to enhance the fruitfulness of the earth and all of its inhabitants. CFACT accomplishes this through four main strategies:

Prospering Lives. CFACT works to help people find better ways to provide for food, water, energy and other essential human services.

Promoting Progress. CFACT advocates the use of safe, affordable technologies and the pursuit of economic policies that reduce pollution and waste, and maximize the use of resources.

Protecting the Earth. CFACT helps protect the earth through wise stewardship of the land and its wildlife.

Providing Education. CFACT educates various sectors of the public about important facts and practical solutions regarding environmental concerns.

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The defense get its turn in the climate trial of Mann v. Steyn

By Craig Rucker



After over a decade of expensive litigation, the trial of climatologist Michael Mann against journalist Mark Steyn has finally come to trial.

Check out Steyn Online for daily details about the case, including reenactments and analysis by CFACT's friends Ann McElhinney and Phelim McAleer.

Michael Mann, you will remember, is known for the UN's infamous "hockey stick" temperature graph and the phrase "hide the decline" which came to light in the "Climategate" emails.

Mann is suing Steyn for defamation over Steyn's use and repetition of colorful language about Mann's work and scientific ethics.

It came to light during the trial that Dr. Mann has paid nothing toward his very expensive legal fees. The fees have been paid by others who have not been named.

This has enabled Mann to freely pursue his apparent intention, which is to chill debate on climate and his conduct.

"Strategic lawsuits against public participation," or "SLAPP suits," aim to censor, intimidate, and silence critics by burdening them with the cost of a legal defense until they abandon their criticism or opposition.

CFACT is certainly among the critics that Mann hopes to intimidate.

Mark Steyn has chosen to represent himself for large portions of the trial. His rhetorical gifts are on full display.

What is actually on trial is free speech itself.

The famous Supreme Court precedent of NY Times v. Sullivan has long shielded journalists from attempts to chill speech by requiring plaintiffs to prove "actual malice," meaning that the speaker knowingly or recklessly ignored the truth. Steyn was simply giving his opinions about Mann's work — work which actually impacts U.S. and UN climate policy. One should think this debate would fall under the actual malice standard and shield Steyn's right to speak.



Mann's attorneys, however, slyly brought their suit before the Washington, D.C. Superior Court, a venue with judges and juries most favorable to their attempt.

Will Mark Steyn succeed in protecting the right of all of us to speak our minds on climate?

Head over to Steyn online as this fascinating trial winds up.

Let's hope Mark Steyn is not forced to file a fascinating appeal.

D.C. jury SLAPPs Mark Steyn A bleak day for free speech

By Craig Rucker

A D.C. jury found against journalist Mark Steyn and his co-defendant Rand Simberg and ordered them to pay just over $1 million dollars to climate scientist Michael Mann.

Check out the breakdown of the damages:

$1 from each defendant for compensatory damages

$1,000 in punitive damages from Simberg; and

$1 million in punitive damages from Mark Steyn

These damages are very revealing, and may provide the defendants the basis of their appeal.

The jury essentially agreed with Simberg and Steyn that Mann's claim of having suffered harm in the form of an unexplained glance from a stranger in a grocery store, or grants that did not come his way (with no evidence as to why), were not evidence of meaningful harm.

The jury chose instead to punish the defendants through punitive damages, essentially declaring that the kinds of questions and points the defendants raised about Mann and his scientific conduct must be discouraged.

An appeals court may well find this an undue burden on all our right to speak freely about important matters of public policy.

Bill Nye "The Science Guy" attended the trial and reportedly approached jurors and told them that he and Michael Mann were longtime friends. If this is substantiated, an appeals court may also find that the D.C. court failed in its obligation to protect the jurors from tampering.

I recently expressed my hope that the high "absolute malice" standard set forth in the famous Supreme Court precedent in NY Times v. Sullivan would shield Steyn and Simberg's right to free speech from Mann's lawsuit.

We hope that defendants appeal and give an appeals court the opportunity to remind us all that free speech is a bedrock civil right.

As Supreme Court Justice William Brennan wrote in NY Times v. Sullivan(CFACT concurs):

"An unconditional right to say what one pleases about public affairs is what I consider to be the minimum guarantee of the First Amendment."

Angry Londoners block traffic cameras to protest climate car tax

By Kathleen Marquadt

London Mayor Sadiq Khan introduced ULEZ (Ultra-Low Emission Zone) in a small area of central London in 2019 to purportedly reduce emissions, lower congestion, and fight climate change. In a ULEZ area, if you drive an older or non-electric car, you are taxed £12.50 ($15.10) for every day you cross into or move within a ULEZ zone. In other words, if you want to drive in London and not be taxed exorbitantly, you don't drive a petrol or diesel-driven car.

The mayor undoubtedly thought that, because there was no outrage when he first introduced the "Ultra-Low Emission Zone" in Outer London, there wouldn't be much when he announced it would now be brought into all of London.

Boy, was he ever mistaken!

As reported in Breitbart News, when the citizens of Sutton realized they'd been taken, it was like a scene from the movie Network. They were mad. Indeed, angry citizens "blocked 'every single' camera in the borough of Sutton used to enforce Sadiq Khan's climate car tax."

According to Breitbart:

The pushback continues against Sadiq Khan's expansion of the Ultra Low Emissions Zone (ULEZ) from its previous incarnation covering a relatively small area of central London as an anti-congestion measure to extend to the entirety of the capital, meaning that drivers of vehicles that do not comply with the mayor's climate standards are charged a base fee of £12.50 per day for driving anywhere in the city, disproportionately impacting working-class commuters.

But

The activists dispersed throughout the borough, using signs to block the license plate cameras used to enforce the tax, which they said, in combination with the actions of ULEZ camera smashing vigilantes — referred to as the 'Blade Runners' — meant that "every camera" was useless to the city government. There has also been an emerging trend of citizens "ULEZ fishing", using fishing poles to plaster stickers onto the lens of cameras throughout the city.

One must wonder, are we finally seeing people around the world standing up to the demanding – and ridiculous – rules and regulations surrounding climate change extremism? We certainly see it with the EU and US farmers out on the streets protesting, but are we also beginning to see it among – finally – city dwellers responding to the tightening of the noose?

Tough to say. But one has to admire their spunk:

"We got at least 80 covered today, so every single camera in the borough is either deactivated or is being covered with a placard today. We've put messages out on social media advertising the fact it is only for three hours, so drivers can do what they would normally do – like visit a relative in hospital, without being fined."

These protesters, though zealous, are being kind and non-violent, not something you see often today with the Climate Change protesters. Both sides are angry; one side is civil. The other, a little less so …

In response to the widespread civil disobedience, the mayor's office has been forced to deploy surveillance vans to enforce the green taxes. Khan has also reportedly hired a "goon squad" of masked men to roam the streets and forcibly, and allegedly violently, prevent the public from disabling the spy cameras.

Khan's chief rival in the May mayoral election, Susan Hall, isn't pleased with all this. She stated publicly,

"It is shameful that Sadiq Khan has consistently misled Londoners about his ULEZ expansion. It is nothing but a tax grab that only has a negligible effect on air quality.

"We know his staff leant on scientists to change their findings and he is taking hundreds of millions from the poorest Londoners. I will scrap the ULEZ expansion on day one of my Mayoralty, no ifs, no buts."

May Susan Hall have the last word.

No, CNN and Other Media Outlets, Climate Change Is Not Causing the Ocean Circulation to Collapse

By Anthony Watts

A recent CNN headline, "Critical Atlantic Ocean current system is showing early signs of collapse, prompting warning from scientists" misleads its readers into believing that a collapse of a critical Atlantic Ocean current is pending. This is false.

The CNN article opens by saying:

A crucial system of ocean currents may already be on course to collapse, according to a new report, with alarming implications for sea level rise and global weather — leading temperatures to plunge dramatically in some regions and rise in others.

The CNN story is referring to a study in Science Advances, titled Physics-based early warning signal shows that AMOC is on tipping course.

Dozens of other media outlets picked up the story, also running frightening headlines, all blaming climate change. For example:

Atlantic Ocean circulation nearing 'devastating' tipping point, study finds, (The Guardian)

AMOC current from 'Day After Tomorrow' is on path to collapse: Study (USA Today)

The crucial tipping point scientists say could cause Atlantic Ocean collapse (The Washington Post)

This episode is yet another "tipping point" scare for the ocean currents, and one that has been debunked multiple times at Climate Realism.

Despite the title, rather than being "physics-based" the research published is actually "climate model-based," describing an outcome projected by a single climate model's calculation for the distant future for the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Current (AMOC). The AMOC is also part of the well-known "Gulf Stream" current. Here's what the AMOC pattern of currents looks like. **See Figure 1**

Figure 1 – Pictorial of the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Current (AMOC). The Atlantic AMOC covers the entire Atlantic Ocean in both hemispheres. Warm (near-surface) currents are shown in red, cold deep return currents in blue. The small circles show areas with strong eddy activity. Graphic: C. Böning/M. Scheinert, GEOMAR.

However, behind the scary headlines pushed by the mainstream media is this one immutable fact buried in the study: the supposed AMOC tipping point will not occur until 1758 years from now, in the year 3782 AD. This is clearly shown in figure 1A from the paper which is reproduced in Figure 2 below.

In other words, even if the study turns out to be true, there is absolutely no threat during lifetime of any person living today, or their children, or grandchildren. Or their great, great, great, great grandchildren, many generations in the future. Yet the mainstream media irresponsibly reports results of this study as if the collapse of the AMOC is just around the corner. **See Figure 2**

Figure 2 – The AMOC strength at 1000 m and 26°N, where the yellow shading indicates observed ranges in our present day. The cyan-colored lines indicate the magnitude of FH. The red arrow indicates the AMOC tipping point in model year 1758 which is the year 3782 AD. Source: Figure 1A from https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/sciadv.adk1189#body-ref-R2

The reporting on the study is also irresponsible for failing to acknowledge the recent research suggesting that AMOC has been speeding up or strengthening in recent years, as described in a 2018 study.

The Scientific Advances' study's conclusion is predicated on a single climate model, the Community Earth System Model (CESM), projecting far into the future and it's also predicated on an amount of ice melt that has not happened in our lifetimes. Even then, the CESM had to have its pump primed with unrealistic meltwater data in order for the researchers to come to the conclusion they got. What they did was to run the model, then add modeled freshwater very gradually to the modeled North Atlantic, presumably simulating a melting of the Greenland ice which might shut down the AMOC.

There's only one problem; the amount of freshwater from melting that they injected into the model is about five times the actual amount of ice available in Greenland to melt.

The study reports that 14,629,305 cubic kilometers of modeled fresh water were added to the model. Yet, the National Snow and Ice Data Center says: (bold mine)

The Greenland Ice Sheet contains about 2.9 million cubic kilometers (0.7 million cubic miles) of ice. The ice sheet extends about 1.7 million square kilometers (656,000 square miles), covering 80 percent of the world's largest island, and is equivalent to about three times the size of Texas. It contains about 2.9 million cubic kilometers (696,000 cubic miles) of ice. Simple math shows the water volume inflation factor: 14,629,305/2,900,00 = 5.044.So, the researchers used an amount of melted ice that was impossible to occur because that much ice doesn't exist in Greenland. This sort of irresponsible use of a climate model seems to have as its related goals – to grab headlines, inspire fear, and motivate government action.

Of course, the media completely missed the facts about the timing in the distant future and water volume used to goose the model, that completely negate the study and render it moot, but instead blasted out scary headlines as if doom were imminent. Journalism is supposed to check facts, as Climate Realism does daily. Instead, they rushed to publication and in the process published blatantly false information and tried to blame present day climate change.

The media also missed the fact that about 12,500 years ago the AMOC slowed down and in fact the planet's weather and temperature changed during that time. The Younger Dryas Climate Event occurred about 12,900 to 11,700 years ago. Many of the climate changes related to that event were likely a response to increased freshwater discharge to the North Atlantic and the reduction in AMOC strength. That basically signaled the end of the most recent ice age, beginning the time when Earth became more habitable for humans, and sedentary agriculture began. Shortly after that, in geologic time the blinking of an eye, the first nascent, large-scale civilizations began developing.

This all occurred well before climate change was even a twinkle in the eye of climate catastrophists and was a completely natural event unrelated to modern day concerns.

On the status of the AMOC, the science itself, and the press reporting on it, are both bipolar. Some people in the climate debate seem to believe that "the science is settled," yet every few months the press bombards the public with stories diametrically opposed to what they reported was occurring with the AMOC just a few months prior. Heartland Institute president James Taylor tracked news articles on the topic over the last few years, compiling a list of dozens of news stories published since 2020, all citing research on the AMOC. But the research is contradictory. Studies, sometimes published within a year of each other, sometimes within the same year, come to contradictory conclusions. Some studies say the AMOC is slowing down and about to collapse, a tipping point for worsening extreme weather, others say the AMOC is speeding up which will lead to runaway weather. The reporting swings back and forth just a quickly, reporting diametrically opposed results as if both could be true.

Concerning the AMOC, not only is the science not settled, but the media doesn't have a clue concerning how to even determine if the science they are reporting on is grounded in fact and correct, or if the what they are writing about it is being reported accurately, or whether the conclusion of a particular study fits within the overall science on the AMOC. The reporting on this new study is yet another shameful example of the media putting their climate narrative scare stories ahead of actual facts: the AMOC is speeding up, or its declining, but in either case its bad for the world and governments need to act to prevents it, as if keeping the AMOC constant is even possible.

Anthony Watts is a senior fellow for environment and climate at The Heartland Institute. Watts has been in the weather business both in front of, and behind the camera as an on-air television meteorologist since 1978, and currently does daily radio forecasts. He has created weather graphics presentation systems for television, specialized weather instrumentation, as well as co-authored peer-reviewed papers on climate issues. He operates the most viewed website in the world on climate, the award-winning website wattsupwiththat.com.

Figure 1

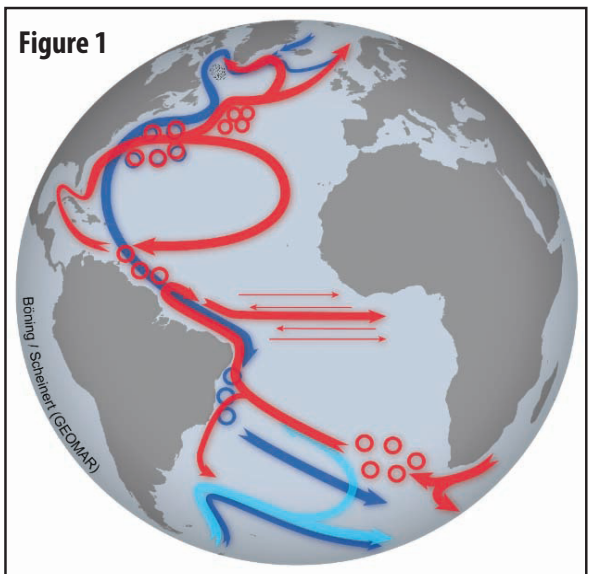
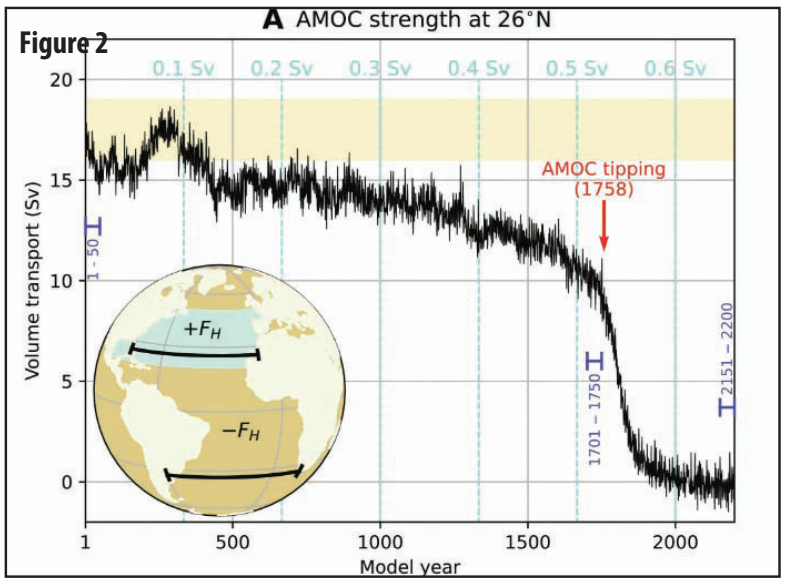


Figure 2



Election *cont. from page 10*

when it comes to trust in mail-in voting?

Regardless of the partisan divide, it is of paramount importance that the vast majority of all Americans have faith in elections. We do not want to live in a nation where only one side has confidence in electoral results. After all, that typically does not end well.

So, what can be done to avoid this terrible scenario? Can it even be avoided?

Fortunately, the answer to the latter is yes. As for the former, there is much that can be done to ensure election integrity.

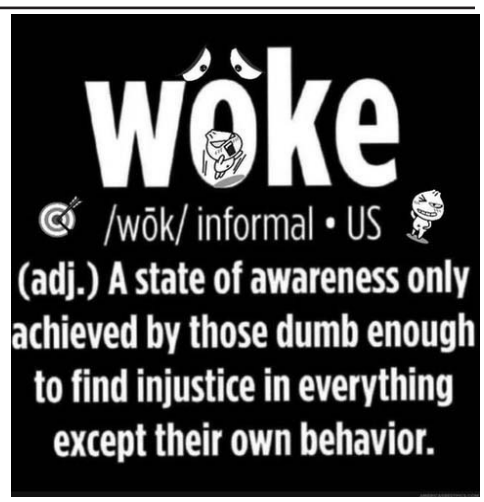
As outlined in the above Policy Study, there are several measures states can and should take to safeguard elections. When it comes to mail-in balloting, all 50 states should encourage their citizens to vote in-person, preferentially as close to Election Day as possible. Of course, a small portion of voters cannot physically go to the voting booth, which is why mail-in voting should be an exception, not the norm. It would also behoove states to shore up signature verification procedures, require a notary or witness signature on mail-in ballots, eliminate unattended and unsecure ballot drop boxes, as well as outlawing ballot harvesting. Lastly, states should annually clean their voter registration rolls, which are full of deceased voters and voters who no longer live at the address on the chronically outdated rolls. In terms of in-person voting, states should require identification to vote.

Undoubtedly, many on the left will decry these measures to reduce fraudulent voting. Yes, they will yell that it is tantamount to voter suppression. You can also bet they will play the race card.

But, those arguments are nonsense. Moreover, real world evidence says the opposite is true. Since 2020, a few states, namely Florida and Georgia, have instituted at least some of the policies recommended above. What happened? Voter turnout increased, particularly among minority voters.

With less than nine months before Election Day 2024, states don't have much time to waste. The time to act is now, not later.

The most significant right of all is the franchise—the right to vote. This sacred right must be defended at all costs. Every time an illegal vote is cast, it disenfranchises another. We must stop this madness before it is too late.



Climate Agenda *cont. from page 1*

assistance from "experts" who should — many probably do — know better.

Both agendas have involved the same sorts of crony constituencies, including globalist wealth redistribution proponents, "green energy" subsidy promoters and their government sponsors, ideologically biased "scientific authorities," and headline-hungry media reporters.

Very briefly summarized, the acid rain scare began in 1967 when Svante Odén, a Swedish soil scientist, wrote a widely circulated sensationalist article about forestry damage attributed to a "chemical war" between nations of Europe.

Odén's claim regarding the environmental impacts of industrial-sourced acid rain prompted a Swedish government investigation leading to a 1971 report clothed in scanty science which authoritatively concluded, "The [human] emission of sulfur [dioxide] into the atmosphere … has proved to be a major environmental problem."

One had to read 50 pages into the document to discover the all-important disclaimer: "It is very difficult to prove that damage, such as reduced growth rates due to the acidification of the soil and related changes in the plant nutrient situation, has in fact occurred."

In 1980, under President Jimmy Carter's prompting, the U.S. Congress passed legislation for a ten-year National Acid Precipitation Assessment Program (NAPAP).

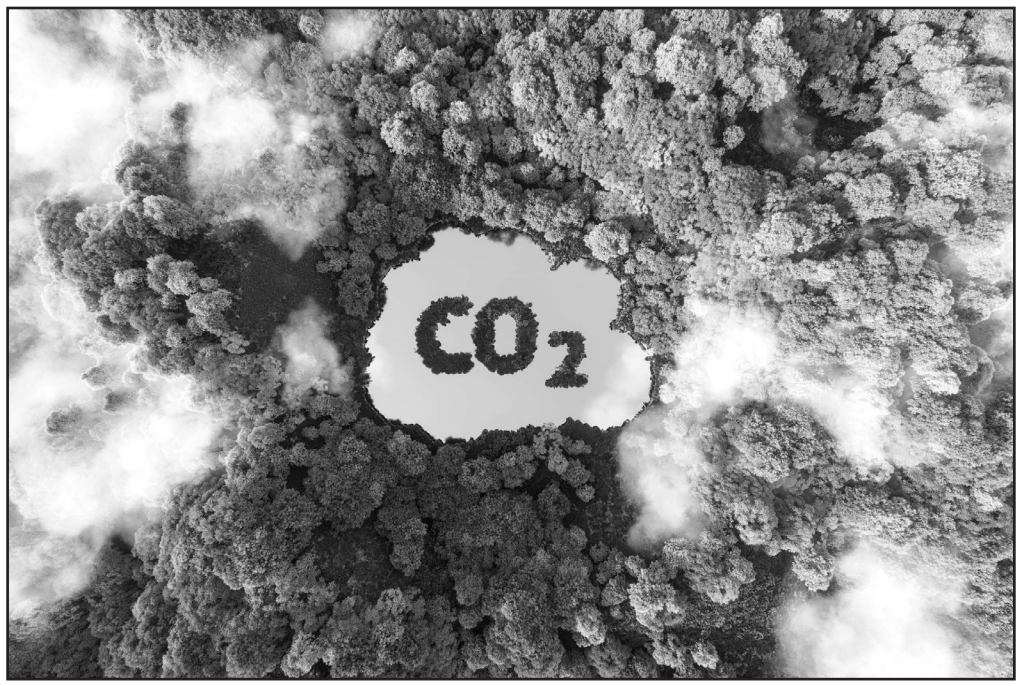
A subsequent 1987 review of more than 3,000 of those NAPAP model-based studies under the Reagan administration harshly criticized their poor overall scientific quality, also concluding, "The vast majority of forests of the United States and Canada are not affected by decline [emphasis in the original]."

Alas, that half-billion-dollar acid rain study yielded no "smoking gun."

Nevertheless, whereas neither the U.S. nor U.K. signed a 1985 Helsinki Protocol which committed Western parties to cut their sulfur dioxide (SO2) emissions to 30 percent below 1980 levels, media-fueled frenzy surrounding then-Sen. Al Gore's 1988 congressional hearings on global warming provided a dream opportunity for now-defunct Enron, one of the biggest SO2 trading market players, to also cash in on CO2 climate alarm.

Enron then owned the largest natural gas pipeline outside of Russia, and since higher CO2-emitting coal was its primary competition, a carbon cap-and-trade market modeled upon SO2 credit exchanges would be a huge boon to its business.

But there was one very pesky problem. Unlike SO2, which really does produce unhealthy smog, CO2 wasn't considered to be a pollutant — at least not yet — and therefore, EPA had no authority to regulate it.



So after Gore's Senate pal Timothy Wirth was appointed to become undersecretary of state for global affairs in the Clinton-Gore administration, Enron's boss, Kenneth Lay, began working closely with him to lobby Congress to grant EPA necessary CO2 regulatory authority plus gain public United Nations Kyoto Protocol support.

And lobby they did. Between 1994 and 1996, the Enron Foundation contributed nearly $1 million to an energetic and successful global warming fear campaign, which included attacks on scientific dissenters.

On Aug. 4, 1997, Enron's CEO Lay met with President Clinton and Vice President Gore in the White House to prepare a strategy for the upcoming U.N. Kyoto conference, pushing a global CO2 carbon trading market that both Gore and Enron coveted.

An internal Enron memorandum at that time stated that Kyoto would "do more to promote Enron's business than almost any other regulatory initiative outside the restructuring [of] the energy and natural gas industries in Europe and the United States."

Gore and his partner David Blood, the former chief of Goldman Sachs Asset Management, were poised to make windfall profits selling CO2 offsets as stakeholders in the Chicago Climate Exchange.

Speaking before a 2007 Joint House Hearing of the Energy Science Committee, Gore told members, "As soon as carbon has a price, you're going to see a wave [of investment] in it … There will be unchained investment."

Thanks to a 2010 Republican mid-term congressional House cleaning that didn't occur.

Instead, it was Enron that ultimately got capped, with its CEO Lay dying in prison.

Gore has fared far better, having harvested lots of green for that hot air he continues to peddle … enough to heat his 20-room mansion (not including eight bathrooms) and pool that consume more energy in a month than the average American household does in a year.

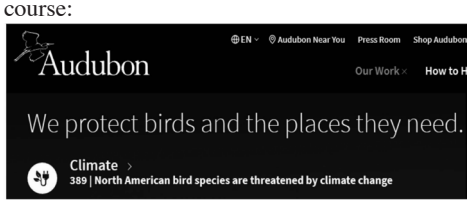
Meanwhile, SO2 blamed for forest damage and CO2 attributed to a looming climate disaster are both natural plant fertilizers that make the world greener.

This, as once again, costly emission-credit trading scams premised upon unsupportable crisis hyperbole benefit none of the rest of us.

Nope — not even Bambi.

High Time *cont. from page 12*

Other Side of the Story podcast, explained so well, wind turbines kill huge numbers of birds and bats. Yet, what is listed first on "Our Work" on the Audubon Society's web site? Climate, of course:



Clicking on "Climate" takes one to a webpage that highlights "The Audubon Guide to Climate Action" which then takes the reader to Your Climate Action Guide | Audubon headed by, get this, spinning industrial wind turbines, a screen capture of which appears as follows: **See Figure 4**

All that is missing are dead birds splattered across the landscape.

Every day consumers are always complaining about high prices caused by the increasing cost of fuel and all the products that require fuel to manufacture and transport. Conservative politicians take full advantage of that sentiment by attacking impositions such as Canada's "carbon tax." But do political leaders or the public at large condemn the climate scare causing these price spikes? Aside from former president Donald Trump and a handful of others, none do.

About the only group that is a victim of the climate scare which have started to criticize the underlying science are the pro-life lobby, some of whom have recognized the nefarious connection between the climate movement and the abortion industry. For example, the Ottawa, Canada chapter of the Campaign Life Coalition, "a national (Canada) pro-life organization working at all levels of government to secure full legal protection for all human beings, from the time of conception to natural death," brought me in for an evening of presentation and discussion in 2023. Similarly, LifeSiteNews.com, "a non-profit Internet news service dedicated to issues of life, family, and many related issues" recently published a four-part series I wrote advising pro-life activists how to fight back against the climate scare threatening their movement.

When I was in elementary school in Montreal, an aggressive boy who enjoyed hurting people, used to pick fights with me on the way home from school. At first, I was merely his victim, coming home with a black eye, bleeding lip and so on. So my father bought a punching bag and taught me how to fight effectively enough that I could defend myself. I eventually fought the bully to a draw and hurt him sufficiently that he instead eventually picked on boys who had not learned how to properly defend themselves. I am eternally in my father's debt as a consequence.



But, before I learned how to fight, I discovered that other boys were also being picked on by the same delinquent and I tried to organize the victims to stand up to the bully as a group. Of course, we could have easily stopped the bully in his tracks if we had just stuck together, making it clear to him that an attack on one of us was an attack on all of us and then he would pay a serious price. But the victims were all too frightened and so continued to give him their hockey sticks, pucks, chocolate bars or whatever else he demanded and then run away after being punched in the head a few times.

The same thing is happening with the groups that are victims of the climate scare. Each of them, with, as I say, the recent exception of some in the pro-life lobby, are giving climate bullies exactly what they want—the power to control how they run their organizations, what priorities they establish and, ultimately, in the case of many of the companies, acceptance of their own guilt and eventual demise because they are too frightened to stand up and fight them uno a uno.

Imagine if all of them—coal, oil, gas, cement, automotive and electricity companies, ranchers and farmers, bird-lovers, pro-life advocates and ordinary citizens and the politicians who pretend to represent them—stood up to their shared enemy, climate activists and their supporters in government and the press, and announced,

"We are convening open hearings of scientists from diverging points of view on climate change so the public can finally hear what is really going on in the climate science community."

If such hearings were held, the public would quickly learn that the science of climate change is anything but settled and is actually diverging away from the hypothesis that humanity is causing dangerous climate change. Politicians, fearing a violent backlash from their constituents, would drop the climate file like a hot potato and all of us would benefit immensely.

If these groups are too frightened to do this, an obvious alternative would be for them to help fund the next International Conference on Climate Change organized and run by The Heartland Institute, the most recent of which may be viewed at WATCH THE WHOLE CONFERENCE - 15th International Conference on Climate Change (heartland.org). Then entities funding the conference would use their considerable public and government relations departments to promote the conference in every way possible—press releases, newspaper articles, radio and TV interviews and advertisements, billboards, social media announcements, published transcripts and books, editorial board meetings with major media, meetings with government officials, and so on—to make sure millions of citizens would get the message loud and clear:

"There is no climate emergency. Efforts to solve this imaginary crisis will leave us bankrupt, hungry and freezing in the dark for no environmental benefit."

And then the victims of the climate scare can finally say to the climate change bullies,

"We have had it with your aggressive behaviour and will no longer kowtow to your demands to prioritize actions to address a crisis that many scientists say does not exist."

Breaking--AAPS Files Amicus Brief Against Biden Administration's Censorship

By Peter McCullough, MD

Please see this press release from AAPS:

"The Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS) filed an amicus curiae brief, on February 7, in the U.S. Supreme Court in opposition to the censorship imposed by the Biden Administration by pressuring social media to take down postings critical of Covid vaccination. Set for oral argument on Monday, March 18, this is one of the biggest cases before the Supreme Court this term.

Our national motto is not "In Vaccines We Trust," or even "In Government We Trust," AAPS states. "The right to criticize vaccines and government mandates of vaccines should not be abridged as brazenly sought" by the Biden Administration and its allies.

The AAPS amicus brief explains that "vaccine hesitancy" is not a psychological condition, as proponents of censorship pretend, "but rather is justified self-defense against a government that abuses its power by imposing vaccine mandates."

Citing many historical examples of vaccine failures, this brief points out that the "right to criticize a vaccine is essential especially when government flagrantly ignores safety issues," as the Biden Administration has concerning Covid vaccines.

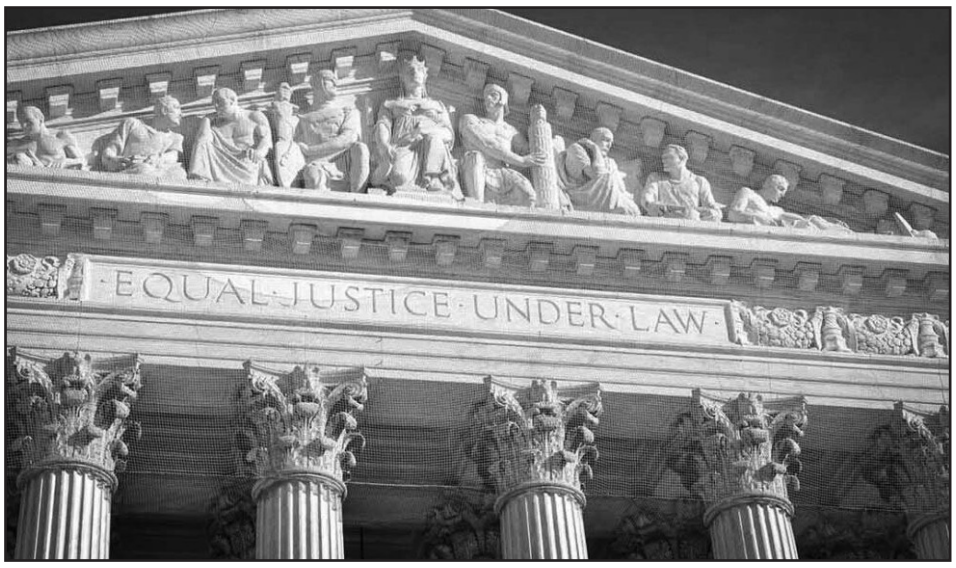
"The Surgeon General of Florida, our third largest state, cannot obtain answers from the Biden Administration about safety concerns with Covid vaccines," states Andrew Schlafly as General Counsel of AAPS. "Instead of censoring issues raised about the Covid vaccines on social media, the Biden Administration officials should be providing answers to the questions raised," he added.

The AAPS brief is particularly critical of an amicus brief filed by the AMA and other groups supportive of Biden's vaccination policies. "If adopted, the AMA Amici's arguments would green-light government censorship of the presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., whose motion to intervene in this case to protect his First Amendment rights was denied by this Court," AAPS's brief points out.

"When the federal government tells social media platforms to take action against postings, then our basic free speech rights are gravely endangered," Mr. Schlafly observes. This case is captioned Murthy v. Biden (formerly Missouri v. Biden) (U.S. Sup. Ct. 23-411).

Thus far, AAPS and American Frontline Doctors (AFLDS) have filed briefs supporting free speech on important medical issues including vaccine safety in this landmark Supreme Court Case. Medical organizations filing briefs encouraging government censorship in the media and social media sadly include the American Medical Association, American Academy of Family Medicine, American College of Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Geriatrics Society.

I am a proud member of the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons which is one of the oldest medical societies, founded in 1943 as a pro-patient association of physicians who are in the practice of private medicine. Its motto means "all for the patient." Please consider supporting AAPS as they gear up to fight for your personal medical freedom which includes the honest opinion and free speech of your doctors in the exam room and in the media.



Landmark Covid vaccine injury win

By Rebekah Barnett

The Department of Child Protection (DCP) must pay compensation and medical expenses to a youth worker who developed pericarditis after getting a Covid booster under a workplace vaccination directive, the South Australian Employment Tribunal has ruled.

In a decision handed down on 15 January 2024, the Tribunal determined that Daniel Shepherd's employment was "a significant contributing cause" to his injury, which has since rendered him incapable of performing his role at work.

Shepherd got a Covid booster in February 2022 as a requirement for his ongoing employment with the DCP. The DCP admitted that Shepherd's pericarditis had been caused by the booster, but denied responsibility for the injury, arguing that it did not arise from Shepherd's employment, but from a lawful State Government Public Health Order (PHO), issued under the Emergency Management Act 2004 (EMA).

However, the Tribunal rejected the DCP's argument, deciding that because the injury arose as a result of both the state-directed vaccination mandate and his employment, Mr Shepherd was entitled to workers compensation.

"This is a good decision" says human rights lawyer Peter Fam, of Sydney law firm Maat's Method, noting that it sets an important precedent for holding employers accountable for injuries incurred as a result of vaccination directives enforced in the workplace.

"The most significant aspect of this case, in my opinion, is that even though there was a Public Health Order in place, the Tribunal found the employer responsible anyway," says Fam.

Sydney lawyer Peter Fam, of Maat's Method

Many Australian employers have sought to deflect responsibility for injuries incurred under workplace Covid vaccine directives on the basis that they were simply following state government orders.

However, under workers compensation law, the workplace is liable if employment is "a significant contributing cause of the injury," regardless of whether other factors also contributed, explains Fam.

Therefore, despite the PHO stipulating that the worker must be vaccinated as a part of his employment, "the Tribunal still found that the injury he suffered as a result of the vaccine was sufficiently related to his work and his employment for him to be compensated by the employer."

Dr Rado Faletic, a vaccine-injured scientist and Co-Founder/Director of Covid vaccine injury support charity COVERSE, says that the Tribunal decision sends "a clear signal to employers that they have a duty of care to their employees regardless of what governments impose upon them."

Yet, many Covid vaccine injured Australians are still falling through the cracks, says Dr Faletic.

Dr Rado Faletic, Co-Founder and Director, COVERSE

Based on the testimonies of injured Australians who have registered their details with COVERSE, Dr Faletic says that in cases where the injuries are acknowledged by the Theraupeutic Goods Adminstration (TGA), such as myo- or pericarditis, they are more likely to win workers compensation.

However, "when it comes to people with unacknowledged diagnoses or unclear diagnoses, this is where people are struggling to get compensated," says Dr Faletic.

Fam agrees that the fact that "there was no dispute" that Shepherd's pericarditis injury was vaccine-related (the diagnosis was documented by two cardiologists) would have been beneficial to his case. Less common diagnoses "will be the challenge because there's still a lot of fear with doctors and medical professionals in admitting causation," says Fam.

Dr Faletic is encouraged by the outcome, but remains highly critical of the lack of alternative pathways for Covid vaccine-injured Australians to receive support.

"For many injured Australians who have already lost a lot of money because of their injury, they just don't have the resources to pay for lawyers to fight for compensation in the courts. Some are accepting paltry compensation offers that don't even cover their costs because they don't have the resources to fight it," laments Dr Faletic.

"The only remaining recourse is to rely on the government compensation scheme, but the parameters are way too narrow," he adds. Indeed, in the first 18 months of the Services Australia compensation scheme, only 164 out of a total of 3,160 claims had been approved, which is less than 5%.

The inadequacy of compensation options available to Australians injured by the Covid vaccines prompted Whitsundays GP, Dr Melissa McCann, to initiate a Covid vaccine injury class action, which filed in the Federal Court in April 2023, and is still taking on members.

The action seeks to hold the TGA to account for alleged, "negligence, breach of statutory duty and misfeasance in public office" in its failure to properly approve and monitor the Covid vaccines, resulting in harms to Australians.

Another class action is in development, with a member of the legal team having experience in several successful class actions on behalf of bushfire victims.

Dr Melissa McCann outside the Federal Court, Sydney, April 2023

Nevertheless, Fam believes the South Australian Tribunal decision is an important step forward because, "Employers are on notice that they are liable for injuries suffered as a result of their policies and directions."

Fam concludes, reflectively, "Sometimes corporations and government departments have to actually experience the consequences of their actions before they think twice and correct course… It's really sad that it's taking people being seriously injured and killed for that to happen.

"Cases like this will mean that employers are reluctant to implement policies enforcing medical procedures in the future, which is great, because they were never qualified to do so in the first place."





FDA *cont. from page 1*

the failed campaign, I was asked on Outside the Beltway with John Fredericks "why is the government still pushing vaccines?"

I told him that the FDA has essentially become a marketing unit for Pfizer Moderna. The FDA should be an unbiased regulator protecting Americans from drug safety issues. Instead Commissioner Robert Califf, MD, and Peter Marks, M.D., Ph.D. the director of the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER) at the Food and Drug Administration have been promoting boosters. Under no circumstances should the FDA promote the use of any drug or vaccine.

Most members of Congress are vaccinated (72% in 2021) and are having a very difficult time coming to grips with the personal psychological regret of what they have done to themselves, potentially their families, and constituents. You can readily identify this when striking up a conversation on vaccine safety getting the quick retort "I don't want to talk about it."

Victory! SEC Drops 'Natural Asset Companies'

By Committee For A Constructive Tomorrow

Read CFACT's official Submission to SEC: "Natural asset companies" are a ploy by the anti-development crowd to thwart safe and constructive land use. The SEC should not sanction non-use over optimal use of resources.

To: Securities and Exchange Commission

From: Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow

Re: Order Instituting Proceedings: "Self-Regulatory Organizations; New York Stock Exchange LLC; Order Instituting Proceedings to Determine Whether to Approve or Disapprove a Proposed Rule Change to Amend the NYSE Manual to Adopt Listing Standards for Natural Asset Companies"

File No.: SR-NYSE-2023-09

The Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow (CFACT), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is pleased to submit comments to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) on a proposed rule change by the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) creating Natural Asset Companies (NACs), which would be traded on the NYSE. The SEC is seeking comments on whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change. CFACT has grave concerns about this proposal and they are explained below.

The SEC was created in the aftermath of the stock market crash of October 24, 1929. Two landmark statutes, the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, set the parameters of the SEC. At its inception, the new federal entity had a mission statement that is worth bearing in mind:

"The Securities and Exchange Commission oversees securities exchanges, securities brokers, investment advisors, and mutual funds in an effort to promote fair dealing, the disclosure of important market information, and to prevent fraud."

Under the proposed rule, the NYSE would add to its Listed Company Manual the listing of common equity securities of National Asset Companies, or NACs. According to the proposed rule, this would be "a corporation The SEC should not sanction non-use over optimal use of resources, whose primary purpose would be to actively manage, maintain, restore (as applicable), and grow the values of natural assets and their production of ecosystem services." Notably, the proposed rule characterizes "the distinct purpose of a NAC" as "protect[ing] and grow[ing] the natural assets under its management." The proposed rule also specifically defines the term "Natural Asset Companies (NACs)" as "[c]orporations that hold the rights to the ecological performance of a defined area and have the authority to manage the areas for conservation, restoration, or sustainable management."

Origins Rooted in Cronyism

NACs, as a concept, owe their existence to Intrinsic Exchange Group Inc. (IEG). According to a September 2021 press release by the Rockefeller Foundation, "IEG was founded in 2017 by entrepreneur and environmentalist Douglas Eger. IEG received critical funding from IDB Lab, Inter-American Development Bank, The Rockefeller Foundation, and Aberdare Ventures and Intrinsic Entertaining Ideas." It is worth noting that The Rockefeller Foundation alone donated $750,000 to IEG in 2019 and $1 million to IEG in 2021, according to comments on the proposed rule already submitted to the SEC.

The Rockefeller Foundation's press release indicates that NACs are a joint project of the NYSE and IEG. The release quotes Eger as follows:

"This new asset class on the NYSE will create a virtuous cycle of investment in nature that will help finance sustainable development for communities, companies, and countries[.] … Together, IEG and the NYSE will enable investors to access nature's store of wealth and transform our industrial our industrial economy into one that is more equitable." (emphasis added)

The release goes on to quote NYSE's then-president Stacy Cunningham as follows:

"With the introduction of Natural Asset Companies, the NYSE will provide investors with an innovative mechanism to financially support the sustainability initiatives they deem critical to our future. Our partnership with Intrinsic Exchange Group is another example of the NYSE tapping into our community to drive meaningful progress on ESG [environmental, social, and governance) issues with a solutions-based approach[.]" (emphasis added)

In addition to the open acknowledgement of cozy relationships between the NYSE and other entities supporting the creation of NACs, key terms or phrases like "community," "communities," "equitable," "our future," "virtuous," "sustainable," "sustainability," "sustainable development," and transform" are conspicuously left undefined in both the Rockefeller Foundation press release and in the proposed rule. Furthermore, the release admits that "the value created by NACS is not fully captured by traditional economic metrics." This is another way of saying that NACs will not and cannot make a profit. NACs will invest in "nature" where the only value created is the purported protection of nature.

In other words, NACs would not be investment vehicles into which ordinary Americans can put their money with a reasonable expectation of receiving a good return. Instead, they would be state-sanctioned instruments of environmental policy as favored by narrow, if powerful, elites ensconced in wealthy foundations, the United Nations, and the NYSE, and corporations with well-positioned bureaucrats in federal agencies.

Nowhere is this more obvious than in the role NACs would play in serving as a funding mechanism for the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) recent proposed rule, "Conservation and Landscape Health," which would authorize BLM to grant "conservation leases" on public lands. BLM assures the public that such leases would be "for the purpose of ensuring ecosystem resilience through protecting, managing, or restoring natural environments, cultural or historic resources, and ecological communities, including species and their habitats." The proposed BLM rule provides that "once the BLM has issued a conservation lease, the BLM shall not authorize any other uses of the leased lands that are inconsistent with the authorized conservation use." (emphasis added)

In short, the NYSE's rule is an effort to circumvent federal laws governing how public lands are to be managed, not least the 1976 Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLMPA). FLPMA mandates that BLM manage public lands "on the basis of multiple use and sustained yield." This means that BLM must provide for a "combination of balanced and diverse uses," of which the "principle or major uses" include, "and are limited to, domestic livestock grazing, fish and wildlife development and utilization, mineral exploration and production, rights-of-way, outdoor recreation, and timber production." Nothing in FLMPA authorizes the granting of "conservation leases," and the BLM rule's restrictions on productive economic uses of lands under such a lease put it at odds with congressional intent as clearly laid out in FLPMA.

By violating the clear language of FLPMA, the proposed BLM rule is illegal and is destined to be overturned by the courts. Yet its provision creating "conservation leases" is inextricably linked to the NACs rule currently before the SEC. Such leases will not provide financial returns to the leaseholders. On the contrary, they are specifically designed to lock up lands to prohibit any economic use thereof. So which entities would sink money into the unprofitable leases?

The answer is NACs. Like conservation leases, NACs are not designed to make money. NACs are strictly limited in their ability to conduct "revenue-generating" operations and can only do so if those operations are "consistent with" the NAC's "primary purpose," under which the operation will "not cause any material adverse impact on the natural assets" under the NAC's control.

"Not in Accordance with Law"

As the Attorney Generals from 25 states noted in comments submitted to the SEC on January 9, 2024:

"The BLM rule authorizes BLM to issue leases that limit public lands to no use or to extremely limited uses. The NYSE's proposed rule change in turn provides the mechanism by which companies can obtain the funding necessary to pay for those money-losing leases. In this way, the proposed rule is part of an interlocking scheme designed to facilitate another agency's violation of the law – namely, BLM's issuance of illegal 'conservation leases.' Facilitating another agency's violations is a textbook example of ultra vires agency action 'not in accordance with law.'"

Furthermore, FLPMA does not define conservation as a principle or major use of public lands. The NAC rule cannot categorically dismiss these clear multiple-use and sustained yield FLPMA directives. Given the shaky legal ground on which the NYSE proposed NACs rule stands, it has little chance of surviving what promises to be a multitude of court challenges. Additionally, the economic and social harm to everyday Americans by the scheme's plan to lock up so much of the nation's natural resources in perpetuity is incalculable. For these reasons, CFACT urges the SEC to reject the proposed NAC rule in toto. Only in this way can the SEC remain true to its mission statement cited above.

VICTORY: Natural Asset Companies defeated – for now

By Gabriella Hoffman

"I am pleased by the NYSE's decision to withdraw this dangerous proposal. I appreciate the efforts of so many to provide input to the SEC, NYSE, and their elected representatives. This news illustrates the impact of public engagement on important issues. The proposed creation of Natural Asset Companies is one of the greatest threats to rural communities in the history of our nation. Under the proposal, private interests, including foreign-controlled sovereign wealth funds, could use their capital to purchase or manage farmland, national and state parks, and other mineral-rich areas and stop essential economic activities like farming, grazing, and energy extraction." — Utah Treasurer Marlo Oaks

Gabriella Hoffman is a Media Strategist and Award-Winning Outdoor Writer. She hosts the "District of Conservation" podcast and CFACT's original YouTube series "Conservation Nation." Learn more about her work at www.gabriellahoffman.com

Victory *cont. from page 1*

that the anti-land use crowd was seeking permission to lock up land by creating these so-called "natural asset companies," CFACT took action.

We first joined forces with our good friends at the American Stewards of Liberty and put this on the radar of many politicians and policy outfits. We did this, for example, at our 30x30 property rights conference we co-sponsored with them in Dallas last September.

We also sent in comments opposing NACs to the SEC. Read our detailed regulatory submission at CFACT.org.

CFACT senior policy analyst Bonner Cohen explains that, "natural asset companies" are a ploy "designed not to make money for investors, but to serve as an instrument for the imposition of illegal and unconstitutional environmental policy on millions of acres of private and public lands across the United States."

Utah Treasurer Marlo Oaks told CFACT's Gabriella Hoffman that:

I am pleased by the NYSE's decision to withdraw this dangerous proposal. I appreciate the efforts of so many to provide input to the SEC, NYSE, and their elected representatives. This news illustrates the impact of public engagement on important issues. The proposed creation of Natural Asset Companies is one of the greatest threats to rural communities in the history of our nation. Under the proposal, private interests, including foreign-controlled sovereign wealth funds, could use their capital to purchase or manage farmland, national and state parks, and other mineral-rich areas and stop essential economic activities like farming, grazing, and energy extraction.

Treasurer Oaks could not be more right. It is important that we who value freedom and prosperity participate fully in the public policy process, and that we do so to the highest standard of scholarship.

CFACT is proud to have joined the effort to block the damage "natural asset companies" would do to America.

We'll keep vigilant watch for the Greens to try again.

Puzzle Answers

1	9	2	5	7	4	8	6	3
4	7	6	9	3	8	2	1	5
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9	6	7	3	1	5	4	2	8
3	1	4	6	8	2	7	5	9
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6	8	3	2	9	1	5	7	4
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A	D	S	■	E	C	O	N	O	M	Y	■	R	I	G
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The Sandstorm: An Act Of War

By Larry Sand

"A Nation At Risk" sounded alarms over 40 years ago, but we keep hitting the snooze button.

In April 1983, U.S. Secretary of Education Terrell Bell created the National Commission on Excellence in Education, directing it to "examine the quality of education in the United States." The panel found that "the educational foundations of our society are presently being eroded by a rising tide of mediocrity that threatens our very future as a Nation and a people."

The report famously asserted, "If an unfriendly foreign power had attempted to impose on America the mediocre educational performance that exists today, we might have viewed it as an act of war." It also insists that "…academic excellence [is] the primary goal of schooling [and it] seems to be fading across… American education."

Edward B. Fiske, education editor of the New York Times at the time, described the report as "35 pages that "shook the U.S. education world [becoming] one of the most significant documents in the history of American public education."

Sadly, however, a 1998 Hoover Institution report revealed that "little has changed" and that the nation was still very much at risk.

Here we are in 2024, over 40 years after the alarm bells sounded, and what have we done about the "act of war?"

Not much at all. What follows is a very brief overview of our current condition.

Learning deficiencies persist

The 2022 NAEP, or "Nation's Report Card," discloses that nationwide, 29% of the nation's 8th-graders are proficient in reading, while just 26% are proficient in math.

The average scores on the American College Testing (ACT) exams, which are used for college admission, have fallen the last six years in a row and are the worst since 1991. The average scores for reading, math, and science all fell below benchmark levels that are necessary for students to have a chance at succeeding in their first year of college.

Too many Americans are not smart enough to join the Army

In 2022, the U.S. Army missed its recruiting goal by about 15,000 soldiers — or 25%.

While there are many reasons for this, a 2010 analysis from The Education Trust reports that too many of the nation's high school graduates have not been adequately prepared to serve in the U.S. Army. "Shut Out of the Military," the first-ever public analysis of the Army's Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, reveals that more than one in five young people interested in enlisting don't meet the minimum eligibility standard required for the Army because they don't have "the reading, mathematics, science and problem-solving abilities that it takes to pass the enlistment exam, which is designed specifically to identify the skills and knowledge needed to be a good soldier."

The study puts the blame on America's educational system.

Covid and missing students

Our education establishment badly damaged children by forcing schools across the country to shut down when COVID hit. That action caused massive learning loss, and it subsequently led to an alarming uptick in student absenteeism.

According to an analysis from the American Enterprise Institute:

-Post-pandemic attendance has been far from consistent. Nationwide, chronic absenteeism—the percentage of students missing at least 10% of a school year—surged from 15% in 2018 to 28% in 2022.

-Falling in 33 of 39 states reporting data, chronic absenteeism rates improved in 2023 but still remained 75% higher than the pre-pandemic baseline.

-Chronic absenteeism increased for all district types, but rates were highest in districts with low achievement and higher poverty, affecting over one in three students.

-In 2022, 16% of Asian students and 24% of white students were chronically absent, compared to 36% of Hispanic students and 39% of black students.

-The urgent need to recover from pandemic learning loss will be severely hampered by current rates of chronic absenteeism, making it the most pressing post-pandemic problem in public schools.

Teacher training and licensing

While it's true that the average teacher has more education than the average private sector worker, much of the added study is in our schools of education, which the renowned economics professor Walter Williams referred to as "the academic slums of most any college." A 2011 paper in the journal Education Policy Analysis Archives backs up Williams' assertion, finding that education majors are subject to considerably "lower grading standards" than other college students.)

Additionally, the National Council on Teacher Quality reports that California and most other states aren't doing enough to support and train teachers to teach literacy effectively. In fact, only 12 states were rated strong in this area.

Heather Peske, president of NCTQ, explains, "While states are rightly prioritizing literacy, they are not focusing enough attention on teacher effectiveness and teacher capacity to teach reading aligned to the science. If these efforts are to succeed … the state needs to ensure that teachers are prepared and supported from the time that they are in teacher preparation programs to the time that they enter classrooms."

The NCTQ report also found that 28 states have "weak licensure tests" and "leave it to outside accreditors to approve how teachers are prepared."

We spend valuable teaching time on wokeism

Instead, of teaching traditional basics, many schools have become indoctrination factories. Jered Ratliff, an Oregon high school math teacher, delivered a lecture called "Mathematics as a tool of oppression" at the Northwest Mathematics Conference in Portland on Oct. 14, which was sponsored by the University of Oregon. Ratliff's description of the lecture reads. "Mathematics is our single most powerful academic building block, but the power it holds frequently allows it to inhibit discovery and societal good."

In California, Jill Tucker reports, that a Hayward elementary school struggling to boost low test scores and dismal student attendance spent $250,000 in federal money for an organization called Woke Kindergarten to train teachers to "confront white supremacy, disrupt racism and oppression and remove those barriers to learning."

And then there is the annual Black Lives Matter Week of Action which is celebrated this year the week of February 5. The educators who champion this group will spend an entire week primarily talking about equity, social justice and victimhood.

It's worth noting that the percentage of black teens who seriously considered suicide rose 69 percentage points from 13% in 2011 to a startling 22% in 2021. While there are many causes for this, the ongoing leftwing mantra that racism is ubiquitous and that it hampers black Americans' road to success is certainly one cause.

The infusion of sex-related issues is front and center

And then there is the ubiquitous sexual obsession of many teachers and schools. Typical is Los Angeles, where the school district proudly hosts a "Rainbow Club," a 10-week district-wide virtual club for "LGBTQ+ elementary school students, their friends and their grown-ups." The poster specifies that it's for children in TK-5th grade. ("TK" or transitional kindergarten is comprised of 4-year-olds.)

Additionally, Los Angeles schools devoted an entire week in October to celebrate "National Coming Out Day." A "Week of Action Toolkit – Elementary," sent from the school district, outlines suggested lesson plans for elementary students around LGBTQ+ topics. The toolkit includes an "Identity Map activity," the purpose of which is for "students to think critically about identity and intersectionality." It's important to note that every second spent on this type of sexual engineering propaganda is time when students could be learning traditional subjects.

The teachers' unions are a big part of the problem

The teachers' unions certainly bear much of the blame for our educational downturn. Two of their prime objectives are to decimate charter schools and quash any measures that enable parents to avail themselves of private school choice. The unions further educational rot by enforcing tenure and seniority rules, which guarantee that subpar and even criminal teachers stay on the job. They also pushed heavily for school closures during the time of COVID and regularly promote woke curricula.

To ensure their goals are met, the unions strongly support politicians who will do their political bidding. In fact, the National Education Association spent twice as much on politics in 2021 as it did on representing its members – $66 million compared to $32 million, according to the union's latest LM2, a report that must be filed with the federal Department of Labor. Additionally, Open Secrets reports that over 99% of the union's political spending went to Democrats.

Student spending and the teacher shortage

The education establishment is forever pleading to increase spending. But over the last 40 years, our per-student outlay has about doubled – in inflation-adjusted dollars – and we have nothing to show for it.

Regarding the alleged teacher shortage, more bushwa. Nationally, class size has been shrinking over time. Since 1921, the student-to-teacher ratio has been reduced from 33:1 to 16:1.

Americans are becoming dissatisfied

A 2023 Gallup poll reveals that Americans have soured on public schools. Just 26% of respondents indicate a "Great deal/Fair amount" of confidence in our government-run schools.

American colleges have also fallen out of favor. Another 2023 poll from Gallup shows that public confidence in universities and colleges has plunged since 2015, finding that only 36% of Americans now express "a great deal" or "quite a lot" of confidence in higher education, compared to 57% who expressed those views in 2015.

Final Thoughts

The best case scenario for changing course would be to get the government completely out of the education business. But barring that highly unlikely event, all citizens must demand that their legislators institute a system of universal school choice.

Until then, the future of our children and the nation will become even riskier than it is now, and we will continue to lose the war.

Larry Sand, a retired 28-year classroom teacher, is the president of the non-profit California Teachers Empowerment Network – a non-partisan, non-political group dedicated to providing teachers and the general public with reliable and balanced information about professional affiliations and positions on educational issues. The views presented here are strictly his own.

Trillions Spent on 'Climate Change' Based on Faulty Temperature Data, Climate Experts Say

By Katie Spence

To preserve a "livable planet," the Earth can't warm more than 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, the United Nations warns.

Failure to maintain that level could lead to several catastrophes, including increased droughts and weather-related disasters, more heat-related illnesses and deaths, and less food and more poverty, according to NASA.

To avert the looming tribulations and limit global temperature increases, 194 member states and the European Union in 2016 signed the U.N. Paris Agreement, a legally binding international treaty with a goal to "substantially reduce global greenhouse gas emissions."

After the agreement, global spending on climate-related projects increased exponentially.

In 2021 and 2022, the world's taxpayers spent, on average, $1.3 trillion on such projects each year, according to the nonprofit advisory group Climate Policy Initiative.That's more than double the spending rate in 2019 and 2020, which came in at $653 billion per year, and it's significantly up from the $364 billion per year in 2011 and 2012, the report found.

Despite the money pouring in, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) reported that 2023 was the hottest year on record.

NOAA's climate monitoring stations found that the Earth's average land and ocean surface temperature in 2023 was 1.35 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial average.

"Not only was 2023 the warmest year in NOAA's 174-year climate record—it was the warmest by far," said Sarah Kapnick, NOAA's chief scientist.

"A warming planet means we need to be prepared for the impacts of climate change that are happening here and now, like extreme weather events that become both more frequent and severe."

But a growing chorus of climate scientists are saying the temperature readings are faulty and that the trillions of dollars pouring in are based on a problem that doesn't exist.

More than 90 percent of NOAA's temperature monitoring stations have a heat bias, according to Anthony Watts, a meteorologist, senior fellow for environment and climate at The Heartland Institute, author of climate website Watts Up With That, and director of a study that examined NOAA's climate stations.

"And with that large of a number, over 90 percent, the methods that NOAA employs to try to reduce this don't work because the bias is so overwhelming," Mr. Watts told The Epoch Times.

"The few stations that are left that are not biased because they are, for example, outside of town in a field and are an agricultural research station that's been around for 100 years ... their data gets completely swamped by the much larger set of biased data. There's no way you can adjust that out."

image-5575605

A meteorologist monitors weather in NOAA's center for weather and climate prediction in Riverdale, Md., on July 2, 2013. (Mark Wilson/Getty Images)

Meteorologist Roy Spencer agreed.

"The surface thermometer data still have spurious warming effects due to the urban heat island, which increases over time," Mr. Spencer said.

Cont. reading at theepochtimes.com

Patriot News

Patriot Events and Activities

Please email alchem1@earthlink.net with your future events that are coming up.

LAURA ABOLI:

I have learned to measure people based on their ability to say three things:
"Excuse me."
"I was wrong."
"I love you."

Ivan Morandi

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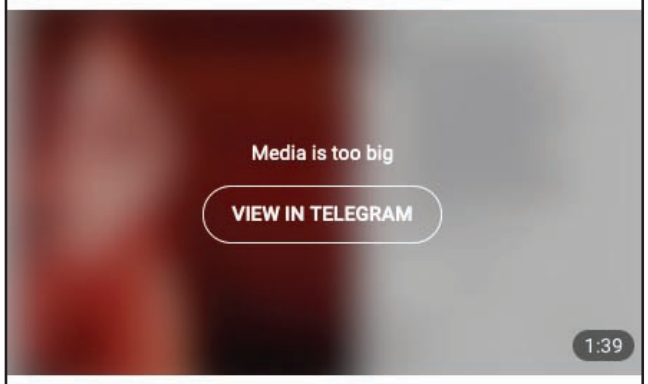

Cosmopolitan Magazine Promotes Satanic Abortion Ritual: 'This Is the Most Demonic Thing I've Ever Seen'

Absolutely horrific!! I've always thought Cosmopolitan to be the most harmful publication for women ever, promoting everything that is wrong with society these days but I see they've just reached new heights of deprivation!

Boycott the magazine NOW!!!😭😭😭

https://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2023/11/cosmopolitan-magazine-promotes-satanic-abortion-ritual-demonic-thing/

t.me/LauraAbolichannel/54220 23.3K
Laura Aboli, Feb 7 at 04:48

LauraAboli

Abortion is the most abhorrent, detestable and shameful act that we as a society have not only allowed, but legitimised.

It is the single most telling reflection of the terrible condition we're in as a collective.

We allowed evil to normalise its child sacrifice practices and to enrich itself through them.

Abortion is a multi-billion industry that has been feeding the evil elites we are so desperately trying to defeat.

https://t.me/LauraAbolichannel

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Laura Aboli, Feb 7 at 04:47





There are two basic sources on abortion data in the U.S.: The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) publishes yearly, but relies on voluntary reports from state health departments (and New York City, Washington, D.C.). It has been missing data from California, New Hampshire, and at least one other state since 1998.

- The Guttmacher Institute (GI) contacts abortion clinics directly for data but does not survey every year.
- Because it surveys clinics directly and includes data from all fifty states, most researchers believe Guttmacher's numbers to be more reliable, though Guttmacher still believes it may miss some abortions.

Both the CDC and Guttmacher show significant recent drops and sustained declines over the last 25 years.

- Total abortions dropped 28.8% from 1998 to 2019 with the CDC, and fell 46.4% from 1990 to 2017 with GI.
- Total abortions fell below 1 million for the first time in the 2013 GI count and have continued downward to 862,320 in the most recent GI figures for 2017.
- The abortion rate for 2017 for GI was 13.5 abortions for every 1,000 women of reproductive age (15-44), less than half that of 1981 (29.3) and lower than when abortion was legalized in the U.S. in 1973 (16.3).
- GI says there were 18.3 abortions for every 100 pregnancies ending in live birth or abortion in 2016, 18.4 for 2017, lower abortion ratios than any since 1972.
- Guttmacher says that abortion "providers" have dropped from a high of 2,918 in 1982 to 1,587 in 2017.
- According to the CDC, the percentage performed with chemical abortifacients like mifepristone rose from 9.6% in 2004 to 43.7% in 2019.

The Consequences of Roe v. Wade

63,459,781

Total abortions since 1973

Based on numbers reported by the Guttmacher Institute 1973-2017, with 3% added for GI estimated possible 3.9% undercount for 1973-2014. Another 12,000 per year added for 2015-2021 for abortions from "providers" GI says it may have missed in 2015-2017 counts. 1/22

63,459,781 Babies Have Been Killed in Abortions Since Roe v. Wade in 1973

(Figures from National Right to Life Committee)

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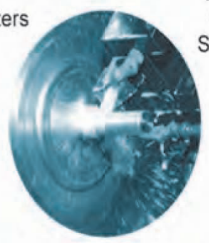
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One Nation Under God

FBI Raiding Homes of Pro-Life Rescuers
DOJ Charges Could Sentence Some to Eleven Years

By Mark Gabriel, Secretary, Constitution Party of Wisconsin

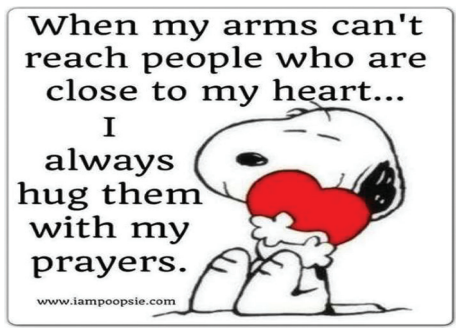
Many have heard of Mark Houck, the pro-life Catholic father of seven, who was charged under the federal FACE Act, "Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances," for an incident that occurred on October 13, 2021. The DOJ knew that Mark had an attorney, and all they had to do was notify him of the charge and any required appearance. Instead, his home was raided by the FBI, to arrest him on September 23rd, 2022. His wife described it as, "A SWAT Team of about 25 came to my house and started pounding on our door. They said they were going to break in if he didn't open it. And then they had about five guns pointed at my husband, myself and basically our kids." Mark prays and offers literature to those coming for abortions at Planned Parenthood in Philadelphia. A deathscort (death-escort) for Planned Parenthood, who ushers women in to kill their baby, came over to get in the face of Mark's young son and speak vulgarities. After refusing to leave, Mark pushed him away. Although police were called, they did not make any charges. The deathscort filed a criminal complaint, but never showed up in court, so nothing came of it, yet the Feds filed charges to put him away for 11 years. The jury found him, "Not Guilty."

Less known than the persecution of Mark Houck by the FBI and DOJ, is their persecution of Paul Vaughn. Paul's home suffered an early morning raid by the FBI, in a similar SWAT style manner. His entire family heard the pounding at the front door. Paul looked out a side window and saw many unmarked cars with flashing lights. A few of his eleven children were going out the back door for school, to be met by an armed man with an AR 15. At the front door, Paul saw non-uniform men pointing guns at him. He asked them who they were looking for, and they said, "You." This exchange reminded this writer of another unjust arrest that occurred over 2000 years ago. Paul and his wife repeatedly asked to see a warrant and identification. One of them pointed to his Velcro ''FBI patch", that looked like something anyone could get online, and said, "That's all you get." Arrogant and cocky they were, until Paul's wife started videotaping them. Then suddenly, their manners changed, and they attempted to answer a question or two. However, they would not tell them where they were taking Paul, so Mrs. Vaughn called an attorney in their church, and they spent six hours making phone calls, trying to find out. Paul had been arrested without his wallet or cell phone. Once in their vehicle, he first learned that he was charged with FACE. They took him on a 1.5-hour ride into downtown Nashville. He had to agree not to go within 150 feet of their sacred altar for child sacrifice, before being released. The FACE Act states, "Whoever by force or threat of force, or by physical obstruction, intentionally injures, intimidates, or interferes with … any person … from obtaining or providing reproductive health services… is subject to a misdemeanor of up to 6 months in prison. Apparently, this penalty was not long enough for Biden's DOJ, they have also charged six of the defendants with a "Title 18, 248 Violation of Civil Rights, Conspiracy" charge that can add on another ten years in prison. So, what did Paul do to bring the wrath of the federal government upon him? He acted as a liaison to the police during a Rescue, to communicate their intentions to simply prevent baby murder, with a sit-in beside the entrance of the murder center, in a peaceful, non-violent way. This occurred at the Mt. Juliet, Tennessee "Careafem" abortion center, about 1.5 years prior to his arrest. Today, that abortion center is closed. Paul did not participate directly by sitting down to block the entrance. The City Fathers representing the people of Mt. Juliet, Tennessee, never approved for this "clinic" to do surgical abortions, however, in another example of judicial tyranny, a federal court issued an injunction to force the city to do so. This federal criminal court case was initially set to begin on January 10th, then rescheduled a couple times to January 18th, 2024. It could last two weeks.

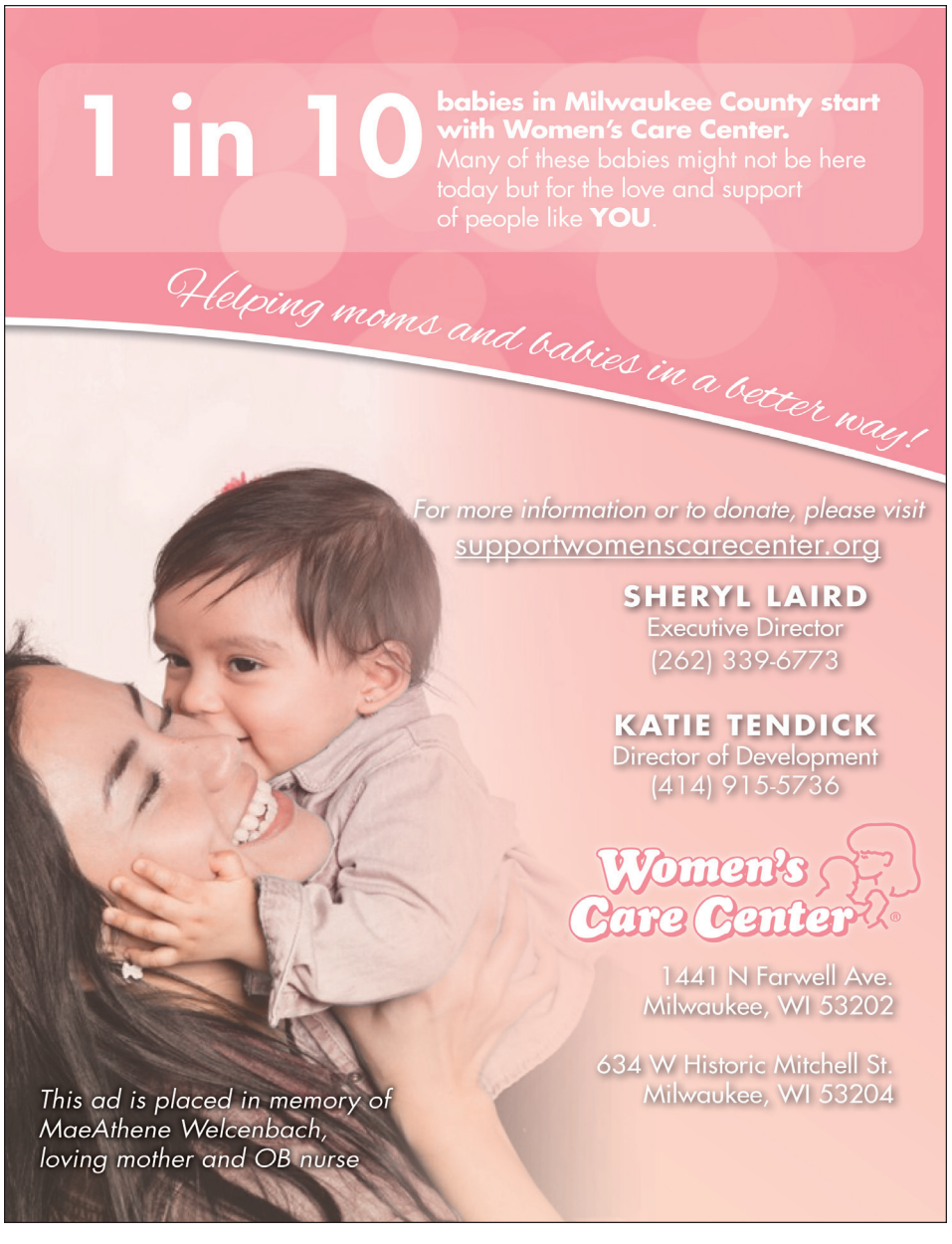
The Rescuers charged with "conspiracy," have been unwilling to accept any plea deals from the DOJ that would drop their charges down to misdemeanors if they would just plead guilty to the FACE charge. This they are unwilling to do, believing that what they did was just and right, in seeking to protect human life, and it's those who are doing the abortions that should be charged with felony crimes, as the prophet Isaiah said in his time, "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil…" (5:20). The Federal 6th Circuit Court has gone so far as to say, "FACE should be broadly interpreted to include all forms of obstruction to clinic access, even when temporary, incomplete, or when they do not employ tactics."

A similar trial of a Rescue, occurred last year in Washington D.C. and resulted in a guilty verdict on both charges, FACE and the federal civil rights conspiracy charge. In a highly unusual move, the obviously pro-abortion judge, had those non-violent Rescuers taken off to prison directly from the courtroom, rather than giving them some time to prepare by waiting for sentencing, which is not scheduled until May. Heather Idoni was involved in both the D.C. Rescue and the Mt. Juliet, Tennessee Rescue. Since she was sent to prison before her sentencing, she is being moved from prison to prison in shackles and will be transported from a prison in Kentucky to Nashville every day of the trial!

To see how far this country has strayed from God and our foundational documents, a division of the federal government that is supposed to be concerned about civil rights, seeks to severely punish those protecting the most vital of all God given rights, the right to life. As the Declaration of Independence states, "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men [even babies] are created equal [not born equal], that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness - That to secure these rights governments are instituted…" The argument can certainly be made that Constitutionally, the government is duty bound to secure the right to life of every human being, even from fertilization. Abortion, being a direct attack and destruction of human life, should itself be a violation of the US Constitution. The court in Obergfell did not go far enough in overturning Roe, they should have declared that the practice of abortion violates the 5th and 14th Amendments: "No person shall be… deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law." (5th Amendment). "No State shall…deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction, the equal protection of the laws." (14th Amendment). Learn more about the Nashville trial and the Rescuers involved at: www.stifledcry.com







VOICE OF JERUSALEM

360 degrees of hostility: The Biden administration and Israel

By Caroline Glick

The Mothers of IDF Soldiers group led a demonstration last week of army mothers, reservists in the Israel Defense Forces, bereaved families and other concerned citizens outside the U.S. embassy in Jerusalem. They demanded that President Joe Biden stop leveraging power to force Israel to resupply Hamas.

The following day, hundreds of Israelis, including parents of soldiers, families of hostages and terror victims gathered outside Ashdod Port. For hours, they blocked trucks laden with supplies for Gaza from exiting the port. Activists have been blocking trucks from entering Gaza via the Kerem Shalom and Nitzana border crossings for more than two weeks.

Speaking to the crowd in the southern Israeli city of Ashdod, Shifra Shahar, who runs a nonprofit organization that cares for the needs of soldiers, addressed her remarks to Israel's leaders:

"Government of Israel, defense minister, IDF chief of staff, get ahold of yourselves!

"We had elections last year. I don't recall voting for [U.S. Secretary of State Antony] Blinken! Blinken is sitting in the war cabinet and protecting the interests of my enemy. … We have sons in Gaza. We have sons fighting. The entry of the trucks endangers them, prolongs the war, increases the number of casualties and delays the return of the hostages!

"They tell me, 'There are constraints.' He who is constrained doesn't win the war.

"They tell me, 'The Americans are threatening not to provide us with ammunition.'

"To this, I say, if we were besieging them, we wouldn't need ammunition! The war would end. They'd be screaming for help, returning the hostages and the war would end!"

The rising expressions of rage at the Biden administration from ordinary citizens are a testament to the shock and anger Israelis feel at what they perceive as a betrayal of Israel's most basic interests by Biden and his top advisers.

Three and a half months ago, when Biden came to Israel, most Israelis couldn't imagine his warm embrace would transform into a torrent of hostile actions.

At the height of Biden's emotional visit, he gave a speech to the people of Israel: "I come to Israel with a single message. You are not alone. You are not alone. As long as the United States stands—and we will stand forever—we will not let you ever be alone."

For the overwhelming majority of Israelis, Biden's declaration sounded like a bankable guarantee. But for the few with more sensitive ears, it sounded like a threat—that he and his administration would never leave Israel alone to fight the war to victory.

As the weeks and months passed, it turned out that the latter had it right. The administration has never let Israel alone to win the war whose outcome will determine whether the Jewish state can long survive. At every turn, in every quarter, the United States is constraining, undermining, subverting and coercing Israel to make moves that, as Shahar said, are "against the interests of the citizens of Israel."

Ceasefire agreement

The details of the hostages-for-terrorists-and-ceasefire talks that CIA director William Burns has been overseeing appear to involve Israel releasing from its prisons to Judea, Samaria and Gaza hundreds or perhaps thousands of Palestinian terrorists, including mass murderers. The initial reports asserted that the terms for the deal were 100-250 terrorists for each of the 136 hostages.

These terrorists can be expected to ignite Judea and Samaria and Israel's major cities in a terror conflagration that would make the Oct. 7 slaughter look like a walk in the park. Terrorists released to Gaza can be expected to rebuild Hamas's terror empire in the area.

The released terrorists and their comrades on the ground will be able to do these things because, in addition to requiring Israel to free them in exchange for at least some of the 136 Israeli hostages Hamas has been holding since Oct. 7, Burns's deal requires Israel to end its military operations in Gaza for between one to two months. Based on interviews with Egyptian and Qatari officials involved in the hostage talks, both The Wall Street Journal and Qatari media have reported that the United States is telling Hamas through Egypt and Qatar that the deal is a trap for Israel. By compelling Israel to end its operations in Gaza for such a long period, Burns expects that the Netanyahu government will be unable to reinstate Israel's operations when the hostages-for-terrorists swap is concluded.

The United States is intent on reaching a ceasefire because the Biden administration remains committed to its strategic objective of appeasing Iran at Israel's expense. Over the past several days, the U.S. media has reported claims by U.S. intelligence officials asserting that Iran is not responsible for the war being waged by its proxies Hamas, Hezbollah, the Houthis and the Iranian-controlled Shiite militias in Iraq and Syria. U.S. intelligence officials insist these terror armies are attacking the United States and Israel because Israel is fighting Hamas in Gaza. If Israel were to stop fighting, all the troubles would end.

From an Israeli perspective, the prospect of ending the war without dismantling Hamas is an unacceptable outcome. If Hamas is able to survive after conducting its one-day Holocaust in southern Israel, not only will Hamas be able to proclaim victory but Iran and its terror proxies surrounding Israel will be emboldened to strike Israel even more aggressively on multiple fronts.

Humanitarian Aid

On Jan. 23, Shin Bet director Ronen Bar informed Israel's security cabinet that 60% to 70% of the so-called humanitarian aid entering Gaza daily either goes directly into Hamas's hands or is commandeered by Hamas terrorists for their use. Bar's admission bolstered eyewitness testimonies by Palestinians claiming that Hamas seized the aid trucks and footage from the Egyptian border with Gaza showing Hamas terrorists shooting at civilians seeking access to the supplies.

Under such circumstances, it is clear that the Biden administration's pointed and ever-escalating demands that Israel permit more or less unlimited entry of supply-laden trucks to Gaza amounts to a demand that Israel resupply its enemy in the midst of war. As Shahar said, the constant supply of food, water, and, most critically, fuel to Hamas has enabled the terror group to maintain its presence in its underground warren of terror tunnels and continue to hold the Israeli hostages. The resupply also endangers Israel's soldiers, who are forced to fight inside tunnels where Hamas has a tactical advantage.

From a strategic perspective, requiring Israel to resupply Hamas enables Hamas to retain its governing control over Gaza. So long as Hamas controls the supplies entering Gaza, it controls the distribution of those supplies. This compels the population to remain beholden to Hamas and not work with Israel to end the war by turning in Hamas terrorists or helping IDF forces locate and rescue the hostages.

Egyptian Border

The only way to provide humanitarian assistance to the people of Gaza without assisting Hamas is to provide them with the same right afforded to those in war zones worldwide: The right to leave the war zone for third countries. From the outset of the war, the Biden administration has strongly opposed Israel's efforts to persuade the Egyptian government to permit the people of Gaza to leave the area through the Rafah border crossing. In a speech last month in Tel Aviv, Secretary of State Antony Blinken reasserted U.S. opposition to permitting Gazans to leave the area.

"The United States unequivocally rejects any proposals advocating for the resettlement of Palestinians outside of Gaza," he exhorted.

It isn't that the Gazans have nowhere to go. Since Oct. 7, multiple countries, including Chechnya, Turkey, Scotland and Canada have stated their willingness to permit Gazans to seek refuge in their countries. Qatar, which serves as Hamas's state sponsor, is another option. Rafah is a short drive from El Arish International Airport, where these refugees would be able to fly to third countries.

According to Britain's Guardian newspaper, Gazans are currently forced to pay $10,000 in bribes to Egyptian border guards to cross into Egypt for refuge. Moreover, as of Feb. 4, the IDF assesses that Hamas has changed its tactics. Rather than fight IDF forces primarily from tunnels, Hamas is increasingly attacking Israeli units in Gaza and bombing Israel with rockets from within humanitarian safe zones where hundreds of thousands of Gazans are now sheltering.

Given the circumstances, the U.S. position requires Israel to choose between defeating Hamas at a profound cost to civilian lives or being defeated itself.

Weapons Supply

On Jan. 28, NBC News reported that the administration is considering slowing supplies of various weapons, including 155 mm artillery rounds and joint direct attack munitions (JDAMs) to Israel to compel Israel to scale back its ground operations in Gaza and permit more supplies to enter the area.

Although the White House denied the reports, the IDF has been compelled to conserve its ammunition on the ground due to shortages in supplies, indicating that the United States is slow-walking its supply of key armaments to Israel. This is of major concern, particularly given the near certainty of escalation along the northern front, where Hezbollah-controlled Lebanon is moving quickly towards a full-scale war with Israel.

Palestinian Statehood

For Israelis, Oct. 7 was an illusion-shattering event. One of the primary illusions shattered was the two-state paradigm. Hamas, which won the 2006 Palestinian elections—the last elections held by the rival Fatah faction's Palestinian Authority—has maintained the support of the majority of Palestinians in Gaza and Judea and Samaria throughout the intervening years. On Oct. 7, it was Hamas that initiated and led the slaughter of 1,200 Israelis, but thousands of Gaza civilians followed them into Israel and were full participants in the atrocities; including murder, rape, torture, kidnapping and looting.

Avida Bachar survived the massacre at Kibbutz Be'eri, which saw Palestinians murder 130 people, including his wife and son, who were murdered next to Bachar and his daughter in the family's safe room. Crews who recovered the bodies of the victims in Be'eri reported that 80% of the bodies showed signs of torture.

Be'eri is a kibbutz identified with the secular far-left. Its members included prominent peace activists. The surviving members have been forced to come to terms with the atrocities they suffered.

In an interview last month with Israel's Channel 14, Bachar explained, "We need to ask if we are capable of coexisting there. The 7th of October showed that the level of evil there means that coexistence is apparently impossible. We can't do it anymore. Because we gave them everything. They even worked in our community. And in the end, we were proven wrong. … We reached the point where their children burned us alive in our shelters. The older ones shot us through the doors. And anyone who tried to jump out the window—they shot him again. Their elderly, on wheelchairs, and their handicapped arrived at Kibbutz Be'eri, and they looted us and kidnapped us as hostages. We need to understand this situation. And when a person has infinite demands at negotiations, apparently, either we won't be here or they won't be here. We mustn't leave."

The overwhelming majority of Israelis agree with Bachar. Polls taken since Oct. 7 show that three-quarters of Israelis oppose the establishment of a Palestinian state. 70% of Israelis who voted for opposition parties, which include parties on the center and far-left, the Arab nationalist party and the Islamist party, believe that there is no chance of peaceful coexistence with the Palestinians.

This position places the Israeli people, rather than simply the government, at odds with the Biden administration, which since the outset of the war has insisted that its strategic goal is to establish a Palestinian state in Gaza and Judea and Samaria under the leadership of the Palestinian Authority. The P.A., for its part, not only refuses to condemn the Oct. 7 slaughter but seeks to form a unity government with Hamas. Fatah forces in Gaza participated alongside Hamas terrorists in the slaughter of Oct. 7 and posted videos of themselves killing Israelis on their Telegram pages.

Biden and his advisers state regularly that Hamas does not represent the Palestinian people. But the Palestinian people disagree wholeheartedly. According to Palestinian pollsters, 75% of Palestinians support Hamas.

Last week, it was reported that the State Department is considering unilateral U.S. recognition of a "State of Palestine." Such a move would not merely be an act of hostility against Israel. It would constitute a material breach of the Oslo Accords, of which the U.S. is a signatory. The agreements signed in the 1990s by Israel and the Palestinians under U.S. aegis barred the Palestinians from unilaterally forming a state or using the international arena as a means to settle the Palestinian conflict with Israel. Under the Oslo Accords, all agreements between Israel and the Palestinians must be reached through bilateral negotiations.

Foreign Workers

As Bachar noted, among the participants in the Oct. 7 slaughter were workers who had been employed by the assaulted kibbutzim, in some cases for decades. Those workers provided precise intelligence

continued on page 24

Wacky Biden LNG Export Ban Will Foster Coal Burning

By Larry Bell

Just when you might have imagined — hoped — that Biden administration carbon-climate obsessed energy policies couldn't get any wackier, witness a plan to institute a pause on every new and pending permit for U.S. export terminals which supply liquified natural gas to European and other allies to increase their dependencies on higher CO2-emitting coal.

Add to this, the de facto "ban" will pose inescapable economic penalties and national security risks as allies turn to adversaries for natural gas and other vital energy supplies.

Citing growing concerns over "public interests" including climate and economic impacts, the Department of Energy announced plans in January to "temporarily" stop approving LNG exports to countries that don't have a free-trade agreement with the U.S.

The Natural Gas Act (NGA) requires DOE to approve LNG export applications to Free Trade Agreement nations unless the agency makes such a nonpublic-interest determination and up to now, has never rejected an export permit on that basis.

Attorneys general from 23 Republican states are preparing legal challenges to DOE's public interest rationale, accusing the Biden administration of ushering in a "surprise freeze" that bows to the pressure of young climate activists, harms the economy and jeopardizes national security.

On the latter international issue, they point out that Europeans were "desperately seeking American energy to counter Russia's weaponization of its natural gas exports."

Included are Kansas, Indiana, Louisiana, West Virginia, Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah and Wyoming.

Together, they addressed a Feb. 6 letter to President Biden and Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm arguing that the statute was based on a 1982 U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit ruling which they quote "creates a 'general presumption of favoring [export] authorization.'"

The letter invokes a legal theory termed the "major questions" doctrine which asserts that Congress must clearly authorize federal agencies to tackle politically and economically important issues.

Here, they insist, Congress has not authorized DOE to issue "blanket denials" of export permits based primarily upon a Biden climate executive order.

The states also charge that the pause violates notice-and-comments requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act along with its protections against unreasonable regulatory delays.

"Instead of addressing America's real energy challenges," the AGs wrote, "your administration has decided to double down on a reckless environmental agenda through this TikTok-inspired pause.'"

"In short," the letter emphasizes, "you are reconstructing the NGA's regulatory structures."

Led by House Energy and Commerce Committee Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers, R-WA, more than 150 Republicans also sent a letter urging President Biden to end his de facto LNG export ban and "expeditiously approve all pending applications to increase the global supply of natural gas."

The letter points out:

"Under both Democratic and Republican administrations, DOE has consistently found that U.S. LNG exports serve the 'public interest' because they contribute positive economic benefits and strengthen energy security for the American people and also have the potential to reduce global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions."

Negative U.S. economic impacts of the ban will be substantial, with each cancelled LNG project costing about $600 billion in lost revenue over its planned lifespan along with thousands of jobs … including those in steel manufacturing and fracking.

Last year, America exported more LNG than any other country, with shipments projected to double by the end of this decade pending fully approved projects.

Flashback here to Biden's first day in the Oval Office when he nixed the Keystone XL pipeline along with tens of thousands of potential U.S. jobs which sought to transfer crude oil from Alberta, Canada.

Whereas the White House claims the pause will affect only a handful of current DOE LNG export applications, it disingenuously avoids noting that it will also freeze about a half a dozen projects seeking Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approvals and could halt another dozen or so that have been permitted by previous presidents.

And since DOE announced that projects not yet operating within seven years following authorization must reapply for permits, these initiatives in development could get deep-sixed after having committed billions of dollars in capital and contractual customer agreements.

Meanwhile, the Sierra Club and other environmental groups have urged 15 global financial firms, including Bank of America and JP Morgan, to halt support for LNG exports.

As climate activists applaud the Biden administration's crusade to save the planet from essential CO2 plant food, we can also bet that Russian and Iran oligarchs are giddy about increased opportunities to supply oil and gas to finance their wars in Ukraine and the Middle East at prices they control, following Biden releases of Trump administration sanctions.

Ironically, Europeans are planning to retire coal and nuclear plants in the coming years on the expectation that they will have ample LNG from the U.S.

This as China continues to import vast amounts of Russian, Iranian and Middle East oil and gas in combination with constructing the equivalence of about one new coal-fired plant weekly to fuel its economy.

To be clear, there's nothing inherently bad about burning coal provided that proper environmental safeguards scrub dirty polluting particulate matter from the plant stacks as appropriately required by EPA and true public interest.

The problem — a big one — is that China doesn't do so.

Accordingly, the Biden ban on LNG premised upon hysterically hyped CO2 reduction climate benefits is an internally contradictory argument based on Bad Science (BS).



360 degrees *cont. from page 23*

on the kibbutzim down to the number of people per household, the location of communal weapons stores, and the homes of soldiers and security forces, among other things.

Polling of Palestinians in Gaza and Judea and Samaria found that more than 80% of the Palestinians support the massacres of Oct. 7. Due to the massive levels of public support for the massacres, and the service Palestinian workers provided Hamas as intelligence gatherers, the Israeli government passed a decision barring Palestinians from working in Israel. To replace the Palestinians, the government decided to permit foreign workers from friendly countries, including India, to enter Israel on work permits. Economy Minister Nir Barkat finalized an agreement on the entry of Indian workers with his Indian counterpart.

Last week, the Israeli media reported that the Biden administration has intervened to block the replacement of Palestinian workers with Indian and other foreign workers. According to a report in Israel's Calcalist, Cindy Dyer, the U.S. Ambassador-at-Large to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons wrote a letter to her Israeli counterpart and the Justice Ministry insisting that the use of manpower companies to import foreign workers risks breaching bans on human trafficking and exploitation, and demanded that Israel not import laborers through manpower companies. Since these companies are the primary means to bring in foreign laborers, the impact of the State Department intervention has been to place an insurmountable obstacle in Israel's path to replacing Palestinian workers who overwhelmingly support the genocide of the Jews of Israel.

Sanctioning Israeli Residents of Judea and Samaria

According to Israel police data from the Samaria and Judea District, in 2023 Palestinians carried out 5,600 terrorist attacks against Israelis. During the same period, Israelis carried out 60 acts of violence against Palestinians. IDF data indicates that violent incidents involving Israelis and Palestinians in October 2023 were down 31% from the same month in 2022 and violent incidents involving Israelis and Palestinians were down 55% in November 2023 from the previous November.

All the same, last Thursday, President Biden issued an Executive Order that imposes sweeping economic sanctions on Israelis deemed by the secretary of state or secretary of treasury to be engaging in so-called "settler violence." The sanctions, which obviously represent a flagrant violation of Israeli sovereignty and an expression of utter contempt for Israel's criminal justice system, not only freeze the assets of those accused of acting in a prohibited manner. It bars anyone from having any economic transactions with those sanctioned individuals. The Executive Order was issued against four Israeli citizens who have not been accused or convicted of any felonies. The determination of who to sanction appears to be informed entirely by unsubstantiated allegations presented by Palestinian advocacy groups that do not recognize Israel's right to exist. All the same, fearful of U.S. sanctions, Bank Leumi and Israel's postal bank informed two of the sanctioned individuals that they had frozen their bank accounts.

Visiting Yinon Levy, a rancher whose accounts in Bank Leumi were frozen on Sunday, MK Zvi Succot said, "There is no evidence to the allegations, there is no indictment, criminal record or a record with the Shin Bet. All it is is that leftists don't like that Jews are building a farm."

Commentator Stephen Leavitt put it succinctly: "Biden cancelled sanctions against Iran and shifted them over to Israel."

It is worth noting that the Biden administration has placed no comparable sanctions on either Palestinian individuals who engage in actual acts of terrorism against Israelis or on the P.A., which incites, finances and sponsors terrorist attacks against Israel. It has not placed sanctions on the P.A.'s security services whose members have routinely engaged in terrorist attacks against Israeli civilians. To the contrary, the administration stopped enforcing the 2018 Taylor Force Act, which bars the United States from funding the P.A. so long as it maintains its "pay-for-slay" policy of paying salaries and annuities to imprisoned terrorists and the families of dead terrorists.

This Jews-only Executive Order works to turn sanctioned Israeli Jews who live in Judea and Samaria into pariahs in their own communities and to criminalize the half-million Israeli Jews who live in Judea and Samaria. But it does something much bigger as well: It advances the slander that Israelis are the moral equivalent of Hamas terrorists and the civilian lynch mobs that accompany them in their slaughter of Israeli Jews. *cont. reading at jns.org*

Application of Leahy

