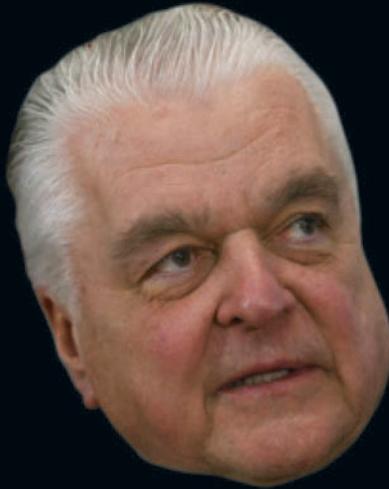
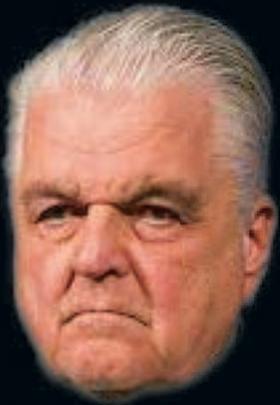


# LIBERTY WATCH

VOLUME 10 | ISSUE 4 | December 2021

POLITICS. BUSINESS. LIBERTY.

## THE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF STUPIDITY.



## MEET NEVADA'S UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCE.

### **THIS IS WHY I RAN**

Larry Elder

### **LET PARENTS CHOOSE**

John Stossel

### **THE GOVERNMENT LIES ABOUT ITS SECRETS**

Andrew P. Napolitano

### **SOME STRAIGHT TALK ABOUT THAT CROOKED ELECTION**

Chuck Muth

### **THE RED WAVE, AND THE DEMOCRATIC SUICIDE STRATEGY**

Ben Shapiro Column



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Article I

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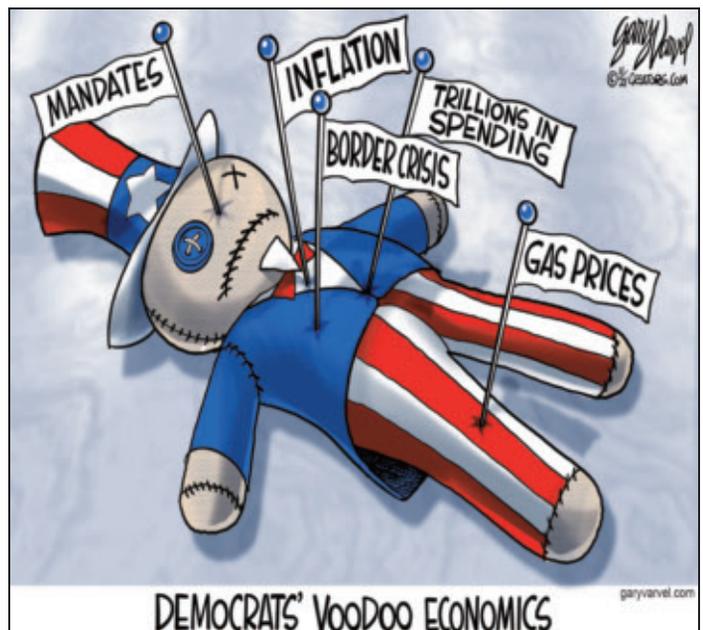
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George Harris, Publisher  
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## THE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF STUPIDITY... MEET NEVADA'S UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCE.

Have you noticed anything strange happening in our country?



You suddenly find yourself unable to purchase the items you desire. Manufacturers are unable to obtain necessary supplies, and automobile manufacturers are unable to purchase computer chips. Builders are having difficulty obtaining lumber, and everyone is stockpiling toilet paper.

What's strange about these shortages is that America has a surplus of goods entering the country, over 200,000 containers are on the water, and nearly 480,000 shipping containers are stuck off the coast of Southern California because our ports are operating at capacity. But why is that? There are two reasons for this: California's regulations and a lack of truck drivers.

Containers are not being unloaded for weeks due to a lack of truck drivers. One ship can carry 18,000 containers, each of which can hold 100 king-size mattresses, 1,500 pairs of sneakers, 800 flat-screen televisions, and enough computer chips to build 8,000 cars. Did you know that 95% of all consumer goods enter the United States through ocean ports?

As the pandemic struck, factories around the world shut down, and nothing was produced until production resumed, and we saw a significant increase in cargo volume. This year alone, cargo

activity has increased by 45 percent. So, what's the issue?

Liberal blue state governors are to blame, including California's Gavin Newsom, New Jersey's Phil Murphy, New York's Kathy Hochul, Oregon's Kate Brown, Washington's Jay Inslee, Louisiana's John Bel Edwards, and Nevada's Steve Sisolak.

Sisolak ordered the closure of Nevada, including the Department of Motor Vehicles, on March 17, 2020. This brilliant move got the ball rolling toward the inevitable disaster. To move cargo, you need truck drivers, but you can't get truck drivers unless you give them a Commercial Driver License, and the Nevada DMV didn't issue a single CDL for months, resulting in a massive backlog and a shortage of truck drivers.

You now understand the unintended consequence of Steve Sisolak's election. The liberal blue state governors were only interested in power, and Sisolak was more than happy to join them. It was, and has always been, all about power!

I mention this so you'll understand why the shelves at Walmart, Target, and other retailers will be empty for Christmas. Costco and Sam's Club have once again limited customers to one toilet paper and one paper towel per visit, and the situation is expected to worsen after Thanksgiving. You can express your gratitude to those who are responsible. That's Steve Sisolak in Nevada!

It's simple math; we have a massive supply and a massive demand, but there's no way to get the goods to the consumer due to these liberal governors. They were more concerned with consolidating their power and control over the populace, which has resulted in increased inflation,

a supply chain shortage, and a massive backlog in issuing Commercial Driver Licenses.

Don't get me wrong: these liberal governors, such as Steve Sisolak, knew exactly what they were doing when they were race baiting or blaming the wealthy, etc. But would you like to know a little secret? Sisolak was well aware of the consequences of his actions. Inflation is the most heinous type of tax because it only affects the poor and middle classes. Allow me to explain...

Gas was \$2.27 per gallon when Trump left office. The average car's gas tank holds 18 gallons, which costs \$40.86 to fill. Fast forward just one year in Sisolakland, and the average cost of a gallon of gas is \$4.07, so filling up your car now costs \$73.26. Wow. Talk about getting a gut punch. Every time you fill up your gas tank, you'll pay an extra \$32. So, what exactly is the domino effect? A family meal at home costs \$32.00, so it's back to peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Or you could spend \$32.00 on a nice lunch with your girlfriend. Now, forget about it.

And the list goes on and on.

You can now see the Democrats' great lie: they claim to be for the little guy, but they do everything in their power to suffocate them! Sisolak pushed his narrative that the rich are bad guys and that he was protecting the poor. But the facts show that it was Sisolak's irrational policies that brought the Nevada economy to its knees, and nothing else. I'm always amazed at how trivial things can devastate an economy.

It reminds me of the story about the young lady's car breaking down, being towed into the garage, and the mechanic looking under the hood saying, "\$350 will fix it and you'll be on your way." The lady hands him \$350, and he turns around, cuts a 3 inch piece of rubber hose, swaps it out, and says, "OK ma'am, you're all set to go." "Are you kidding me?" she exclaims. You wanted to charge me \$350 for that? You're a thief!" "No, ma'am, I charged 25 cents for the part," the mechanic says calmly. The remaining balance you paid for was my knowledge of where to look and how to fix it."

That little parable I told you was meant to show you that when we elect someone, it is your responsibility to look under the hood and discover

what they truly believe. Sisolak deceived us all by running as a moderate businessman, but he governs like a Marxist. His progressive agenda is one of control; he has no desire for people to be free-thinkers.

Granted, you haven't yet seen the most severe consequences, but your local restaurant owner has. Last week, I was at one of my favorite restaurants, Trattoria by Chef Marc, at the Ahern Hotel in Las Vegas, and Marc told me about not being able to get lemons, bacon, or even butter. "Less than a month ago, I was paying \$4.56/lb for Prime Rib-eye; in one month, we saw a 14.6 percent increase," he explained. Worse yet, my suppliers have informed me that they will be out of stock until next week."

"The vendor will call you and tell you your order of ketchup is not here," Marc continued. I ordered Gatorade, which took several weeks to arrive. "I don't know where the whipped butter is," the waitress will say. "What happened to the whipped butter?" I'll ask my distributor. They'll say things like, "Oh, we're out of stock until next week," and when they do get their hands on supplies, I'm paying a lot more for them, which causes me to raise prices."

Also, don't forget about Christmas. If the goods aren't in the port by mid-September, they won't be on the shelves in time for Christmas. Please keep in mind that if you can't find a toy for your children, place the blame where it belongs...on Steve Sisolak!

Today's Democrat Party leaders are guilty of more than just stupidity; they are also guilty of enslaving future generations to poverty and misery. And Sisolak will be long gone when it all comes crashing down. **LW**





## SOME STRAIGHT TALK ABOUT THAT CROOKED ELECTION

For years – decades, actually – the left has been comparing the right to Hitler and the Nazis.

How ironic, then, that their entire current campaign to legitimize the illegitimate 2020 election is being characterized as a “Big Lie” – a propaganda term coined by no less than Adolph Hitler himself.

The “Big Lie” is, in reality, the real big lie. Truth is, the 2020 election WAS rigged. And yes, it WAS stolen from Donald Trump and his millions of voters.

The problem for Republicans is that too many have foolishly focused so much on the “fraud” allegations that – as Mollie Hemingway explains in her new book, “Rigged” – can’t be proven.

“Election lawyers will tell you that fraud is almost impossible to conclusively find after the fact,” she writes. “It’s exceedingly difficult to convict anyone of voter fraud, and difficult to indict for, because it’s very difficult to find conclusively.”

That said, Hemingway also writes that “If you believe things went terribly wrong in the 2020 election, well, you’re not crazy, and you’re not alone. But most of all, you’re not wrong.”

“Despite the media and other activists’ saying the that the 2020 election must be accepted without question, strong majorities of Republicans have reason to

complain,” she continues. “From their perspective, they were the victims of an election that was rigged from the day Trump won the presidential election in November 2016.”

“We got them by surprise the first time,” Trump told Hemingway in an interview for the book. “And the second time, they spent four years working on rigging the election.”

Hemingway agrees...

*“(T)he political, media and corporate establishments changed election laws and procedures, reduced or eliminated the oversight of the ballots, manipulated the COVID-19 response, stoked violent racial unrest, published fake news, censored accurate news, and did everything in their power to make sure that what happened in 2016 – a Trump victory – could not happen again in 2020.”*

*Rigged* is a masterful, well-written and fully-documented indictment of the “powers that be” who stacked the deck, by hook and by crook, to make absolutely sure Donald Trump was stopped cold in his efforts to drain the swamp and, yes, make America great again.

You really need to read *Rigged* to get all the gory details, but here's a 24-count indictment culled from its pages...

## **Count 1: The Russian Collusion Hoax**

If you're looking for a true "Big Lie," the Russian Collusion Hoax is it. The so-called "Steele dossier" was manufactured and paid for by the Hillary Clinton campaign and launched with vengeance immediately after Trump won the 2016 election.

The Russia hoax resulted in Trump's incoming National Security Adviser, Mike Flynn, being "ambushed by the FBI and forced to resign" and "the incoming attorney general being forced to recuse himself from investigations" that later were turned over to "independent" prosecutor Robert Mueller.

That investigation ultimately exposed that certain figures under disgraced former FBI director James Comey - remember lovers Peter Strzok and Lisa Page? - were directly involved in coordinated efforts to promote the hoax and take out Trump supporters with trumped up charges.

That included a pre-dawn FBI raid on Roger Stone's house that was conveniently leaked to CNN in advance so as to do maximum PR damage to the president and assure the story would be all over the talking-head media for weeks.

The Russia hoax was used non-stop to harass the Trump administration for all four years of his presidency with the desired effect. Indeed, Hemingway notes that just before the 2018 mid-term elections, 75% of Democrats said they still believed the hoax.

## **Count 2: Election Deniers**

Democrats refused to accept the fact

that Trump won in 2016. And yet today it's Republicans who are supposedly the "election deniers."

"You can run the best campaign and you can have the election stolen from you," Hillary Clinton whined after her loss, adding, "I know he's an illegitimate president."

"He lost the election and was put into office because the Russians interfered on his behalf," declared former President Jimmy Carter. "Trump didn't actually win the election in 2016."

Even before Trump was sworn into office, massive protests, demonstrations and riots occurred nationwide, including in DC on Inauguration Day when "Hundreds were arrested as black-clad rioters set cars on fire, threw bricks and injured police."

In addition, Hemingway notes, "Democrats attempted to thwart the Electoral College vote for Trump by having James Clapper, Obama's director of national intelligence who had previously had to apologize for lying to Congress, brief the Electoral College on Trump's fitness for office and allege foreign interference in the election."

## **Count 3: Enemies of the people**

The fake news media shamelessly manipulated coverage of the election in Biden's favor. Over and over and over and over and over and over again. If it was bad for Biden, it was bad for media coverage. His unending verbal gaffes went unreported. His clearly diminished mental state was covered up.

On the other hand, no matter what Trump did; no matter how small, was blown up as a major "scandal." And every

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Trump success, no matter how big, was either ignored, or worse, spun into a failure. It was so bad and obvious that many a Trump supporter repeated the observation that if Trump walked on water the media would say he couldn't swim.

White House press conferences weren't just bantering back and forth bantering. They were combat. Talk about a hostile work environment! No question was too stupid to ask as long as propagandists such as CNN's Jim Acosta thought it would show Trump in a bad light.

"The media lied about Trump's successes, made up damaging stories, and worked with anonymous sources to publish fake stories for four years," Hemingway writes. "A corrupt media corrupts the integrity of elections, and the constant flow of negative stories from journalists out to get Trump undermined public faith in their ability to report basic facts."

## **Count 4: Big Tech**

A cabal of social media giants – particularly Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and Google – were all active participants in efforts to rig the 2020 election. They shadow-banned, suspended and locked the accounts of Trump supporters and even went so far as to censor the President of the United States himself.

Big Tech actively promoted anti-Trump speech while covering up anti-Biden stories, most egregiously how they throttled the Hunter Biden laptop story broken shortly before Election Day by the New York Post.

The Big Tech cabal was led by Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg, who showered the left with millions of "Zuck Bucks" to aid the

Democrats in their efforts to rig the election against Trump.

## **Count 5: Never Trumpers**

Establishment Republicans came out of the woodwork just weeks before the 2016 general election to throw Trump under the bus and try to throw the election to Hillary. For example, former Nevada U.S. Sen. Dean Heller told the media he was "100 percent against Clinton, 99 percent against Trump."

And after the election, these "Never Trumpers" took any and every opportunity to dump on the president in public and the fake news media gladly handed Never Trumpers a mic as long as they were bashing Trump.

## **Count 6: The Deep State**

"At each major point in the operation," Hemingway writes, "explosive media leaks were a key strategy in the operation to take down Trump."

Even before Trump took the oath of office, swamp dwellers in the "deep state" – buried like moles in the behemoth that is the federal government in DC – began leaking, anonymously, of course, the details of phone calls the president made to world leaders.

The most damaging, of course, was the anonymously leaked phone call in 2019 with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky that ultimately resulted in the Democrats' show-trial impeachment in early 2020.

The New York Times also published an "Anonymous" op-ed titled "I Am Part of the Resistance inside the Trump Administration." It was inked by a supposed conservative "senior

administration official” who, Hemingway reminds, was actually “a low-level bureaucrat who later worked for tech giant Google and gave money to far-left Democrats.”

## **Count 7: San Fran Nan**

Once Democrats regained control of the House of Representatives after the 2018 mid-term elections, Speaker Nancy Pelosi abused her power and let slip the dogs of political war against Trump and his administration.

Unending investigations. Unfounded accusations. Hearings. Obstruction. Even ripping up Trump’s 2020 State of the Union speech on camera for all the world to see.

San Fran Nan provided all the fodder her accomplices in the fake news media needed to keep hammering away at Trump, his administration and his agenda day after day, night after night. Non-stop. All part of the propaganda campaign to rig the election against Trump.

## **County 8: Burying Bernie**

Knowing full well that Trump would beat socialist-Democrat Sen. Bernie Sanders in the general election, the Democrat powers-that-be rigged the Democrat presidential primary to assure that Joe Biden, not Sanders, would get the nomination.

In the most egregious example, Sanders got the most votes in the Iowa caucus but was awarded fewer delegates. Then, one by one, the other candidates dropped out of the race and solidified behind Biden to block Bernie.

## **Count 9: Weaponizing COVID**

In the early days of the coronavirus pandemic, the left and their media

mouthpieces poo-poo’ed the threat.

For example, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi did a major mask-free dog-and-pony-show in Chinatown in San Francisco, urging everyone to go there. And New York Mayor Bill DeBlasio declared that “This disease even if you were to get it basically acts like a common cold and flu.”

That, however, was before they realized they could use COVID as a political weapon against Trump. The shutdowns weren’t based on “science.” They were based on “political science” - and part of the overall effort to rig the 2020 election against Trump.

Democrats also intentionally blocked follow-up COVID relief bills throughout the summer and fall of 2020 for no reason other than to deny Trump the ability to take credit for it, the public be damned.

They also used COVID to try to stop Trump from restarting and holding his massive and wildly popular political rallies. The media claimed they were “super-spreader” events while, in typical hypocritical fashion, refusing to characterize large Antifa and BLM protests the same.

Recall also that when Trump suggested the anti-malarial drug hydroxychloroquine might help battle COVID, Twitter started censoring posts supporting its use, including from doctors.

Worse, the media jumped all over a story out of Arizona that a man died after ingesting fish tank cleaner – chloroquine - wrongly thinking it was the same as hydroxychloroquine. Naturally, they blamed Trump for his death.

“They used COVID to rig an election,” 45 said in an interview after the fact. “There

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was nothing I could do.”

## **Count 10: The Fauci Follies**

It wasn't long after the COVID shutdowns in March 2020 before it became obvious that supposed viral infection “expert” and media darling Tony Fauci was over his head and all over the map when it came to how to deal with the coronavirus outbreak.

At the start of the pandemic, Fauci declared that it was “a very, very low risk to the United States.” He also declared that “there isn't anything going around right now in the community, certainly not coronavirus, that is calling for the broad use of masks.”

But that was before the “political” science changed. Suddenly Fauci and the media flip-flopped on masks, with Fauci going so far as to say one mask wasn't enough; you needed to wear two, or even three.

All the “experts,” including Fauci, said it would be impossible to develop a COVID vaccine in less than a year. But Trump's “Operation Warp Speed” made it happen by cutting through the bureaucratic red tape.

And even though the vaccine was ready before Election Day, its approval was delayed until just after the election so as not to give Trump credit before voters cast their ballots.

Fauci's unreliability clearly became an electoral liability as early as April 2020. But the Democrats and their media allies made it next to impossible politically for Trump to dump the guy. Fauci was hurting Trump's re-election chances and had to be protected at all costs.

## **Count 11: The Race Card**

“Mobilizing black voters was key to the left's electoral prospects,” Hemingway writes, “and so Democrats spent considerable effort portraying Trump as a bigot – willing to embrace any falsehood to further their political ambitions.”

Most egregiously, the left falsely claimed Trump had referred to neo-Nazis as “very fine people” in the wake of the Charlottesville demonstrations. Biden even claimed that lie was the reason he ran for president.

Trump's ban on travel into the U.S. from countries supporting terrorists was called racist. His ban on travel from China at the start of the COVID pandemic was called racist. Calling the China virus the “China virus” was racist.

The race-baiting got so bad that Trump supporters started joking that if Trump put cream in his coffee, he'd be accused of being a racist. And let's not forget this one...

On January 29, 2019, a largely unknown “actor” named Jussie Smollett went to the Chicago police claiming he'd been assaulted by two white men wearing red MAGA (Make America Great Again) hats. He also claimed they'd shouted racial and homophobic slurs at him and tied a noose around his neck.

It was the lead story all over the media for weeks and part of the left's effort to portray not only Donald Trump as a racist, but his supporters as well. By the time the whole thing was exposed as a hoax, the damage was done. Just as they intended.

## **Count 12: The Not So Quiet Riots**

Sowing unrest and racial hatred around the country was all part of rigging the election. Indeed, in 2018, Democrat Rep.

Maxine Waters urged political violence...

*"If you see anybody from (Trump's) Cabinet in a restaurant, in a department store, at a gasoline station, you get out and create a crowd. And you push back on them. And you tell them they're not welcome anymore, anywhere."*

Leftwing agitators "did just that, attacking Trump officials in restaurants and at their homes." A precursor of what was to come in the summer of 2020 when Antifa and the Black Lives Matter insurrectionists launched massive riots, arson and looting which the corporate media downplayed or ignored.

Laughably, CNN actually claimed on-air that the riot in Kenosha he was a "mostly peaceful protest" - with buildings burning in the background! No lie was too big for Biden's media Praetorian Guard to tell.

In addition, Trump supporters were regularly harassed, and often physically attacked, for nothing more than participating in an actual peaceful demonstration or getting caught wearing a MAGA hat. All in an election-rigging effort to intimidate Trump supporters and keep them from showing their support in public.

If the left didn't promote the violence and riots during the "summer of rage" leading up the general election, at the very least they did nothing to stop it. It was a calculated effort to rig the election.

Trump was blocked from doing anything to intervene and stop the riots, but the left blamed him for them anyway. On August 27, 2020, Biden tweeted: "Remember: every example of violence Donald Trump decries has happened on his watch. Under his leadership. During

his presidency."

And naturally, while Trump's campaign rallies were labeled "super-spreader" events, no such label was applied to the riots. The hypocrisy was as obvious as it was outrageous.

### **Count 13: Universal Mail-In Balloting**

"You never let a serious crisis go to waste," former Obama apparatchik Rahm Emanuel famously advised back in 2008. "And what I mean by that, it's an opportunity to do things you think you could not do before."

And, in fact, Democrats used COVID hysteria to enact election reforms they'd spent years trying to get through Congress without success. They changed the rules in the middle of the game, successfully transforming elections all across the country into "mail-in" elections with few, if any, precautions to protect the integrity of the vote.

On May 26, 2020 Trump tweeted...

*"There is NO WAY (ZERO!) that Mail-In Ballots will be anything less than substantially fraudulent. Mail boxes will be robbed, ballots will be forged & even illegally printed out & fraudulently signed. ... This will be a Rigged Election."*

Twitter immediately tagged the tweet and issued a statement that "Trump makes an unsubstantiated claim that mail-in ballots will lead to voter fraud." But shortly thereafter it was discovered that in the May mail-in municipal elections in Paterson, NJ, four men, including the vice president of the city council, had committed widespread voting fraud.

Trump was proven right. Again.

In the end, the number of mail-in ballots

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went from around 33 million in 2016 to over 100 million in 2020. Yes, the election was rigged.

## **Count 14: The GOP Convention**

Republicans spent years, as well as millions, preparing for the Republican National Convention in Charlotte, NC. But Democrats again weaponized COVID to throw a monkey wrench in all the plans, demanding all manner of untenable requirements for attendees.

It got so bad so late in the game that the GOP and the Trump campaign were forced to move the convention into Trump's backyard at the White House. Afterwards, Trump supporters were accosted in the street as they walked back to their hotel rooms.

## **Count 15: Wisconsin**

In a clear election-rigging move, Democrats in the swing state of Wisconsin succeeded in keeping third-party candidates who might have sucked votes away from Biden off the ballot. Did the same thing in swing-state Pennsylvania.

The Green Party was kicked off the ballot in Wisconsin because their vice-presidential candidate had allegedly listed an incorrect address on the party's filing statement. And Kanye West was kept off the ballot for supposedly filing just 14 seconds(!) late thanks to the doors to the clerk's office being locked so his people couldn't get in.

## **Count 16: Bounty-gate**

Recognizing Trump's overwhelming support with the military and their families, the media set out to do something about it.

In June 2020, the New York Times

published a story - citing anonymous sources, of course - that the Russians had secretly offered to pay bounties to the Taliban for killing American soldiers in Afghanistan. The media opined this was further proof that Trump was a Soviet asset for Vladimir Putin.

Then the Atlantic ran a story falsely claiming Trump skipped a visit to the Aisne-Marne American Cemetery in France because it was windy and rainy and he didn't want to get his hair messed up. The article also published an accusation - again, fed to them by an anonymous source - that Trump said, "Why should I go to that cemetery? It's filled with losers."

It was a lie. Trump never said any such thing. But it didn't stop the media and the Biden campaign from falsely claiming he did.

## **Count 17: Voter Suppression Polls**

The media weaponized the use of skewed and fatally flawed polls to demoralize Trump's supporters by pushing the idea that Trump had no chance to win.

In one of the worst examples, ABC and the Washington Post published polls one week before election day saying Trump was behind in Wisconsin by 17 points. The New York Times said it was 11 points. Reuters said 10. CNN and CNBC said 8.

"It's voter suppression to keep people home," Trump accurately observed. In fact, the president only "lost" Wisconsin 49.45% to 48.82%. Not hard to conclude the media's poll-rigging cost Trump the state.

## **Count 18: Going Postal**

The media trumped up a story claiming

Trump was trying to tamp down mail-in voting by removing mailboxes in Oregon, complete with pictures of mail boxes being loaded onto trucks.

But it turned out the post office had removed a total of just 30 mailboxes, on its own, as part of its standard procedure for removing boxes that needed repair or were already scheduled to be replaced. Yet another in-kind contribution to the Biden campaign by the media and Big Tech.

## **Count 19: Hidin' Biden**

Recognizing that every Biden appearance opened the opportunity for one of his infamous gaffes or a rambling mish-mash of unintelligible mush, his campaign essentially hid the would-be leader of the free world in his Delaware basement and regularly called media “lids” – announcements that Biden was done for the day – at breakfast time.

“The campaign thought the less the people saw of Biden, the better,” Hemingway notes.

The Bidenites essentially outsourced their campaign to a willing media that was all too happy to belch up rosy stories about Biden while simultaneously trashing Trump at every opportunity.

## **Count 20: Saving Private Biden**

In the fall of 2020, the New York Post broke a blockbuster story on Hunter Biden’s laptop – which he’d forgotten to pick up from a repair shop.

Emails revealed that Hunter was being paid \$1 million a year to sit on the board of a Ukrainian energy company even though he had no energy sector experience, had received a \$3.5 million wire transfer from

the wife of a former Moscow mayor, and was involved in a \$10 million pay-to-play deal with a Chinese energy company in which 10% of the proceeds were to go to “the big guy” – his father.

The fake news media circled the wagons, immediately claimed the computer had been hacked, and said the whole thing was part of a new Russian disinformation campaign. And Big Tech throttled the story on social media.

But then one of Hunter’s former business partners, Tony Bobulinski, confirmed, on the record, that he had first-hand knowledge that Joe Biden was, in fact, “the big guy.” Didn’t matter. Big Tech and the corporate media buried the explosive revelation.

Hemingway notes that the Media Research Center found that “45 percent of Biden voters were unaware of any financial scandals involving Hunter Biden” and “one in six Biden voters said they would not have voted for Biden had they known the full extent of the financial corruption scandals involving Hunter Biden.”

All part of the collusion to rig the election.

## **Count 21: Rigged Debates**

The supposedly non-partisan Commission on Presidential Debates went all-in for Biden.

When it became obvious that millions of ballots were being mailed out weeks before the first debate was scheduled, Trump asked for the addition of a fourth debate in early September. The request was flatly rejected.

In the first debate, media moderator Chris Wallace tag-teamed with Biden to throw Trump off his game. At one point in

# MUTH'S TRUTHS

the debate, Trump remarked to Wallace, “I guess I’m debating you, not him.”

The commission then unilaterally cancelled the second in-person debate and announced it would be done virtually. In response, Trump refused to participate.

At the same time, it was revealed that Steve Scully, the scheduled moderator for the second debate, was actually “a former Biden intern and Ted Kennedy staffer” who had been seeking advice from Anthony Scaramucci, a bitter anti-Trump former White House communications director who was fired after just 10 days on the job.

The commission dismissed the collusion, repeating Scully’s claim that he was “hacked.” A week later, Scaramucci admitted he lied.

The final presidential debate was supposed to focus on foreign policy – a strong suit for Trump, especially with peace deals breaking out all over the Middle East and the southern border being secured for the first time in memory.

The issue was also known to be an Achilles heel for Biden, who was characterized by former Defense Secretary Robert Gates under Obama as having “been wrong on nearly every major foreign policy and national security issue over the past four decades.”

The debate commission unilaterally changed the debate topic from foreign policy to general issues. And once again the media moderator went easy on Biden while putting Trump through a ringer.

## **Count 22: Georgia**

On Election Night, there was a delay in counting ballots in Fulton County, GA.

Initially, the delay was blamed on a broken water main. Later it was characterized as a simple burst pipe. Eventually they’d claim it was an overflowing urinal. All of which was a harbinger of things to come.

At 10:30 pm, poll watchers were told to leave the counting facility and come back the next morning to continue the work.

It was then discovered that four election workers had not left and the counting continued with no observers – other than a camera which later showed that “a small remnant of about four workers began pulling trunks containing thousands of ballots from underneath a table with a long tablecloth and running ballots through machines.”

Despite the video, Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensberger went on 60 Minutes and declared, with a straight face, “We had safe, secure, honest elections.” The media, naturally, echoed his claim that nothing untoward took place in Georgia and no court would touch the dispute with a ten-foot pole.

The Peach Tree state was successfully rigged to go for Biden.

## **Count 23: Arizona**

FOX News raised eyebrows and fueled anger by calling Arizona for Biden well before the results were clear and well before any other network did the same. Serious questions about the election’s integrity were immediately raised. Fortunately for Biden, he had an ally in the Secretary of State’s office.

Democrat Katie Hobbs was a well-known Trump hater. She once tweeted that Trump was “more interested in pandering to his neo-nazi base than being @POTUS for all Americans.” And she fought tooth-and-

nail against every effort to get to the bottom of the problems discovered, especially in Maricopa County.

## **Count 24: SCOTUS Punts**

The U.S. Supreme Court had multiple opportunities to weigh in on the constitutionality of the Democrats' efforts to change election laws and procedures. It refused, claiming "there wasn't sufficient time to review before the election or because no harm could be shown as the election hadn't happened yet."

Then in February 2021, the Court punted again, declaring a challenge by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, joined by 17 other AG's, was dismissed by the Court for lack of "standing." Which got Justice Clarence Thomas rather hot under the collar.

"One wonders what this Court waits for," he wrote in a blistering dissent. "We failed to settle this dispute before the election, and thus provide clear rules. Now we again fail to provide clear rules for future elections. The decision to leave election law hidden beneath a shroud of doubt is baffling. By doing nothing, we invite further confusion and erosion of voter confidence."

The fix was in. And SCOTUS stood by and let it happen.

"So, yes," Hemingway concludes, "millions of American citizens have reason to be concerned about the integrity of the 2020 election." Unfortunately, "Republican voters had no idea what had been done until it was too late."

Now, here's the thing...

What's done is done. You can't put the genie back in the bottle. You can't put the

toothpaste back in the tube. But the jig is up now. As Chief Engineer Scotty of the USS Enterprise so famously put it, "Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me."

Quitting and refusing to vote in future elections without an "audit" of what happened in 2020 is fighting the last war and just plain stupid. The elections in 2021, especially in Virginia and even New Jersey, prove Republicans can still win if they're vigilant in protecting election security and don't forfeit the game without playing.

We CAN save the nation. We CAN make America great again...again. But as the saying goes, the world belongs to those who show up. Get thee to the polls in 2022!

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## **DON'T BUY INTO THE DEMONIC PLANDEMIC. DON'T SELL YOUR SOUL. USE YOUR POWER. REGAIN LIBERTY.**

### **Freedom Lovers - It's Now or Never - Preserve Your Freedoms Now Before It's Too Late**

Day by day, the PLANdemic script written in COVID-19 The Great Reset by German World Economic Forum Klaus Swabb's liberty revoking blueprint is under the magnifying glass in some local governments. Unlike JFK's murder, this Nazi style operation Lock Step was carefully transcribed and played out Davos-style. Operation Lock Step is identified as one of the four scenarios written about and practiced in case of a pandemic by the Luciferian globalist and can no longer be considered a "conspiracy theory." Before our noses, they often used our tax monies to support their secret organizations and even practiced the scenarios that were somehow perfectly predicted by like-minds of Fauci, Bill Gates, and Klaus Swabb.

Between Operation Lock Step and the Georgia Guidestones, we've all seen the shocking glimpse into the initial blueprint to the plan of Great Deception. The puppeteers controlling the purse strings of the political puppets hope to pull off their plan between 2001 and 2024. The New World Order's Great Reset agenda and their final solution for humanity to "Build Back Better" continue to be pushed, that is, unless We The People stop it.

Thanks to the leftist's agenda, our time for individual research is often limited. We are too busy trying to keep our kids safe, keep our jobs, avoid the deadly biological weapons, and be censored from the town square when trying to communicate. The demonic communists are after blood, the unborn, and your God-given Yeshua encoded DNA. Yes, that's right, scientists have confirmed that each human's DNA is encoded with

the letters YESHUA. Throughout this article, I hope to equip each of you with knowledge and armor you with the Bill of Rights to regain your freedoms and protect your family. If you believe in "give me liberty or give me death," keep reading.

### **Move Away From The Commies & Their Ideas**

Less than seven companies own our major media and social media organizations. While they allow Chinese Communist Party ads and dictators to speak freely, our conservative values and views are silenced. Avoid social censorship altogether. They profit off of your eyeballs and the information technology they gain from knowing our every move.

Turn off the tell-lie-vision. Don't spend valuable time on fakebook or let them censor you. If I didn't own a technology and digital media company, I would delete Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, & LinkedIn from my phone! Educate yourself with the truth! Switch to Telegram, Rumble, Bitchute. Start watching the banned and censored content and ask yourselves why it would be censored. Search PatriotsPerspective on any of those sites to get started.

### **Learn Your Constitutional Rights & Use Your Bill of Rights**

It's essential for Americans to understand their constitutional rights and how to defeat the globalist's color revolution going on in our local governments and school boards.

In New York City, phone apps control & track every movement New Yorkers make. Together with facial recognition services supplied by 15,280 facial recognition cameras. While the New York

Police Department (NYPD) states no one has ever been solely arrested based on facial recognition, it would be effortless.

Locked down and often prohibited from seeing the light of day, Australians straying too far from their homes hear police drones, telling them they have five minutes to retreat into their homes. How did this happen? They first gave up their guns and downloaded apps.

**Know your rights:** *Constitutionally, guns are guaranteed by our second amendment. They keep the leftists astray. Weapons are the only reason the commies have not already come after everything we own. Secondly, do NOT allow phone apps or social media to track your movements or location. Learn how to turn off all location tracking here: [PuTTinOuT.com/how-to-turn-off-location-tracking](http://PuTTinOuT.com/how-to-turn-off-location-tracking)*

### **#AxeTheVax #ShowYourSmile**

Small changes and human expressions make BIG DIFFERENCES. Much like President Lincoln, we must all do our part to free ourselves from slavery. At the beginning of 2020, we were told to "mask up," "stop the spread," "save humanity."

Unknowingly to most Christians, masking has traditionally played a role in occult rituals. MK Ultra mind control victims confirm masks were among the first tools used to invoke control. Despite fact-checkers stating false claims, Homeland security officers I've personally spoken with from Miami to New York confirmed masks aid in human trafficking.

From a health perspective, common sense must kick in! If can blow cigarette smoke through masks or if sheetrock dust goes through a mask, so will the COVID-19 particles.

### **Your Body, Your Choice No Matter The CDC's Altered Vaccine Definition**

The Resident in Chief Joey Bribes may mandate privately-held public transportation organizations and companies to muzzle workers and patrons with face diapers. Oh, how easily so many succumb to a dictatorship currently run by Dictor Dr. Fauci and Resident in Chief Joey Bribes.

Remember, Satan's biggest weapon is fear, and the Demons went public with a 2020 taxpayer-funded propaganda campaign that hit us all like a ton of bricks! At times, I had to remind myself that I had flown through multiple places in the United States, visited numerous islands in the Philippines, had layovers in Tokyo, New York, Dallas, and many others before arriving home to lock down to flatten the curve in Miami.

Thanks to Bachelor of Science EE and 1996 Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Master of Science graduate and U.S. Representative of Kentucky, Thomas Massie, tweeted a critical notice: the CDC changed vaccination definitions before our very eyes. The definition changes were as follows:

**Vaccination (pre-2015):** Injection of a killed or weakened infectious organism in order to prevent the disease.

**Vaccination (2015-2021):** The act of introducing a vaccine into the body to produce immunity to a specific disease.

**Vaccination (September 2021):** The act of introducing a vaccine into the body to produce protection from a specific disease.

In CDC and NIH have rewritten definitions to define as a "vaccine" that's "safe and effective." All while whistleblowers and trial participant stories are being censored by big tech.

The World Health Organization & CDC demand our movements based on our World War II-like "health cards."

Businesses are told they must enforce unconstitutional mandates for employees to provide informed consent to be injected with an experimental vaccine with intentionally left blank ingredients list or throw you out of their establishments and off the workforce. Remember there is NO FDA-approved vaccine available.

### **Know Your Rights: Submit Work & Travel Freely! Submit Religious & Medical Exemptions**

· *Call the CDC and ask where to get the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, now marketed as Comirnaty. Record your call. So far, calls have*

confirmed it's not available.

- Seek a doctor who puts your health and well-being above any CDC spiffs.
- Avoid any businesses requiring masks or vaccination proof altogether.
- Use your right to submit religious and medical exemptions; include a link to your call with your exemption letter.
- Since the beginning of 2021, my sample religious or medical exemptions have kept people from CommieFornia to New York employed and traveling freely without question or even a response in many cases: Patriotserspective.com/free-exemption-letters

### Take Back Your Local Government

During the 2017 American Presidential inauguration speech, President Trump stated, "Today's ceremony, however, has very special meaning. Because today we are not merely transferring power from one Administration to another, or from one party to another – but we are transferring power from Washington, D.C. and giving it back to you, the American People." I highly encourage each of you to read or relisten to his full inauguration speech. Trump went on to state, "January 20th, 2017, will be remembered as the day the people became the rulers of this nation again."

**Know Your Rights:** Hold your elected officials accountable. Submit public records requests. File ethics complaints on politicians not following the law. Join groups that are genuinely defending the Republic.

### Critical Race Theory and Social-Emotional Learning Are Threats To Our Republic

The controlling commies with Marxist critical race theory agendas hiding under the blanket of Social Emotional Learning (SEL) are after your kid's minds and sexual identity. Books containing more sexual content than I care to discuss publicly are made available to elementary school kids.

Every tax-paying citizen should attend school board meetings to use their first amendment rights and bill of rights to speak against the digital platforms known as SEL, a form of Critical Race

Theory (CRT). If parents use their first amendment rights to speak up at school boards, leftists request FBI enforcement. Next, it will be Child Protective Services to take away the kids. Teachers standing up to this are being harassed; others are enticed teachers to harass kids at school.

**Know Your Rights:** Even if you have no children, attend Your City Council or School Board Meeting. Parents need tax-paying citizens in each region to speak up, so their children are not targeted or harassed at school. Obtain your child's or grandchildren's school reading list. Start a group on telegram or via text to share findings. Speak out at your next school board meeting to keep the CRT and SEL programs away from your community. Take screenshots and share any odd or sexual findings publicly and email them to the school board.



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Ben Shapiro

## THE RED WAVE, AND THE DEMOCRATIC SUICIDE STRATEGY

This week, reality struck back against Democratic electoral utopianism.

Since 2012, Democrats have been convinced that a new, durable, near-unbeatable political coalition was in the making: a coalition largely comprised of college-educated white voters, women, younger Americans and racial minorities. This coalition would overtake the demographically shrinking "old, white majority" and win victory after victory. As Ruy Teixeira and John Halpin wrote for the Center for American Progress in the aftermath of Obama's reelection, "Obama's strong progressive majority -- built on a multi-racial, multi-ethnic, cross-class coalition in support of an activist ... is real and growing and it reflects the face and beliefs of the United States in the early part of the 21st Century." CAP called this new strategy "the culmination of a decades-long project to build an electorally viable and ideologically coherent progressive coalition in national politics."

Ever since 2012, Democrats have been chasing that chimera. Instead of seeing Obama's 2012 victory as a testament to Obama's unique political skill, they have doubled down on the CAP strategy: more progressivism, more race-based politics. When that strategy failed in 2016, they chalked it up to Russian election interference and Facebook propaganda. When President Joe Biden won election in 2020, they announced that their strategy had been vindicated -- even though the election was rather obviously a referendum on former President Donald Trump personally, not proof of their strategic brilliance.

And so, Democrats misread the tea leaves. Biden was elected to do two things: be Not Trump and restore a sense of moderation and stability to the White House. He has succeeded in the first, mainly because nobody is Trump. He has utterly failed in the second. That's because Biden rejected

the central premise of his own candidacy, calling for more social spending than any president in history, abandoning Afghanistan to the Taliban for no apparent geostrategic reason, embracing the radical language of anti-racist activists, cramming down the restrictive COVID-19 policies via the administrative state and characterizing his opponents as bigots and Jan. 6-adjacent domestic terrorists. Biden Mini-Me's like Terry McAuliffe in Virginia have imitated the strategy.

The result, predictably, was disaster -- not just in Virginia, but across the country. In Virginia, a state Biden won by 10 points, McAuliffe went down in flames, a black female Republican became lieutenant governor, a Cuban American became attorney general, and the GOP took the House of Delegates; in New Jersey, a no-name candidate ran dead even with media-feted Democratic Gov. Phil Murphy; in Buffalo, New York, Sen. Chuck Schumer-endorsed democratic socialist India Walton imploded against a write-in candidate; in Minneapolis, the "defund the police" movement shattered on the rocks of reality, with voters overwhelmingly rejecting the dismantling of the police department; in New York City, Eric Adams became mayor and quickly pledged to work with new Republican city council members.

Now, Democrats have a choice. They can either tack back to the center -- stop pushing a "Build Back Better" grab bag of spending that is unpopular and unnecessary -- or they can push forward. They can stop pressing the language of the 1619 Project in public school education -- or they can demand that parents shut up. They can double down on progressivism or try to find a Clintonian third way.

Right now, it looks like they'll embrace more cowbell. The media and Democratic response to

*(continued on page 46)* →

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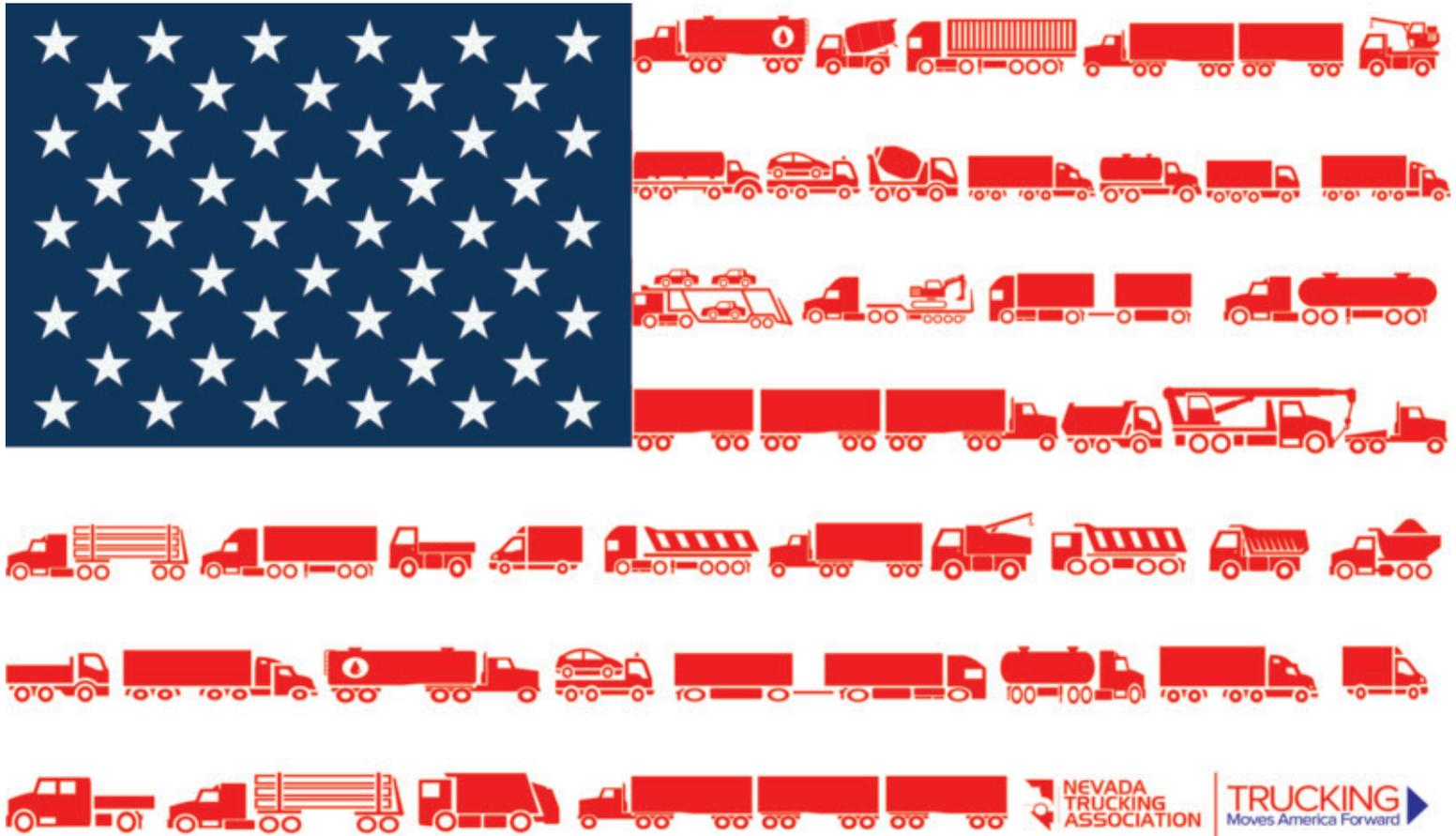
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## THE NEVADA SUPREME COURT HAS AN OBLIGATION TO ENFORCE THE CONSTITUTIONAL LIMITS IMPOSED UPON GOVERNMENT

That the judiciary must enforce the constitutional rules imposed upon government, and that their failure to do so would lead to tyranny, has been understood since before the founding of this state.

*Marbury v. Madison*, 5 U.S. 137, 176 (1803).

Under our co-equal, tripartite form of government, it is the responsibility of the Nevada Supreme Court “to interpret the Constitution and to resolve disputes arising under it.” *Monier v. Gallen*, 122 N.H. 474, 476 (N.H. 1982).

Yet, when it comes to enforcing Nevada’s constitutional separation of powers doctrine, state courts have repeatedly failed to perform this vital task. While the doctrine requires that no person charged with the power of one branch of government exercise any functions related to another,

Consequently, numerous government employees who enforce the law and thus exercise a function of the executive branch are allowed to simultaneously wield the legislative power through their dual service as a state legislator. Clark County prosecutor Nicole Cannizzaro is the most prominent example of this practice: As Senate Majority Leader, Cannizzaro can literally write the laws she later chooses whether to enforce.

Rather than addressing the blatant constitutional violation, however, the Nevada courts have instead so far dismissed all challenges by asserting that only those who have suffered a unique and specific harm — as opposed to the general harm caused to all Nevadans when their government violates the Constitution — are entitled to bring a lawsuit. There is nothing in the Nevada Constitution which supports this judge-made rule, which instead finds its origin in federal case law.

As a threshold matter, federal decisions regarding standing “are not binding upon” state supreme courts, which are, instead, “free to dispense with the requirement for injury where the

public interest so demands.” *State ex rel. Ohio Academy of Trial Lawyers v. Sheward*, 86 Ohio St. 3d 451, 715 N.E.2d 1062, 1999 Ohio 123 (1999).

As the authoritative legal encyclopedia, *American Jurisprudence*, explains: “Unlike the federal courts, state courts are not bound by constitutional strictures on standing; with state courts standing is a self-imposed rule of restraint.”

Thus, the claim that the Nevada Supreme Court cannot address the ongoing violation of Nevada’s Constitution due to a perceived lack of standing is without merit, a fact recognized by numerous other state supreme courts nationwide.

As the Wyoming Supreme Court previously held, state supreme courts can adopt “a more expansive or relaxed definition of standing when a matter of great public interest or importance is at stake.” *Jolley v. State Loan and Inv. Bd.*, 38 P.3d 1073, 1077 (Wyo. 2002).

While this public importance test is rarely granted, the Iowa Supreme Court explained that it is designed precisely for cases like these, “when the issue is of utmost importance and the constitutional protections are most needed.” *Godfrey v. State*, 752 N.W.2d 413, 427 (Iowa 2008).

Ironically, it was the Nevada Supreme Court that first warned of the devastating consequences that would result if the separation of powers doctrine was not applied with a “fullness of conception... involving all of the elements of its meanings and correlations.” *Galloway v. Truesdell*, 83 Nev. 13, 422 P.2d 237 (1967). The Court further explained that the very attainment of freedom itself required vigorous enforcement of the separation of powers doctrine. *Id.*

Unfortunately, a total lack of enforcement in the nearly half century that has passed since Galloway is largely responsible for enabling those same abuses the Court once seemed so committed to preventing. Confidence in the rule of law is undermined as, despite the plain text of the constitutional separation of powers prohibition, legislators nonetheless continue to engage in the prohibited act of dual service.

Famously, former Assemblyman and Las Vegas city employee Wendell Williams in 2003 openly admitted to the conflict that is ordinarily merely implied with legislative dual service when he claimed to have voted for a particular piece of legislation that would benefit his government employer in exchange for a pay raise and promotion. The scandal was so brazen that it prompted yet another Attorney General opinion, which would form the basis of then-Secretary of State Dean Heller's lawsuit the following year.

In Heller, the Nevada Supreme Court declined to address the issue due to lack of standing, but did offer the following guidance for how to bring an appropriate challenge:

declaratory relief, possibly coupled with a request for injunctive relief, could be sought against other executive branch employees. The party with the clearest standing to bring the quo warranto action would be the attorney general and declaratory relief could be sought by someone with a "legally protectable interest," such as a person seeking the executive branch position held by the legislator. Individual legislators would need to be named as either quo warranto respondents or declaratory relief defendants. — Secretary of State v. Nevada State Legislature (July 14, 2004, 120 Nev., Advance Opinion 51).

Nearly two decades later, this issue has still failed to receive substantive review from the Nevada Supreme Court, even as legislative dual service and the abuses associated with it have reached unprecedented heights.

Despite the dozens of viable cases that have presented themselves since Heller, no Attorney General has ever brought a quo warranto action. That dual service is a bipartisan affair, and that the AG is an elected politician that is likely uninterested in harming members of his or her own party, almost certainly explains this inaction. In other

words, any Attorney General bringing a quo warranto action on the grounds of legislative dual service runs the risk of harming his fellow party members, given the proliferation of the practice on both sides of the political aisle.

But, as the South Carolina Supreme Court explained, citizens "must be afforded access to the judicial process to address alleged injustices," and, clearly, relying on a politician to act against the best interest of his fellow party members has all but denied Nevadans that access. *Sloan v. Sanford*, 357 S.C. 431, 434, 593 S.E.2d 470, 472 (2004).

With the Attorney General unable or unwilling to perform this role, the only avenue Heller afforded Nevadans to vindicate this most fundamental constitutional right is through a private action brought by someone with a "legally protectable interest."

After an exhaustive search, NPRI finally located just such a plaintiff in 2011 and initiated a lawsuit to properly bring this issue before the state supreme court so that Nevadans may finally be provided with a resolution on the meaning and application of the separation of powers doctrine — which the Nevada Supreme Court has consistently affirmed is "perhaps the most important single principle of government" protecting and safeguarding Nevadans' liberties.

Yet, after the offending dual-serving legislator resigned his government job, the Nevada Supreme Court declined to rule on the issue, claiming the matter was moot, despite the prevalence of numerous other dual-serving legislators at that time.

It would take 7 years before another suitable plaintiff was identified. In that case, the district court dismissed the case on the grounds that, pursuant to Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure 19, joinder of all the numerous other legislators engaging in dual employment was both necessary and unable to be accomplished by a single plaintiff.

The district court in the instant case dismissed on similar grounds. As evidenced by the fact that only 2 suitable plaintiffs have been identified since Heller, the requirement to identify an equal number of qualified, personally harmed plaintiffs to match all dual-serving legislators has transformed what was presented as an avenue for justice into nothing more than a mirage.

# COUNTERPUNCH

As the Nevada Supreme Court so emphatically stated in *Galloway*, this issue is of such profound importance as to require vigorous enforcement. Yet, Nevadans are helpless to enforce the constitutional rules imposed upon government; only the Nevada Supreme Court can do that. It is precisely for these kinds of “exceptional circumstances...in cases involving issues of great public importance that are likely to recur,” that a relaxed definition of standing is warranted, according to the Arizona Supreme Court. *Bennett v. Napolitano*, 206 Ariz. 520, 81 P.3d 311 (2003).

The issue cries out for a resolution on multiple fronts. One need not be a constitutional scholar to determine that allowing a prosecutor to simultaneously act as chief lawmaker runs afoul of the separation of powers doctrine. That this clearly prohibited practice can continue, with Nevadans never even being afforded the opportunity for meaningful judicial review, undermines the faith and legitimacy of our very system of government.

That there is an inseparable conflict to legislative dual service has previously been acknowledged by all involved. Assemblyman and city employee Wendell Williams admitted that he used his power as a legislator to advance the interests of the government agency he worked for, rather than serving the public. A city councilwoman, meanwhile, acknowledged that governments sought to hire legislators because of the added “value” they provide as superlobbyists. Then-Mayor Oscar Goodman explained that, to his understanding, the whole point of hiring a legislator on the city payroll was to ensure that “you have somebody up there who was looking out for the City’s best interest.”

After the Nevada Supreme Court declined to exercise its discretion to address this issue in the first lawsuit brought by NPRI in 2011, the abuses associated with legislative dual service reached a level that appears unprecedented in the history of American government. Specifically, in both the 2019 and 2021 legislative session, the same person charged with the enforcing the law as county prosecutor also wielded the power of supreme lawmaker as Senate Majority Leader. There is no conception of the separation of powers that can tolerate such an outcome. Indeed, other than judicial inaction, there exists no persuasive authority whatsoever that even purports to condone such plainly unconstitutional conduct.

As the New Mexico Supreme Court previously held, cases like these, which involve “clear threats to the essential nature of state government,” require an engaged judiciary, rather than one that allows the threat to continue just to comply with the non-binding and non-applicable federal rules of standing. *State ex rel. Sandel v. New Mexico Pub. Util. Comm’n*, 1999-NMSC-019.

Private jobs don’t entail the lawful power to kill

The conflict-of-interest associated with allowing those who enforce the law to also write the law was most obvious in the proceedings surrounding a bill pertaining to the ultimate State power: the death penalty.

Assembly Bill 395 would have abolished the death penalty in Nevada. Clark County DA Steve Wolfson fiercely opposed the proposed legislation and testified in support of maintaining the death penalty. A report from the Reno Gazette-Journal described the legislative process surrounding AB 395 thusly:

“But AB 395 is yet to be considered in the Senate, where its fate will depend on a pair of legislators employed by one of the state’s most prominent death penalty proponents.”

These are, to put it mildly, not normal conflicts of interest inherent to a part-time, citizen-run legislature. The problem with legislative dual service rests upon the fundamental difference between government and non-governmental actors. When a private business raises its prices, Nevadans are under no obligation to pay them. When the government increases its fees or taxes, that money is forcibly taken from Nevadans without their consent. The only thing justifying such coercion in a free society is the notion that “in a representative government all powers of government belong ultimately to the people in their sovereign corporate capacity,” and that the government has only those powers authorized by the constitution and is constrained by the rules imposed upon them by the constitution. *Saxby v. Sonnemann*, 318 Ill. 600, 604 (Ill. 1925).

Only the Nevada Supreme Court can ensure Nevadans live under a form of government that is in accordance with the state constitution, which is precisely why inapplicable federal guidelines about standing should not prevent the Court from performing such a vital task. This fact is also

# COUNTERPUNCH

recognized by the Colorado Supreme Court, which granted standing to plaintiffs not because of any unique individualized harm, but “because of their interest in ensuring that the organization of government conforms to the constitution of this state.” *Dodge v. Department of Social Services*, 600 P.2d 70, 198 Colo. 379 (1979).

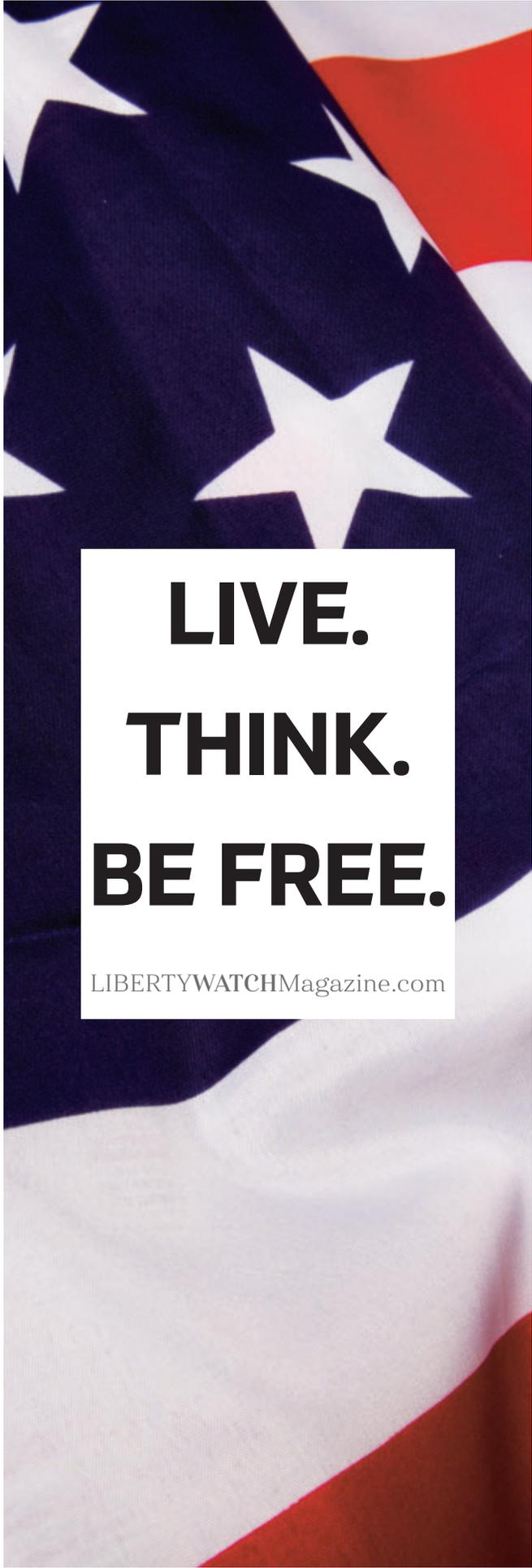
That the Nevada Supreme Court has not been able to provide judicial clarity on an issue of such profound public importance in the 17 years since *Heller* suggests that the roadmap provided therein was unduly narrow.

In the 2016 case of *Schwartz v. Lopez*, the Nevada Supreme Court recognized the need for a relaxed standard of standing for issues of statewide public importance, at least when it pertains to issues relating to government expenditures. But if an inappropriate use of tax dollars warrants a public-interest exception to standing, so too should constitutional violations that threaten to destroy the very essence of our system of representative government.

*Schwartz* stood for the proposition that it is improper for the judiciary to deny Nevadans relief on matters of statewide public importance simply because of the difficulties associated with the traditional rules of standing. Allowing Nevadans to be ruled by those who wield both the legislative and executive powers is no less tyrannical simply because it occurred independently of any particular legislative appropriation.

The Nevada Supreme Court should follow the logic of their ruling in *Schwartz*, as well as the reasoning of the numerous other state supreme courts cited above, and exercise its discretion to provide standing for cases like the instant matter, wherein “the governmental action would otherwise go unchallenged,” “judicial relief is appropriate,” and “no other persons are better situated to assert the claim.” *Consumer Party of Pa. v. Commonwealth*, 507 A.2d 323, 329 (Pa. 1986).

For more information on Nevada Policy’s ongoing Separation of Powers lawsuit, please visit <https://www.npri.org/separation-of-powers/>

A vertical photograph of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes, serving as a background for the text on the right side of the page.

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## LET PARENTS CHOOSE

As Virginia's gubernatorial election drew to a close last week, Democrat Terry McAuliffe brought in teachers union president Randi Weingarten.

He thought that would help?

I suppose he, like many progressives, believes everyone thinks the way he does.

"I'm not going to let parents come into schools and ... make their own decisions," he'd said. "I don't think parents should be telling schools what they should teach."

That's the political attitude: Government runs things. We, the experts, know what's best. Parents as "customers" who make choices? Nonsense.

I hope his defeat means Americans are figuring out that such politicians are enemies of progress.

Years ago, I was surprised to discover that NYC's failing public schools spent \$20,000 per student. Teachers had been holding protests where they shouted: "Fund schools! We don't have enough money!"

But they spent \$20,000 (now nearly \$30,000) per student! At 25 students per class, that's \$500,000 per classroom! Think what you could do with that money: hire five good teachers?

Where did the money go? No one in the bureaucracy had a good answer. Governments make money ... disappear.

I researched different education systems and did an ABC TV special called "Stupid in America." It showed how American students do worse than kids in other countries.

I suggested that parental choice would help. After all, competition brought us better phones, cars, supermarkets, etc., while holding prices down. Competition forces providers to constantly try new things to please their customers. But not in

government schools.

This year, most private and Catholic schools opened, while "public" (government-run) schools often stayed closed.

Monopolies kill innovation. When public schools began, most Americans worked on farms. That's why schools took a summer break, so kids could help on the farm. Today, fewer than 2% of us work on farms, yet nearly every government school still takes the summer off.

"Unionized monopolies like yours fail," I told Weingarten (when she still would speak to me). "It is the children who you are failing."

"We are not a unionized monopoly!" she snapped. "Folks who want to say this ... don't really care about kids."

But I do care about kids.

Of course, government-run schools are a monopoly. Don't like your school? Tough. School is terrible? Tough. Your taxes fund that school regardless of whether it's good or bad.

Suppose we bought groceries that way: no more supermarkets offering choices. We vote on whether we want meat or fish. Whichever wins -- that's what everyone eats.

When I interviewed Weingarten, I pointed out that civil service and union rules meant it could take 10 years to fire a bad teacher.

"We'll police our own profession," she said.

"I'd like to police my job, too," I responded. "But that's not how it works in life!"

Apparently, I was wrong. When it comes to

(continued on page 46) →

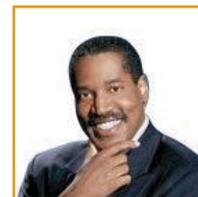


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Larry Elder  
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## THIS IS WHY I RAN

During and after my unsuccessful eight-week campaign for governor of California, I received many letters and tried to reply to as many as I could. These stood out.

Dear Mr. Elder,

Hi, my name is Henrique Del Monte (not his real name) and I am incarcerated at Corcoran State Prison (in California), where I am serving a 27-year prison sentence for multiple crimes I did not commit.

I have been incarcerated since I was 16 years old and today I'm 28 years old. The reason I'm writing you is because I admire and greatly respect what you do and what you want to do for this beautiful country. I am a Christian who believes that the moral fabric of this nation is being literally torn apart.

I watch your show here in prison; yes, I have a TV in my cell and your show comes on the NTD/ Epoch Times channel. I never paid attention and never really even cared about this nation until one day I kept hearing all the fuss about Donald Trump and the Republicans.

I decided to see for myself what was going on and I believe that if Christians do not stand up and sound the drum like in the Bible -- like what you were doing -- then this nation will go from a free and blessed country into a communist, cursed country.

So yeah, Larry, you've recently "lost the battle," like you said. But you also said, "We will win the war." Keep going. Fight for this country. Out!

Dear Mr. Elder,

Hello, my name is J.R., and I am 14.

I just want to tell you that I think your vision for California is brilliant. My sisters and I would really benefit from school choice. From what my mom and grandfather told me, you don't support the mask or vaccine mandates.

I'm going to high school, and I don't want to wear a mask like I was forced to do in junior high. Nobody wanted to talk to each other, and, after a while, I decided not to go to school. I opted for virtual school. It's not how I pictured I would end junior high school. My family fully supports you and we hope you win the position of governor of California.

Dear Mr. Elder,

My mom wants to move out of California because of Gov. Gavin Newsom. I hope that you win so we won't have to move. And please take the mask rule away. It's very dumb, and I don't like wearing the mask at all. I just want things to go back to normal.

From Kate, age 11.

Dear Larry,

We really would like you to win the recall in California. My name is Aiden and I am 11 years old, and from New Jersey.

I'm very interested in politics and watch you on Fox News. I asked my daddy to take me to a school board meeting, which he did. There are eight people running for our school board and we want the right people to be elected.

I really hope you win.

Dear Larry Elder,

Hello! My name is Caleb. I am 13 years old and in the eighth grade, and I live in Meridian, Idaho. I choose to write this letter to you because it is amazing what you were trying to do in California. It is one of the most liberal states in America, and you were trying to do something to set things straight. I was wondering what personally inspires you, whether it be God or family or something else. Also, what are you going to do now that the election is over? I want to thank you for inspiring me to speak about what's right, no matter the circumstances.

I've been asked many times why I decided to run, even though I knew it would be, to say the least, an uphill fight. This is why.



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## THE GOVERNMENT LIES ABOUT ITS SECRETS

Recently, this column offered a critical analysis of the state secrets privilege.

Last week, the government twice brought it to new lows. Here is the backstory.

A legal privilege is the ability of a party in litigation to keep a communication from the court and one's adversary because of a public policy determination that the free flow of information in certain private communications is a higher good than its public revelation.

Common examples of this are the patient-physician privilege, the priest-penitent privilege and the marital privilege.

In all three examples, legislatures have decided that because people rely on privacy in these situations, they need not fear the revelation of their communications.

So, if you reveal an embarrassing fact to your physician, a fact helpful to the physician's treatment of you, you need not fear the physician spilling the beans. The same is the case with your confessor and, in most states, your spouse.

The courts take privileges so seriously that their timely invocation can block the revelation of the contents of a privileged communication even if that revelation is commanded by a subpoena; even if that revelation would be dispositive of the outcome of the case; and even if that revelation would prevent a grave injustice. Thus, lawyers must be scrupulously honest when employing privileges.

Most privileges have their origins in honest and everyday personal interactions. One of them was created by fraud.

The state secrets privilege came about when government lawyers told a federal judge that information about the design of a plane used domestically by military intelligence was protected by the state secrets privilege. The plane had crashed, and its government employee passengers

were killed, and their spouses wanted to sue the manufacturer of the plane for damages.

The judge accepted the government's word that the identity of the manufacturer and thus the design of the plane were state secrets. The spouses lost their case.

Then, 50 years later, reporters who filed a Freedom of Information Act request learned that there were no secrets involved in the design of the plane. The feds were embarrassed by the crash and wanted to protect the government from more embarrassment and the plane's manufacturer from litigation, so they lied and made up a privilege, and the court bought it.

But the damage had been done. The innocent spouses of the dead government employees lost a case they surely would have won, and the Supreme Court created out of thin air another privilege -- one that only the government can claim.

Since the creation of this privilege, the feds have employed it dozens of times to block folks suing the government. They have even employed it in such a way as to block themselves from completing criminal prosecutions, which let free some defendants whom the feds told courts were dangerous and guilty of serious felonies.

Last week, in a military courtroom at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and in the Supreme Court, the government's passion for secrecy and compulsion to escape embarrassment and accountability reached new lows.

In pretrial proceedings, lawyers often argue to the court over the admissibility of documents in the case. In the Gitmo case, the judge ordered the government to release thousands of pages of documents -- many about the torture of the defendants -- with redactions of the state secrets. A redacted document blocks out the redacted

words, with the remainder of the document generally readable.

At the end of the pretrial oral argument in this criminal conspiracy case, defense counsel walked over to the government's table and showed the prosecutors more than 1,000 pages of documents in the case marked classified, but with no redactions.

Defense counsel had obtained them from the CIA under the Freedom of Information Act!

These were the same identical documents that the prosecutors had insisted bear redactions because the redacted materials -- according to the government -- constituted state secrets, the revelation of which would harm national security.

The judge ordered the government lawyers to review all redacted documents and justify all redactions. According to the CIA, which authored and released the documents, none of the redactions in the government version of the documents defense counsel brought into the courtroom contained any secrets.

As well last week, in a lawsuit in which a group of Muslim men sued the FBI for warrantless spying, the government claimed it could not defend the case without revealing state secrets and so the case should be dismissed. The government's argument is absurd, as the undercover FBI informant who joined and was spying on the group was so violently provocative that the defendants themselves reported him to the FBI, his bosses!

And two Supreme Court justices during oral argument, knowledgeable of the fraudulent origins of the state secrets privilege, suggested that the government cannot have it both ways -- either reveal the so-called secrets to a jury or pay for the unlawful surveillance.

What's going on here?

Lawyers who pull fast ones on their adversaries and who lie to the court are supposed to pay dearly. They can be disciplined to the point of the loss of their licenses to practice law, or their case can even be dismissed or the case against their

clients won by an adversary due to their misconduct.

But the government rarely punishes its own. Because this is a government that recognizes no limits to its powers, we have come to expect its excesses. When the government uses the resources it has taken from us to lie, cheat, steal, torture and kill -- and there is no outrage -- we have reached a new moral low.

The sensitivity of our collective consciences has been dulled by the repetitive behavior of a government whose officials and agents work without discerning right from wrong, and in utter disregard of the laws they have sworn to uphold. Why do we tolerate this?

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## THERE THEY GO AGAIN WITH THE 'TAX THE RICH' RUSE

Be honest.

Does anyone really believe that any of these new schemes that President Joe Biden conjures up every few days to "tax the rich" will cause Bill Gates, Elon Musk or Warren Buffett to pay more taxes?

It's clear why the superrich are a tempting target to, as Biden puts it, "pay their fair share." We have billionaires with almost unfathomable riches. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, a Massachusetts Democrat, calls their wealth "obscene."

Amazon founder Jeff Bezos has attained a wealth that exceeds some countries. Amazon's stock is now worth close to \$1 trillion. He owns perhaps 15% of the stock, which would mean his net worth is somewhere near \$150 billion. But as he has correctly pointed out, it also means that he has collectively created some \$850 billion of wealth for all of the millions of people who own Amazon stock -- which is probably close to one-third of all Americans.

That's not all. Amazon has added, conservatively speaking, \$1 trillion of consumer surplus for all of the tens of millions of people in the United States and around the world who go online and click to buy products on Amazon. A "consumer surplus" is the value of a product that people buy beyond the price they pay for it. If I can buy a can of tennis balls for \$3 but I derive \$10 of pleasure from playing with those balls, that \$7 difference is my net benefit. Multiply that by the billions of purchases people make from Amazon every day.

Or consider Sergey Brin, the co-founder of Google. He is a billionaire many times over, but he provides an intricate search engine that finds for you nearly any information you want in about five seconds. And the miracle here is that he charged you ZERO for it. So maybe there is an elusive free lunch after all.

Progressives like Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez

argue that people like Musk and Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg became multibillionaires thanks to government programs, such as schools and roads. Maybe. But it is arguably more accurate to say that they could reach their empire of riches because the government (SET ITAL) didn't (END ITAL) stand in their way. There's a good reason eight of the 10 most valuable companies in the world were sprouted here in the land of the free, the U.S., and not in China, Japan, Germany or France.

The Democrats argue that raising income, capital gains or wealth taxes on these rich people to as much as 55%, or half their annual earnings, is good for the economy because it will help pay for social programs to help the poor, such as free child care. But if you had to choose someone to invest your money in a way that will reward you with a high payoff, who would you choose? An entrepreneur with a proven golden touch like Musk or a politician like House Speaker Nancy Pelosi?

Higher tax rates on the rich are almost sure to make our society poorer, not richer. The government can't even run a railroad, stop \$75 billion of unemployment fraud or build a health care website.

Then there is the question I asked above: Will the rich really pay more if the top tax rate goes to 55% on millionaires? Doubtful. Billionaires like Buffett and Gates hire squadrons of lawyers, lobbyists and tax accountants who find or invent new loopholes in the tax system to shield them from the IRS tax collectors. This is why over the last 50 years, higher tax rates have generally corresponded with lower tax collections from the rich.

The scheme we should all be on to by now is that higher tax rates on the rich are always unfaillingly gateways to taxing everyone else.

*(continued on page 46)* →



Froma Harrop  
fharrop@gmail.com

## HEY GEN Z, YOU'RE NOT IN CHARGE

The Sunrise Movement didn't get what it wanted.

Because its young climate activists have been led to believe they are supremely important to the Democratic Party, they are very disappointed that more of their demands were not met in the final infrastructure deal.

"I'm really enraged that we have a Democratic trifecta and they haven't delivered for us yet," Lauren Maunus, 23, Sunrise's advocacy director, told Politico Magazine.

And herein lies the dilemma posed by militants on the left. Their leadership refers to the Democratic Party as "they" rather than "we." And their tantrums against fellow Democrats, if anything, make it harder to get any progressive measures passed.

The Sunrise Movement is a creature of a few House lefties who played, and lost, an extortionate game to tie passage of the popular infrastructure bill to the Build Back Better social spending package. After months of accomplishing neither -- while tearing down President Joe Biden's approval ratings and making Democrats look dysfunctional -- the infrastructure plan limped over the finish line.

The final product didn't devote as much money to addressing climate change as they (or this writer) would have wanted, but it did include billions for: public transportation, power lines to accommodate renewable energy, a network of electric vehicle recharging stations across the country and more.

Nonetheless, six Sunrise-backed House members staged a protest against it. Sane Democrats should primary every one of them: Reps. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Ilhan Omar, Rashida Tlaib, Ayanna Pressley, Cori Bush and Jamaal Bowman.

May we suggest a change in tactics? It took a bit of political naivete for Sunrise executive director Varshini Prakash, 28, to tell Politico Magazine in May: "We're kind of at the strongest that we have ever been. We're doing more rallies and demonstrations and actions."

Everyone was very excited about the rallies,

demonstrations and actions, but they were directed at Democrats. This didn't stop Democrats from losing a pile of House seats in the 2020 election. Sunrise activists may have helped the opposition through theatrics and the habit of gluing all kinds of woke paraphernalia to their messages.

Five Sunrise exhibitionists recently went on a hunger strike outside the White House, supposedly pressuring Biden to magically deliver them more action on climate. Imagine the worry that those precious bundles would miss a few meals.

Last June, Sunrise leaders planned for members to get arrested outside the White House. Mission accomplished, one of the Sunrisers boomed into a microphone, "What we just did is f---ing amazing. We just shut down the White House!"

Again, this was a Democratic White House, and the protesters, according to Politico, didn't seem to get any demands met. Also, Biden has been as much a tiger on climate as any Democrat can be, given the political realities.

By the way, chanting "F--- Joe Manchin" in a parking lot is not very effective. Joe Manchin does not seek Sunrise Movement's approval.

Not that the activists have noticed. Maunus beseeched Manchin "to look us in the eyes and tell us that his actions will be responsible for millions more deaths around the world." Oh, honey. I don't think he's going to do that.

Manchin's enormous power stems from the Senate being split 50-50. The left fringe should think about that when it freaks out voters in purple states who could give Democrats more secure majorities. The radicals it endorses win in places that would have voted for Democrats anyway while providing material for Republican attack ads directed elsewhere.

Should Republicans take control of both the House and Senate in the midterms -- a distinct possibility -- Americans wanting a forceful program to curb climate change may get less than nothing. Politics is not a game for children.



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## (THE RED WAVE, AND THE DEMOCRATIC SUICIDE STRATEGY

*continued from page 25)*

Virginia seems to be more spending; more labeling parental opposition to radicalism as racist and homophobic; more jabbering about Trump and Jan. 6 to distract from their own failures.

It's a bold strategy, Cotton. We'll see how it works out for them.

But for Democrats, a serious appraisal of the political landscape -- an appraisal that might end with the realistic assessment that Obama's coalition is not inevitable, that there are swing voters in America, that policy ought to be directed toward every voter -- might just be too difficult. Better to live in a fantasy world in which Obama is president forever, his coalition is durable and stable, and more progressivism is always the answer.

But 2022 is coming. And fantasy will meet reality once again for a Democratic Party committed to fundamental untruths about the American public.

## (THERE THEY GO AGAIN WITH THE 'TAX THE RICH' RUSE

*continued from page 40)*

The original 1913 income tax was 1% for people with incomes above \$3,000 (about \$83,000 today) and \$4,000 in income for married couples (about \$111,000 today). The top rate was 7% on \$500,000 or more (\$13.8 million). About 3% of the population was taxed. Congress promised the public two things: Tax rates would never go above 10%, and the middle class would never pay the tax. A few short years later, the highest rate was 70%, and almost everyone got socked with this new income tax to be paid by the rich.

The Alternative Minimum Tax in the late 1960s was aimed at a handful of multimillionaires. However, it wasn't long before this tax gadget was squeezing millions of people.

Biden promises he will never tax anyone making less than \$400,000. Really? Then why does he want to audit the transaction of every person with \$10,000 or more in their bank accounts?

It turns out that you may not think of yourself as rich. But Washington does.

## (LET PARENTS CHOOSE

*continued from page 34)*

public education, it's still how things work.

After "Stupid in America" aired, and millions watched, Weingarten held a protest outside my office. Hundreds of teachers carried signs, and shouted, "We are here to demand an apology from '20/20's' John Stossel!"

I surprised them by coming out of the ABC building to let them yell at me personally. Teachers told me I'd insulted them. Some said (probably correctly) that I had no clue how hard their jobs were.

So, Weingarten came up with a plan to educate me. "Teach for a week!" she shouted at me, through the loudspeaker. "We've got high schools; we've got elementary schools."

The teachers liked that idea. They started chanting, "Teach, John, teach!"

I think I surprised them again by saying, "OK!"

I would have taught in any classroom they picked. I wanted to videotape it.

But then they showed their bureaucratic nature. After repeatedly rescheduled meetings, they decided that I would not be allowed to teach.

Children are too important to be entrusted to unions or government monopolies. Competition, parental choice, would bring innovation that will make schools much better.

After Glenn Youngkin won the race for governor, he said, "We're going to introduce choice within our public school system."

If he does it, it's about time.

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Drew Johnson

## THE F-35 FIGHTER JET PROGRAM MUST BE GROUNDED TO PROTECT PILOTS AND TAX DOLLARS

The biggest boondoggle in the history of the world will get even more expensive for U.S. taxpayers unless members of Congress finally decide enough is enough.

When the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Program launched in 2001, it was hailed as a “high-performance, low-cost stealth aircraft.” Now, \$1.2 trillion later, it has proven anything but.

Despite being the most expensive military program by any country ever, F-35 fighter jets have proven defective, dangerous and largely a useless waste of Americans’ hard-earned tax dollars. And Congress’ nonpartisan watchdog agency agrees.

Earlier this year, the Government Accountability Office released a recommendation to Congress urging lawmakers to massively cut back expenses related to the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Program.

The GAO called the F-35 program “unaffordable” unless it met “cost-reduction efforts” and was successful in “achieving affordability constraints.”

Gaps between what the F-35 program was supposed to cost to operate and its actual price tag are projected to reach about \$6 billion a year, according to the GAO report. In total, the fighters will cost taxpayers more than \$1.7 trillion if Congress doesn’t put the brakes on the boondoggle.

In addition to being a record-breaking black hole for taxpayers, the F-35 program is also a dangerous, ineffective and hopelessly defective fighter for the military.

A February 2020 Pentagon report revealed the F-35, which Lockheed Martin has production in various configurations since 2006, still has 883 unresolved design flaws.

Shortly after the report was released, top military brass placed permanent flight restrictions

on the types of F-35s flown by the Navy and Marine Corps after they were found to be faulty and hazardous.

During sustained supersonic flight, military officials learned, the jets’ stealth coating blisters and wears away, allowing enemies to easily detect them on radar. Rather than fixing the problem, Pentagon officials chose to slap strict limits on the amount of time F-35s can fly at supersonic speeds. As a result, the jets are incapable of performing some of their most basic functions including supersonic intercepts and “maneuvering at high speeds to avoid a missile or survive a dogfight.”

Problems with the jets don’t end there.

F-35s are prone to pressure spikes that cause “excruciating” ear and sinus pain. Antennas necessary to communicate with friendly forces are easily damaged and rendered useless. The jets’ multimillion-dollar on-board radars often fail and have to be rebooted mid-flight due to buggy computer code. Additionally, the computer systems used to operate the fighters are vulnerable to being hacked by foreign adversaries.

The jets are constantly in the hangar for maintenance and modifications, leaving the fleet constantly depleted and incapable of meeting the Pentagon’s goal for mission-ready F-35s.

An F-35 test pilot even admitted that the jet performed worse than 1980s-era F-15s in dogfight situations. The plane is often unable to turn or climb fast enough to shoot down an enemy jet or avoid incoming enemy gunfire.

Clearly, it’s time to wind down the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Program. And many leaders in the

# MONEY MATTERS

Pentagon and on Capitol Hill agree. Even Rep. Adam Smith, D-Wash., the chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, called the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Program a “failure on a massive freaking scale.”

Fortunately, there’s a promising alternative to the F-35 program on the horizon.

The Air Force has already built working prototypes of the Next Generation Air Dominance (NGAD) Fighter, the jet project expected to replace the Joint Strike Fighter Program. By discontinuing new orders of F-35 and speeding up the development of the NGAD program, taxpayers and the military will be better off.

The only thing standing in the way of gradually transitioning to better, safer and more cost-effective fighter jets is the lobbying power of Lockheed Martin. The aerospace and defense giant doesn’t want Congress to kill its golden goose.

Lawmakers and Pentagon officials continue throwing good money after bad because the fighter jet fiasco is rooted in a flawed approach to government contracting.

Once Lockheed began presenting taxpayers with the bill for cost overruns related to producing F-35s, Defense Department officials and members of Congress said nothing. When Lockheed manufactured defective jets, the federal government paid Lockheed to fix them. After F-35s were plagued with safety issues, Lockheed was awarded with a new multibillion-dollar recurring contract to provide maintenance and logistics services.

Lockheed stands to make an additional \$527 billion dollars thanks to cost overruns, design flaws and unforeseen maintenance expenses before the conclusion of the F-35 program’s 66-year life cycle. In other words, the longer the F-35 program is allowed to continue -- and the worse the fighters perform, and the more flaws that have to be fixed -- the more Lockheed is paid.

Lawmakers must choose taxpayers, as well as to the brave men and women piloting America’s fighter jets, over lobbyists and move away from the disastrous F-35 debacle.

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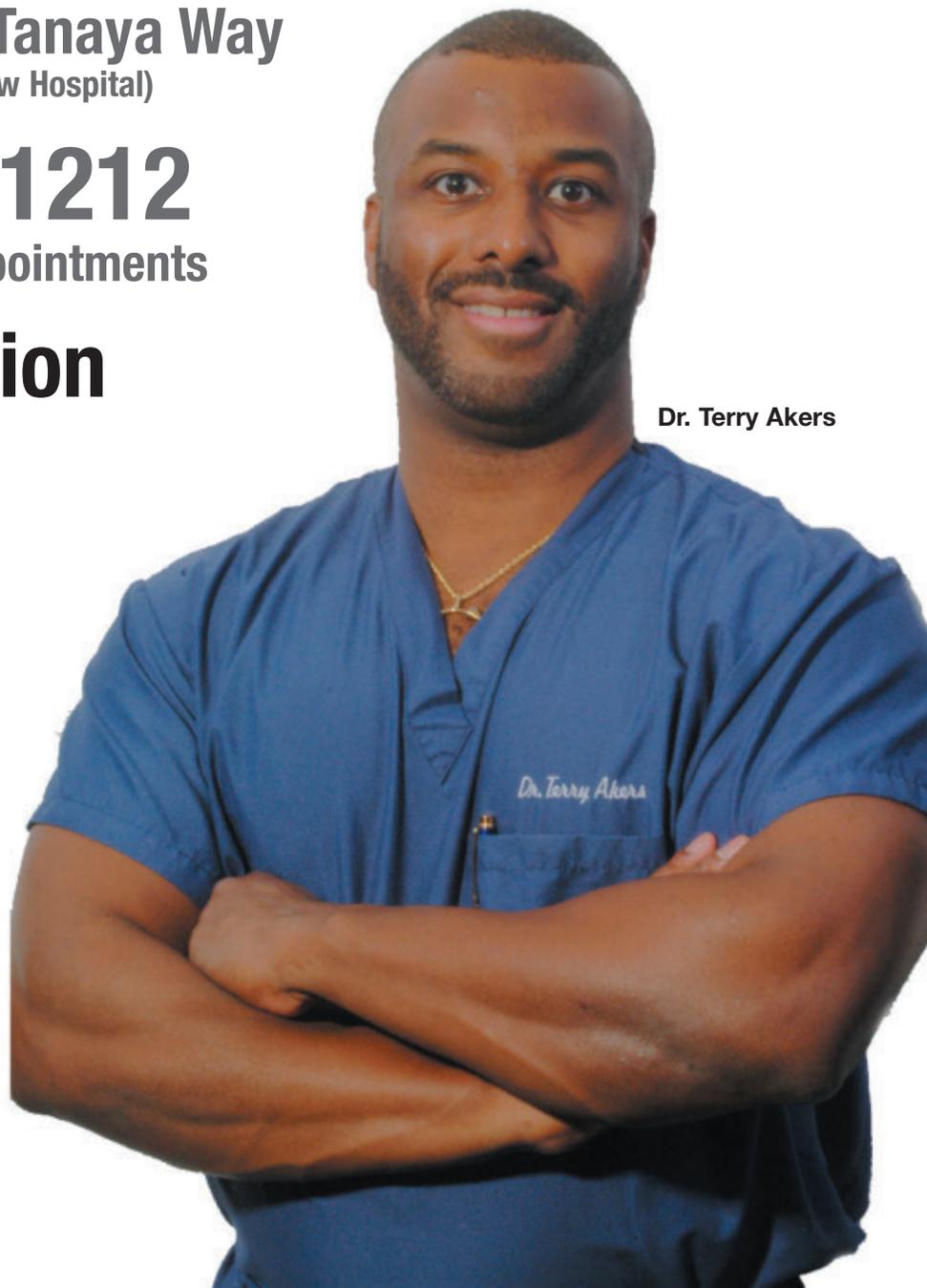
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