

Elephant Talk

Plano Republican Women

TFRW Region No: 3 Senate District No: 8

February 2023

President's Byline



On Martin Luther King Day, President Biden laid out a plan to help inner cities based on Equity, Inclusivity and Diversity. Biden only talked about fighting systemic racism in inner cities that has caused generational poverty, homelessness, and economic disparity in the black community. On the surface this sounds great but again it feeds the growing unrest in this country spurred by runaway racism perpetuated by the Democrats.

The inner cities Biden is talking about have all been run exclusively by Democrats from the mayor to the city council all the way down to the lowest government office since the 60s. We are supposed to believe their economic policies that have created school districts that are "pipelines to prison" in low-income areas are not to blame, the fault lies with some type of systematic hatred by Whites so insidious that it looks like they aren't even doing it, but they are according to Democrats.

This poison has spread to the entire country. It is crippling a new generation of children and has crippled their well-meaning parents. Martin Luther King said. ***"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."*** What happened to that???

Schools used to be institutions of learning, now children are condemned by their teachers to be singled out using Critical Race Theory. This splits the classroom into two types of students, oppressors, and the oppressed. Then there is the bi-racial child used by liberals to distract from failed policies and programs. This child is pulled between their parents and often forced to pick a side. You can be a person of color or white, you can no longer be the child of both. Not picking a side means you are using the "white privilege" afforded to you by your white parent and your lighter skin to get wrongfully ahead of others.

How can children on either side overcome such a large obstacle? This rot in public school districts is not limited to a few schools and staff but goes all the way to school district administrators, and board trustees. Kesha Hamilton, a board trustee in Jackson ISD in Michigan tweeted on Dec. 18th, saying, *"Whiteness is so evil. it manipulates then says, I won't apologize for my dishonesty and trauma inducing practices and thinks you should applaud it for being honest about its ability to manipulate and be dishonest."* Parents were understandably outraged, instead of apologizing, Kesha Hamilton issued this statement: "What I hope those who don't understand or are in denial of the realities of systemic racism/whiteness/white supremacy will do _ is be brave enough to attempt an understand of the experiences of people of color."

When parents showed up in force to the next school board meeting this January, supporters of Hamilton felt her comments about "whiteness" were addressing issues of systemic racism and were not hateful remarks targeting white individuals. Myeshia Jones, one of Hamilton's supporters said *"Whiteness is the system, the ideology, the belief, the thought that because your skin is white, you are superior to Black people, because your skin is white you deserve better."* Hamilton proudly said *"What I understand from being a woman in this American nation and a Black woman specifically is that sometimes others would rather I not exercise any of my rights as outlined in the Constitution. I do not apologize for exercising any of my rights."*

You are right, Kesha Hamilton, this is American. You have the ability to say anything you like because freedom of speech is a Constitutional right. But as another African American woman, I will absolutely judge you harshly. Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion can't be used to perpetrate open racism, suppression, and inequality in the public

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Calendar of Events

Board Meeting
February 7, 2023
11:30
Napoli's Restaurant

Next Meeting
February 21, 2023
11:30
Saltgrass - East Plano

CCRP Lincoln Day Dinner
Saturday, Feb 18
Southfork Ranch

PRW Presidents Byline

Continued from Page 1

schools. School board trustees must represent all children, they must be held to a higher standard.

This is not the only incident that has recently surfaced in the last few weeks. Principal, Ann Bonitatibus, and the director of student services, Brandon Kosatka, have been withholding testing information from families and the public for years, affecting the lives of at least 1,200 students over the principal's five-year tenure at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Fairfax County Virginia. By withholding notifications of National Merit awards from the students and parents, these students could not use those awards to boost their college admission prospects and earn scholarships. All in a misguided attempt at so called Equity.

This episode has emerged amid the school district's new strategy of "equal outcomes for every student, without exception" policy. School administrators have implemented an "equitable grading" policy that eliminates zeros, gives students a grade of 50 percent just for showing up, and assigns a cryptic code of "NTI" for assignments not turned in. The only comment they had was this mainly only affected Asian students, so the racism is spreading to other minorities. Mostly children of first-generation immigrants who push their kids to succeed. Being too successful is the new whiteness.

The CDC came out with this official statement April 8, 2021, that racism is a serious threat to the public's health. It also launched a new agencywide initiative aimed at recognizing that structural racism is a fundamental cause of health inequality in America. *'Racism is a public health crisis. Racism is killing black Americans by police violence, adverse socioeconomic conditions that contribute to serious health issues.'* Using public health to push an agenda has been tried before by Democrats. Remember, "Gun Violence is a public health issue." Why? Because if Democrats create a "public health issue", they can subvert existing laws. So, this is where we are, government sanctioned racism as a health care concern and the return of unflinching racist rhetoric spoken in public as casually as you would speak about the weather.

Add in the loss of learning from draconian COVID lock downs and pushing gender fluidity, you get a growing apathy from young adults. It's a race to the bottom for all kids.

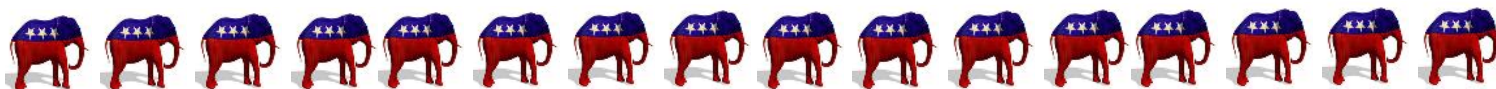
The Biden White house plans to spend billions fix the racism their party put in place for control and votes in black and brown communities for decades. They have managed to deflect who really started Jim Crow, who coined the word Super Predators (Biden) and who run the areas of the most economic disparity.

We must get back to American exceptionalism. The belief that everyone can succeed in this country with hard work. We cannot allow a group of people who are enriching themselves from bad policies, who have destroyed their own communities and states to continue their madness on a larger scale.

The new Equity vision for this country is dystopian, it leaves too much power in the hands of greedy Leftist who do not see the rest of us as human. Words like whiteness and colonizer should be treated like all racist slang because that's what it is. Martin Luther King also said, *"I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed — we hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal." Equality not Equity. The right to pursue happiness not a guaranteed outcome.* We need to get back to that, back to ourselves. Republicans have stamped out racism before and it's time we stand firm again.

Cleo Marchese

prw_president@planorepublicanwomen.org



Connections was formed to help members get to know one another over a glass of tea and to complete a common goal. Join us after the **February General Meeting** luncheon at Salt-grass.

If you remember, bring a writing pen, pair of scissors, and stapler and you will be prepared for *any* task (arrive at the meeting and realize you've forgotten your supplies, no worries; extras will be available). Come sip tea or water and chat while working together on a task.

*"The tasks may change but the **Connections** will last."*

PRW February Meeting



**NEXT GENERAL MEETING:
February 21st, 2023**

The Honorable Jason Isaac
**"What is Social Credit Score,
and How Will it Harm Conservatives?"**

Jason Isaac is Director of Life:Powered, a national initiative of the Texas Public Policy Foundation to raise America's energy IQ. Jason has appeared live on Fox Business Network and other national news shows, and his commentaries have been published in Fox Business, The Hill, The Washington Examiner, The Daily Caller, and other publications. He is a regular contributor to The Epoch Times.

Prior to joining Life:Powered, Jason, a fourth-generation native Texan, was elected four times as the State Representative for Hays and Blanco counties in the Texas Hill Country. He served on the Energy Resources and Environmental Regulation committees, among others. During his eight years of service, he successfully passed legislation to reduce taxes, strengthen election integrity, improve public education, preserve Second Amendment rights, protect local groundwater, and protect private property rights.

He was repeatedly honored for his commitment to limited government and proved to be an effective leader, excelling at both advocating for conservative principles and working across the aisle to find responsible solutions for the future of the Lone Star State.

Jason is a graduate of Stephen F. Austin State University and serves as a high school lacrosse coach. He lives in Hays County with his wife, Carrie, and two sons.

Location : Saltgrass Steakhouse Plano East
3320 North Central Expressway, Plano, TX 75074

Time: 11:15 am: Arrive and check-in, 11:30 am: Meeting, Lunch & Program

Lunch is available for \$25.00 with RSVP, cash or check payable to PRW on arrival
RSVPs for lunch must be made by 5 pm Friday, February 17th, 2023

RSVPs to attend without lunch may be made up to 5pm the Monday before the Tuesday meeting

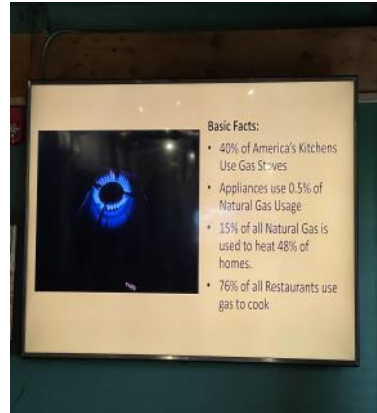
We welcome guests and visitors to our General Meeting. Members, please bring a friend!

To RSVP send an email to: rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org

Include your name in your email and specify whether you will/will not be having lunch

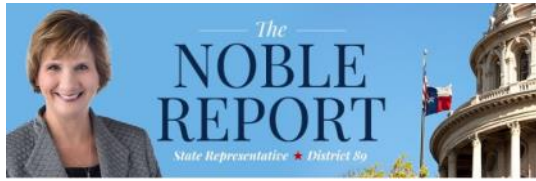


PRW January Meeting Photos





Legislative Report



Even though we are not yet assigned to committees and not yet hearing bills, it has been a busy week.

On Tuesday, Governor Greg Abbott and Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick held their Inauguration. I've been to these before -I think my first one was 12 years ago. I've gotten rained on, frozen and been miserable, but this was the first time I've ever broken out in a sweat. The Senate members were in the shade, while the House members were all in the full sunshine. The poor men in their suits. But it was nice to get some Vitamin D since most of the session we are stuck indoors.

In the Governor's Inaugural Address he stated that Texas is the home to more Fortune 500 Headquarters than any state in America. "We are now the headquarters of headquarters." I like that!

He also mentioned that Texas is now home to more than 30 million residents, and by 2050 we may be at 50 million. It is more imperative than ever, that as a legislature, we make sure our infrastructure is sound, while limiting the expansion of government, so that our wonderful Texas miracle endures for our kids and grandkids.

This week, the Legislative Budget Board shared with us their Budget Estimates for the 2024-25 biennium. The Cliff Notes version of the budget (seriously, they give us one) is 136 pages long, but the full version is a whopping 1026 pages of how we generally spend, and the recommendations on spending of our Texas and federal tax dollars. The state budget is divided into the following ten sections (referred to as Articles) and I think it will help you understand just how diverse the needs are in our Texas budget:

General Government: the budgets of the Comptroller, Governor and Attorney General and others are in this section. This amounts to about 3.5% of our expenses as a state.

Health and Human Services: the budgets of our CPS, Family and Protective Services, and State Health Services are under this one. It's a big amount at approximately 33.7% of the budget.

Education: Texas Education Agency, our Teacher Retirement System of Texas, Higher Education costs, and our Public School costs all come under this funding. It's the biggest cost we have as a state. It is 37.9% of the state's budget.

Judiciary: funding the state and district courts. This accounts for 0.4% of our spending.

Public Safety and Criminal Justice: here we pay for our Department of Public Safety, our costs associated with Criminal Justice, including our prisons and youth detention centers. This section is 6.2% of our state's budget.

Natural Resources: our Texas State Parks and Wildlife, the General Land Office, Veterans Land Board, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas Department of Agriculture, and others come under this funding. These costs amount to about 2.4% of the total budget.

Business and Economic Development: Here we have the funding for the Texas Workforce Commission, the Texas Department of Transportation, and the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs. We need our workers and our roads, so this is 15.2% of our expenditure as a state.

Regulatory: The Public Utility Commission and Office of Public Utility Counsel get their funding from this section. This amounts to 0.3% of our costs.

There are two more sections of the budget: "General Provisions" (0.1%) and "Legislature" (0.2%). That's more than you ever wanted to know about how we spend money as a state.

Every single dollar belongs, not to the State, but to you, the taxpayer. Never, ever, should we forget that.

I wanted to update you on a bill that I'm working on that I mentioned in a previous Noble Report. HB 61, that I recently filed, builds on SB 22, a bill I filed and passed in my freshman term in the Legislature. It's a taxpayer protection bill that prohibits tax dollars, from any source (local or state), from being used to facilitate an abortion. The City of Austin has decided to use tax dollars to provide transportation, child care, hotels and other support services for those traveling to other states for abortions. This is not, in any way, an acceptable use of taxpayer funds, and HB 61 will make it illegal under Texas law. One thing most of you do not know about me: I generally don't do press interviews,



Legislative Report

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with the exception being our local newspapers. I've not counted how many reporters from across Texas and across the nation have reached out to interview me about HB 61, but it's been quite a few. I have not returned those calls, since it is directly with you, my voters, and my House colleagues that I talk about my proposed legislation. It was quite a surprise this week when a friend heard my name on NPR as they were talking about this bill. They said something to the effect that the passage of this bill was inevitable. From their lips to God's ears.

UPDATE:

Yesterday I left for a trip to tour the border, so I'm keeping today's update short. Next week I'll fill you in first-hand on what I learn.

This week, Attorney General Ken Paxton and the Attorneys General from 19 other states joined Texas in [Suing the Biden Administration](#) to stop them from implementing a new program. This program would allow 30,000 aliens each month to be "paroled" into the U.S. each year from four counties (Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Venezuela), without following the law as it is written. These individuals, once here, may legally work and request asylum. That's 360,000 people a year, from just these four counties. Not only is there no requirement to prove on an individual basis, that they need asylum, they are also cutting the line in front of those who have worked for years to come here legally.

In other border news, just last week our Texas DPS officers rescued over [20 migrants](#) who were being smuggled on a train near Eagle Pass. The train smuggling operations have been increasing in the Del Rio sector in the last few months. Our Texas law enforcement agents are spread thin along our 1,933 mile-long border with Mexico as they attempt to disrupt the cartel's access to our state.

As we wrap up Texas Human Trafficking Prevention month, it is interesting to note that up to 88% of those trafficked seek healthcare while being trafficked. If you, or someone you know, is a healthcare professional, please know the [red flags of someone who is being trafficked](#). Warning signs can include: another person appearing to be in control of the patient not allowing them to answer questions, an individual not having possession of their own identification documents, and (believe it or not, this happened in a Plano case) having a tattoo or branding of ownership. Let's all keep an eye out for these vulnerable individuals and report them to 911, or the Contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline: 1-888-373-7888 or Text 233733.

On a positive note, in December, Texas added 29,500 jobs. In fact, in 2022 Texas [led the nation](#) in job creation with 650,100 new positions. Way to grow, Texas!

I was honored this week to be elected to serve as the President of the [Texas Conservative Coalition](#). I love and appreciate this group that is guided by the LIFT Principles: Limited Government, Individual Liberty, Free Enterprise, Traditional Values. TCC does much of its work behind the scenes, and is a valuable resource for our members. TCC provides bill analysis for each bill that comes before the committees and the House, and also provides an opportunity for each of us to share the bills we are working on with fellow House members. I'd appreciate your prayers as I begin this new role.

Till next time....




Dear Friends,

With the first two weeks behind us, I wanted to take the time to share with you my Legislative priorities for the 88th Session. These priorities are based on the needs and desires of my constituents in Collin County and are the result of numerous meetings with constituents, communications with elected leaders, countless conversations with voters during our campaigns and my own deeply held values and policy positions.

PROPERTY TAX RELIEF - Provide meaningful property tax relief, starting with raising the Homestead Exemption from \$40,000 to \$65,000 and lowering the annual 10% appraisal value increase cap to 5%.

PROTECT TEXAS CHILDREN - Texas children must be protected from dangerous and unnecessary "gender modification" procedures. Such treatments must be banned in the state of Texas - and medical professionals and parents who expose their children to such procedures must be held accountable.

REINING IN ROGUE PROSECUTORS - Prosecutors are elected to enforce Texas law and to pursue and hold accountable Texas law-breakers. The practice of District Attorneys publicly and proudly thumbing their nose at the legislature and refusing to enforce entire classes



Legislative Report

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of Texas crimes is an affront to the rule of law itself. This must end - and Prosecutors who continue to do so must be held to account.

STATEWIDE APPEALS COURT - Some of Texas' most pressing cases with statewide impact - including cases that challenge state laws and/or the Texas Constitution and disputes involving state agencies - are heard primarily in the Third Court of Appeals, elected exclusively by voters in Travis County. This must change. The Legislature should create a new appeals court, comprised of judges elected statewide, to hear these cases.

SUPPORT TEXAS TEACHERS - The Legislature must continue to support Texas teachers, including providing our retired educators with a much-needed and deserved "13th Check".

HOLDING FATHERS RESPONSIBLE - Texas law must safeguard innocent pre-born Texans, and it must also reflect our strong commitment to support Texas women and their children. Likewise, Texas fathers must be responsible for the support of their children — and Texas law should be changed to ensure the legal requirements for Texas fathers — including all financial support obligations to the child and mother — commence at the time of conception.

ELECTION INTEGRITY - Election fraud crimes are serious and should be treated as such. To that end, the Legislature should restore the crime of "election fraud" to a felony.

CUTTING THE CORD ON "GOLDEN PARACHUTES" - The practice of governmental entities awarding "golden parachutes" - sweetheart, taxpayer-funded severance packages for public employees terminated for misconduct - must end.

SECOND CHANCES FOR DESERVING TEXANS - Texas offenders convicted of low-level misdemeanors who have paid their debt to society and successfully completed their sentences should be afforded real second chances, starting with an automatic record sealing process free from undue burdens and unnecessary red tape.

EMPLOYING THE "UNEMPLOYABLE" - Every year, tens of thousands of Texas men and women convicted of low-level, non-violent offenses are released from prison — Texans who are ready to work, willing to work and trained for professions and industries who need their work. The Legislature should cut unnecessary barriers to entry for these Texas offenders, ensuring they are able to quickly obtain gainful employment, reducing the chances of recidivism and filling some of Texas' most pressing workforce needs.

STATE PARKS FOR TEXAS HEROES - We should do everything we possibly can to support our Texas veterans, active military, law enforcement and first responders. A great way to do this is to ensure these Texas heroes have free entry to all Texas State Parks.

CRACKING DOWN ON CATALYTIC CONVERTER CRIME - The crime of catalytic converter theft is rapidly increasing - causing costly damages to Texas vehicle owners, dealers, manufacturers and business owners, and creating massive headaches and challenges for Texas law enforcement. We must build upon laws passed last session to further crack down on this crime and give law enforcement the tools needed to hold the criminals responsible.

DEATH PENALTY REFORMS - *If Texas is going to continue to utilize capital punishment, it must be carried out in a way that is just, fair, transparent and trustworthy. Any flaws or weaknesses in the system must be fixed - and fixed now. This should start with the final passage of meaningful Law of Parties legislation - preventing the execution of Texans who, simply put, do not deserve to be executed.*

As always, I look forward to being on the front lines in the fight to make Texas even more free, prosperous and safe than it already is. I am confident that advancing these policy proposals will do just that and I look forward to filing legislation on each of them in the coming days.

DISTRICT UPDATES

We are moving our District Office! Until we get settled in to our new place, please reach out to my Capitol staff at 512-463-0544 or email my District Director, Julie Atkinson, at Julie.atkinson@house.texas.gov.

Resolutions: I would love to celebrate a monumental milestone or significant accomplishment in your life or remember someone who has passed with an official Resolution on the House floor. To request a Resolution, please reach out to my District Director, Julie Atkinson, at Julie.atkinson@house.texas.gov.

UPDATE:



Legislative Report

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Yesterday, I officially filed over 15 bills on issues ranging from property tax relief to criminal justice reform and the protection of our kids. In case you missed it, last week I sent out a detailed list of my legislative priorities and you can view it on my House website [here](#).

This week was a busy one filled with many meetings at the Capitol with constituents, City officials, advocacy groups and more. I enjoyed speaking to the students of Collin College who made the trip down to Austin for Collin College Days. I was also honored to receive the "Champion Award" from Protect TX Fragile Kids. It has been my privilege to work with them through the years to support and fight for children with medical complexities and their families and our work isn't done yet!

All My Best,




January 30, 2023

State Comptroller Glenn Hegar

SENATORS HAVE "ONCE IN A LIFETIME" CHANCE WITH STATE BUDGET

(AUSTIN) — Telling members of the Senate Finance committee that they will likely never again see a session with the state as flush with cash as it is now, state Comptroller Glenn Hegar said lawmakers must decide how to carefully shepherd the state's record-breaking income. The Finance committee began budget hearings on Monday, opening with a presentation from the state's chief financial officer, who echoed comments he made earlier in the month when he laid out his forecast for state revenue over the next biennium. "The revenue increases that we have seen have truly been historical and unprecedented," he said. "We have never seen anything like this in the past and I truly don't believe we'll see anything like this again in the future." Hegar told members not to expect to see anything like this session's numbers in 2025 or 2027.

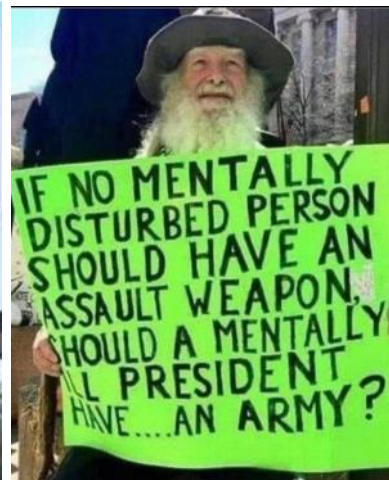
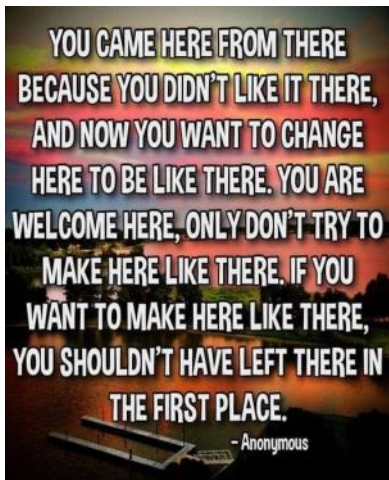
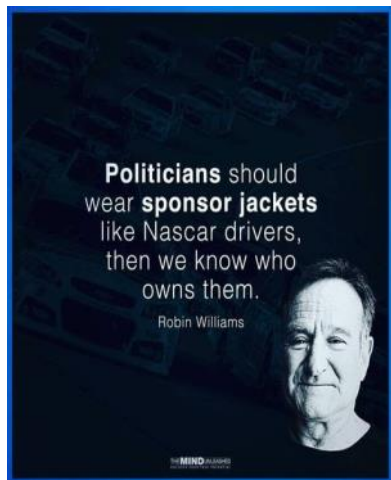
While the comptroller is forecasting \$188 billion in tax revenue over the next two years, along with a massive projected surplus from the last biennium, Hegar reminded lawmakers that a high degree of uncertainty surrounds his projections. With inflation rates still above the Federal Reserve's policy goal, Hegar warned that more interest rate hikes are likely as we move through the year. "If inflation doesn't slow down significantly, the Fed's actions to check it may prompt a much deeper recession than we currently anticipate." Consumer spending, which feeds state coffers through sales tax collections, is also projected to decrease as people run through COVID savings and employment drops, he added.

Because Texas collects more than half of its revenue through sales and use taxes, what has left the state in an enviable position has also hurt consumers' pocket books. Texas increased sales tax revenue by 26 percent over last year, about double the previous record increase, but Hegar said much of this increase comes from high inflation, with consumers paying more than \$45 billion more than they would've a year ago. "We're deriving hundreds of millions of sales tax dollars [monthly] that we wouldn't have otherwise but for the inflation," he told the committee.

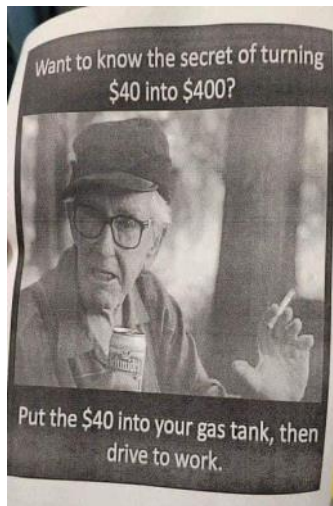
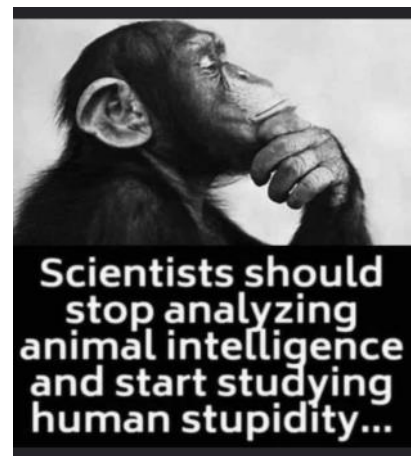
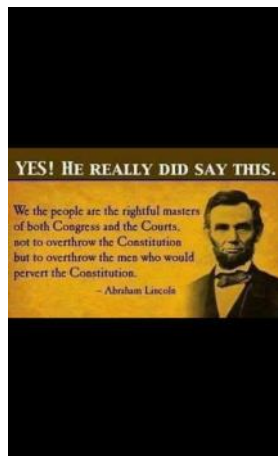
In lean years, deep cuts and reductions in services are the problem faced by budget writers, but years of plenty bring different challenges. Committee member and Georgetown Senator Charles Schwertner offered this summary of the conundrum facing lawmakers in 2023. "This session we have the unique choice and obligation of spending more money on priorities of the state, or returning it to taxpayers, or...putting more away for future endeavors and difficult times. They all have merit," he said. Some of it will likely be going back to taxpayers in the form of property tax cuts, as both the Senate and House have set aside \$15 billion for property tax reduction. Spending money doesn't necessarily mean it's lost to posterity, said Finance Committee Chair Joan Huffman of Houston. "There are other ways to ensure that we invest in Texas, for example, paying off pensions, which we've done," she said. "There are ways we can invest these riches we have for future generations."

With the Legislature's long history of conservative budgeting philosophy, lawmakers will also be careful not to overspend, especially given Hegar's cautions about the uncertainty in his revenue estimate. Senators don't have to look too far into the past to see another state which saw a sudden reversal of fortune, with the state of California currently staring down an \$24 billion shortfall in their state budget. "They had a \$100 billion surplus a year ago - things changed for them, didn't it?" said Hegar. "Let's not repeat the mistakes they've made." Constitutional spending limits will keep spending in check, with the base budget limited to around \$135 billion against \$188 billion in revenue. Lawmakers can vote to bust the spending cap, but don't bet on it, said Huffman. "That's going to be a no," she said when the topic arose at Monday's hearing.

Political Cartoons



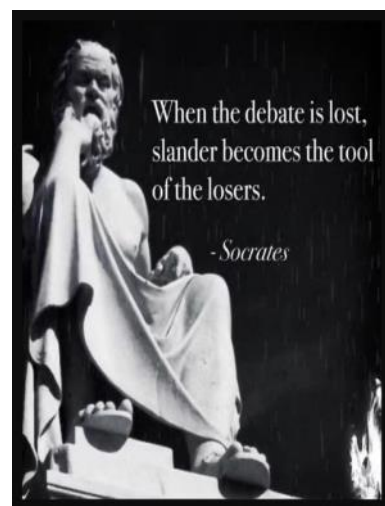
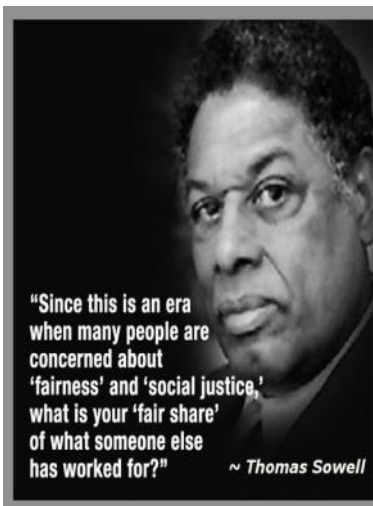
Never forget Jan 6, 2021



The Seven Dwarves of Liberalism



Nasty, Angry, Vulgar, Offended, Victimized, Privileged & Hypocritical





AMERICANISM REPORT

by Ellen Leyrer



Rosa Parks

February 2023

Rosa Parks was born on February 4, 1913 and was 42 years old when she made a stand for equality on December 1 1955.

We all know of the incident that made Rosa Parks a household name; she took a stand for human rights crucially important to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. But her life is so much more than that. In writing this article I learned so much about her: integrity, intelligence, loyalty, perseverance, dignity, and yes, courage. She embodies the strengths of America's values, particularly the principle of equality.

Rosa Louise McCauley was born in Tuskegee, Alabama on February 4, 1913. Her parents separated when Parks was two, and Parks' mother moved the family to live with her parents, Rose and Sylvester Edwards. Both of Parks' grandparents were formerly enslaved people and strong advocates for racial equality. Parks spent her youth on that family farm. Parks' childhood brought her early experiences with racial discrimination and activism for racial equality. In one experience, Parks' grandfather stood in front of their house with a shotgun while Ku Klux Klan members marched down the street.

Rosa's mother was a teacher, and the family valued education. The family moved to Montgomery, Alabama, and Rosa, at age 11, attended the city's Industrial School for Girls. She left at 16, early in 11th grade, because she needed to care for her dying grandmother and, shortly thereafter, her chronically ill mother. Parks didn't return to her studies. Instead, she got a job as a seamstress at a shirt factory in Montgomery.

Even Before Her Refusal to Change Seats on the Infamous Bus and Her Arrest

Rosa Parks became a respected member of Montgomery's large African American community. Co-existing with white people in a city governed by "Jim Crow" (segregation) laws, however, was fraught with daily frustrations: Black people could attend only certain (inferior) schools, could drink only from specified water fountains, and could borrow books only from the "Black" library, among other restrictions.

In December 1943, Rosa also joined the Montgomery chapter of the NAACP and became the chapter's youth leader as well as secretary to NAACP President Edgar Daniel (E.D.) Nixon. She worked closely with Nixon who was a railroad porter known in the city as an advocate for Black people who wanted to register to vote, and also as president of the local branch of the Porters union. She held that post until 1957. Parks had recently attended the Highlander Folk School, a Tennessee center for training activists for workers' rights and racial equality.

In her first years in the NAACP, Rosa Parks was a criminal justice investigator. She worked specifically on Sexual Assault and its application in Alabama communities. One part of this was protecting Black men from false accusations and lynchings; the other was ensuring that Black people who had been sexually assaulted by white people could get their day in court. This particular issue was close to Parks' heart as in 1931 a white male neighbor had attempted to assault her.

Did you know? When Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat in 1955, it wasn't the first time she'd clashed with driver James Blake. Parks stepped onto his very crowded bus on a chilly day 12 years earlier, paid her fare at the front, then resisted the rule in place for Black people to disembark and re-enter through the back door. She stood her ground until Blake pulled her coat sleeve, enraged, to demand her cooperation. Parks left the bus rather than give in.

December 1, 1955

On Thursday, December 1, 1955, the 42-year-old Rosa Parks was commuting home by bus from a long day of work at the Montgomery Fair department store. Black residents of Montgomery often avoided municipal buses if possible because they found the 'Negroes-in-back' policy so demeaning. Nonetheless, 70 percent or more riders on a typical day were Black, and on this day Rosa Parks was one of them.

Segregation was written into law; the front of a Montgomery bus was reserved for white citizens, and the seats behind them for Black citizens. However, it was only by custom that bus drivers had the authority to ask a Black person to give up a seat for a white rider. There were contradictory Montgomery laws on the books: One said segregation must be enforced, but another, largely ignored, said no person (white or Black) could be asked to give up a seat even if there were no other seat on the bus available.

Nonetheless, at one point on the route, a white man had no seat because all the seats in the designated "white" section were taken. So the driver (as allowed) moved the sign showing the "colored" section of the bus and told the riders in the four seats of the first row of the "colored" section to stand, in effect adding another row to the "white" section. The three others obeyed. Parks did not.

Eventually, two police officers approached the stopped bus, assessed the situation, and placed Parks in custody.



AMERICANISM REPORT

by Ellen Leyrer



Continued from Page 10

Although Parks used her one phone call to contact her husband, word of her arrest had spread quickly, and E.D. Nixon was there when Parks was released on bail later that evening. Nixon had hoped for years to find a courageous Black person of unquestioned honesty and integrity to become the plaintiff in a case that might become the test of the validity of segregation laws. Sitting in Parks' home, Nixon convinced Parks—and her husband and mother—that Parks was that plaintiff.

The Boycott

Parks was not the first person to resist bus segregation, but the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) believed that she was the best candidate for seeing through a court challenge after her arrest for civil disobedience in violating Alabama segregation laws, and she helped inspire the Black community to boycott the Montgomery buses for over a year (381 days).

Parks' actions inspired the leaders of the local Black community to organize the Montgomery Bus Boycott. Led by a young Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The Black population of Montgomery would boycott the buses on the day of Parks' trial, Monday, December 5. By midnight, 35,000 flyers were being mimeographed to be sent home with Black schoolchildren, informing their parents of the planned boycott.

On December 5, Parks was found guilty of violating segregation laws, given a suspended sentence and fined \$10 plus \$4 in court costs. Meanwhile, Black participation in the boycott was much larger than even optimists in the community had anticipated. Nixon and some ministers decided to take advantage of the momentum, forming the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA) to manage the boycott, and they elected Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. - new to Montgomery and just 26 years old - as the MIA's president.

Members of the African American community were asked to stay off city buses on Monday, December 5, 1955 - the day of Parks' trial - in protest of her arrest. People were encouraged to stay home from work or school, take a cab or walk to work. With most of the African American community not riding the bus, organizers believed a longer boycott might be successful. The Montgomery Bus Boycott, as it came to be known, was a huge success. Due to the size and scope of, and loyalty to, boycott participation, the effort continued for several months. The city of Montgomery had become a victorious eyesore, with dozens of public buses sitting idle, ultimately severely crippling finances for its transit company. With the boycott's progress, however, came strong resistance.

On the morning of December 5, a group of leaders from the African American community gathered at the Mt. Zion Church in Montgomery to discuss strategies and determined that their boycott effort required a new organization and strong leadership. They formed the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA), electing Montgomery newcomer King as minister of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church. The MIA believed that Parks' case provided an excellent opportunity to take further action to create real change.

With the transit company and downtown businesses suffering financial loss and the legal system ruling against them, the city of Montgomery had no choice but to lift its enforcement of segregation on public buses.

Repercussions

Although she had become a symbol of the Civil Rights Movement, Parks suffered hardship in the months following her arrest in Montgomery and the subsequent boycott. She lost her department store job, and her husband was fired after his boss forbade him to talk about his wife or their legal case. The Parks faced continued harassment and threats in the wake of the boycott. Rosa received death threats for years afterwards.

The Montgomery Bus Boycott engendered anger in much of Montgomery's white population as well as some violence. Black churches were burned, and both King and E.D. Nixon's homes were destroyed by bombings. Still, further attempts were made to end the boycott. The insurance was canceled for the city taxi system that was used by African Americans. Black citizens were arrested for violating an antiquated law prohibiting boycotts. The violence didn't deter the boycotters or their leaders, however, and the drama in Montgomery continued to gain attention from the national and international press.

On November 13, 1956, the Supreme Court ruled that bus segregation was unconstitutional; the boycott ended December 20, a day after the Court's written order arrived in Montgomery. Parks became known as "the mother of the civil rights movement."

After the Boycott

Following the success of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, in January 1957 Martin Luther King, Jr., formed the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) to sustain protest in the South. The bus incident led to the formation of the Montgomery Improvement Association, led by the young pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



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Parks' act of defiance and the Montgomery bus boycott became important symbols of the movement. She became an international icon of resistance to racial segregation, and organized and collaborated with civil rights leaders, including Edgar Nixon and Martin Luther King Jr.

Later in Life

- Over the next half-century, Parks became a nationally recognized symbol of dignity and strength in the struggle to end entrenched racial segregation.
- After retirement in 1988, Parks wrote her autobiography and continued to insist that there was more work to be done in the struggle for justice.
- She traveled to lend her support to civil-rights events and causes.
- She collaborated on a TV movie of her life, *The Rosa Parks Story* (2002)
- In 1987, with longtime friend Elaine Eason Steele, Parks founded the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self-Development.
- In 1992, Parks published *Rosa Parks: My Story*, an autobiography recounting her life in the segregated South. In 1995, she published *Quiet Strength*, which includes her memoirs and focuses on the role that religious faith played throughout her life.






Honors and Accolades:

- Parks received many accolades during her lifetime, including the Spingarn Medal, the NAACP's highest award, and the prestigious Martin Luther King Jr. Award.
- The United States Congress has honored her as "the first lady of civil rights" and "the mother of the freedom movement".
- In 1963 Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) inaugurated the annual Rosa Parks Freedom Award.
- On September 15, 1996, President Bill Clinton awarded Parks the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest honor given by the United States' executive branch. The following year, she was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest award given by the U.S. legislative branch.
- In 1999, Parks was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest honor the United States bestows on a civilian.
- When she died at age 92 on October 24, 2005, she became the first woman in the nation's history to lie in honor at the U.S. Capitol

Sources: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosa_Parks, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosa_Parks_Day, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosa_Parks_\(disambiguation\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosa_Parks_(disambiguation)), <https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/rosa-parks>, <https://achievement.org/achiever/rosa-parks/>, <https://www.biography.com/activist/rosa-parks>, <https://www.loc.gov/collections/rosa-parks-papers/about-this-collection/?locrl=twloc>



QUICK FACTS

 Attended segregated schools	 Grandparents were slaves	 Joined NAACP in 1943
 Arrested after bus defiance	 Won Presidential Medal of Freedom	

"People always say that I didn't give up my seat because I was tired ... the only tired I was, was tired of giving in."



TERW Nuts and Bolts Training



Congress Must Ban Chinese Money to Our Universities and Professors

Roger L. Simon, January 16, 2023

Commentary

Ever wonder why almost all our colleges and universities from the Ivy League on down have turned into “woke” indoctrination camps, with real education increasingly in the rearview mirror?

Look no further than the following from the New York Post:

“The University of Pennsylvania received more than \$30 million from Chinese donors shortly after the Penn Biden Center for Diplomacy and Global Engagement, which functioned as an office for Joe Biden before he was elected president, was announced in 2017, according to public records.

“The Penn Biden Center is a dark-money, revolving-door nightmare where foreign competitors like China donated millions of dollars to the university so that they could have access to future high-ranking officials,’ said Tom Anderson, director of the Government Integrity Project at the Virginia-based National Legal and Policy Center.”

The reasons for this “generosity” may have something to do with keeping Biden’s connections to China quiet, but UPenn is unfortunately far from alone in this apparent “elite capture” game that pervades U.S. higher education. Harvard has the honor of being the leader of the pack at \$93.7 million, followed by the University of Southern California.

And that doesn’t include payments from the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) or its many fronts going out to individual professors across our country. While a few have gotten their hands caught in the proverbial cookie jar, who knows how many have escaped? Probably many, if you consider the myriad ways such bribes can be made.

Is it any wonder, then, that our kids come out of our schools spouting left-wing ideology? Or that Generation Z (18- to 25-year-olds) has by far the lowest rate of all generations, only 16 percent, of those “proud to be Americans” from a recent Morning Consult poll?

The Republican majority House is about to start a number of needed investigations. They should add the CCP investment in and, therefore, indirect control of our colleges and universities to their bill of fare.

Who benefits from the likes of critical race theory and the rest of the ESG (environmental, social, and governance) bilge taking precedence over genuine learning, even in our law and medical schools? It’s certainly not the citizens of this country that Congress is purported to represent—or even more, the young people supposedly being educated.

The CCP and their allies are who benefits.

Apparently, Florida Gov. Ron De Santis is eyeing banning “China-based entities” from purchasing property in his state because of the economic and security risks. Between those Chinese entities and Bill Gates, a fair percentage of U.S. arable land is already out of the hands of our citizens.

Congress should take its cue from DeSantis and ban those same China-based entities from investing in or donating to any part of our educational system.

This deserves top priority. Otherwise, we’ll see the already-puny 16 percent of our young people with a semblance of patriotism dwindle down to next to nothing in the coming generations.

Who would want to contemplate the results of that?

Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.

CCP Proves ‘Climate’ Fight Not Really About Climate

Alex Newman, January 19, 2023

Commentary

You don't have to be a climate scientist to know the ringleaders of the “[climate change](#)” bandwagon don't truly believe the narrative they're selling.

And it isn't just because they jet around the world in private jets to lecture you about your car and your hamburgers.

In fact, if the people at the top bought into the notion that human emissions of carbon dioxide (CO2) are really “pollution” producing a “climate crisis,” they'd be doing exactly the opposite of what they're actually doing.

Examining climate policy and communist China proves the point.

Consider the United Nations' [Paris Agreement](#). Negotiated at the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) in Paris in 2015, the global deal calls on national governments to make their own pledges about what they'll force on their populations to combat the alleged “climate crisis.”

Under the deal, the Obama administration unilaterally pledged to slash CO2 emissions in the United States by more than 25 percent by 2025. That was to be imposed on Americans through executive orders and federal regulations, to avoid involving Congress. Other Western governments made similar promises.

The Chinese communist regime, by contrast, was already emitting far more CO2 than the United States and now spews more than the entire Western world combined by far—and yet it pledged only to keep increasing its emissions for the next 15 years. Seriously.

In its submission to the U.N. ([pdf](#)), the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) agreed “to achieve the peaking of carbon dioxide emissions around 2030.”

In other words, the regime proudly announced to the world that its CO2 output would continue to grow for at least 15 years, at which point nobody will even remember the Paris pledges.

When I asked members of the Chinese delegation for comment at the U.N. summit, instead of responding, they sent one of their minions to follow me around the conference and take pictures of me, something I promptly reported to U.N. security and the French police.

It's a good thing for the CCP that nobody will remember its promises by 2030, because virtually every analyst who has looked at the regime's coal-fired power plant construction binge has acknowledged there's no way its emissions will “peak” by 2030. Communist promises have never been worth the paper they're printed on anyway, as history has shown.

The CCP wasn't kidding about increasing its emissions, though: Beijing is currently bringing more coal-fired power plants online just between now and 2025 than the United States has in total.

According to Global Energy Monitor's February 2021 briefing ([pdf](#)), the CCP built up more than three times as much coal-power capacity as the rest of the world combined in 2020. And it already has about half of the world's coal power capacity, according to Global Energy Monitor's “[Boom and Bust 2020: Tracking the Global Coal Plant Pipeline](#).”

China already emits more than twice as much CO2 as the United States, according to [data](#) from the Global Carbon Project. Its emissions are rising meteorically even as U.S. emissions and emissions from other Western nations continue to plunge.

In 2021, Americans released about 5 billion tons of CO2, while China released about 11.5 billion. If current trends continue, the CCP may release more CO2 than the rest of the world combined in the not-too-distant future.

Think about this. If one was truly concerned about CO2 emissions producing “climate hell,” as world leaders claimed at the latest U.N. “climate” summit in Egypt, they'd be panicking, not celebrating.

Moving Production

Again, all of the production being moved out of the West and into China will result in vastly more CO2 entering the atmosphere than if that production had remained in the United States, Canada, or Europe.

And yet, Western governments, tax-funded climate activists, U.N. leaders, and their media allies all celebrated and continue to celebrate the Paris Agreement and subsequent follow-ups as a huge success in saving the climate.

Perhaps Donald Trump was on to something in 2012 when he wrote on [Twitter](#), “The concept of global warming was created by and for the Chinese in order to make U.S. manufacturing non-competitive.”

That's exactly what happened, of course, as electricity rates got pushed higher and higher over time. In 1975, electricity was averaging around 3 cents per kilowatt hour, helping U.S. industry remain competitive globally. By 2010, thanks in part to President Barack Obama's policies, [it had tripled](#). And by 2021, it was approaching 15 cents.

For perspective, electricity prices in China are about half that.

There are many reasons for the shifting of production from the United States to China—many of them directly related to U.S. policy—but one

CCP Proves ‘Climate’ Fight Not Really About Climate

Alex Newman, January 19, 2023

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key factor has been the cost of energy.

Yet, higher energy prices were openly touted as a policy objective by Obama. As he made clear in a 2008 interview with the San Francisco Chronicle, “under my plan ... electricity rates would necessarily skyrocket.”

Later that year, he expressed similar sentiments as gas prices soared to around \$4, saying only that he would’ve “preferred” a “gradual adjustment” instead.

Faced with higher labor costs and a tougher regulatory environment, American companies and entrepreneurs were already struggling to keep production in the United States amid a rigged global trading regime benefiting the CCP at America’s expense.

Soaring energy costs in many cases pushed firms over the edge, forcing them to shift production to China or shut down in the face of Chinese competition.

Again, if you truly believe CO2 is pollution, the worst possible outcome of “climate” negotiations would be to transfer even more production to China, where CO2 emissions per unit of economic production are massively higher.

But this is precisely the result of the much-celebrated U.N. “climate” process.

The shift into so-called “renewable energy” being engineered by the Biden administration and federal policymakers has been and will continue to be a huge boon to the CCP—and not just because it will force prices higher while making the U.S. energy grid more unstable.

Almost 80 percent of solar cells produced in 2019 were made in China, according to Bloomberg data ([pdf](#)). The CCP dominates production in the wind sector and battery industries as well. It also controls the supply chain for rare-earth materials needed to produce all of these “green energy” products.

The U.S. government, for its part, is offering massive subsidies to these CCP-dominated industrial sectors while forcing Americans into dependence on them through regulations, mandates, subsidies, and other policies. How this is supposed to help the environment is never made clear.

For some perspective on the economic carnage inflicted on America by Obama’s Paris scheme, which he claimed was an “executive agreement” and thus not subject to Senate ratification as required by the Constitution, The Heritage Foundation crunched the numbers in a 2016 study.

Among other findings, the conservative-leaning think tank said Obama’s Paris pledges would increase electricity costs for a family of four between 13 and 20 percent annually while vaporizing almost half a million jobs, including around 200,000 in manufacturing.

That damage translates to about \$20,000 in lost income for American families by 2035 and a reduction in GDP of over \$2.5 trillion.

Who Benefits?

Who benefits from all this? Certainly not the “climate.” Again, shipping U.S. industry to China will result in more CO2 in the atmosphere, not less. And in any case, based on the U.N.’s own debunked “models,” complete elimination of all U.S. CO2 emissions would result in virtually no reduction in global temperatures.

According to a peer-reviewed paper by [Bjorn Lomborg](#) published in the journal *Global Policy*, even if all the significant pledges made in Paris were fulfilled, global temperatures would be just 0.05 degrees C (0.086 degrees F) cooler by 2100—a statistically insignificant rounding error.

The big winner, of course, was the CCP, which has been laughing all the way to the bank as it absorbs the factories, jobs, and wealth production that the United States and other Western authorities are shutting down to “save the climate.”

This appears to be deliberate, as statements by leading officials in the Obama administration and the U.N. have made clear.

Obama’s “science czar” John Holdren openly advocated a deindustrialization of the United States in his 1973 book “Human Ecology.”

“A massive campaign must be launched to restore a high-quality environment in North America and to de-develop the United States,” Holdren and his co-authors wrote. “De-development means bringing our economic system (especially patterns of consumption) into line with the realities of ecology.”

Then consider the seemingly bizarre comments made by then-Executive Secretary of the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change Christiana Figueres.

Speaking to Bloomberg a few months after Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expressed his unsettling admiration for the CCP, Figueres claimed that the regime in Beijing—overseeing about one-third of global CO2 output—was “doing it right” on climate policy.

CCP Proves ‘Climate’ Fight Not Really About Climate

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Alex Newman, January 19, 2023

In separate comments, while pushing for major climate policies, Figueres also suggested the goal of “climate” policy was really economic transformation.

“This is the first time in the history of mankind that we are setting ourselves the task of intentionally, within a defined period of time, to change the economic development model that has been reigning for at least 150 years, since the Industrial Revolution,” she said on Feb. 4, 2015.

Five years before those comments, one of the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s top officials, Ottmar Edenhofer, revealed a similar agenda in comments to Germany’s NZZ Online.

“One must say clearly that we redistribute de facto the world’s wealth by climate policy,” he said. “One has to free oneself from the illusion that international climate policy is environmental policy. This has almost nothing to do with environmental policy anymore.”

Wealth redistribution? Changing the economic model of the world? “De-developing” the United States? And here Americans are being told this is about “saving the climate.”

Remember, too, that when Trump withdrew from the Paris Agreement, climate alarmists from around the world declared that Beijing was the new global “leader” of the effort to save the climate—the same regime that’s overseeing the most CO2 emissions, building coal plants faster than can be counted, and promising to keep increasing its CO2 emissions until 2030.

If this is really about saving the climate from CO2, how can the CCP be the new leader? It’s beyond absurd.

Despite all this, the Biden administration continues to intensify “cooperation” on “climate action” and the Paris Agreement with Beijing, no doubt causing amusement and joy among members of the CCP’s Politburo.

It’s not just the Chinese regime that benefits. In fact, congressional researchers discovered that state-backed Russian energy interests were funding U.S. “green” groups opposed to U.S. energy via a shell company in Bermuda called Klein Ltd.

The regime in Venezuela, too, is laughing all the way to the bank as the Biden administration sabotages U.S. energy and begs the Maduro dictatorship to send oil to America.

To be clear, I don’t begrudge the CO2 emissions of China or anyone else. In fact, many scientists have told me that more of this “gas of life” would be enormously beneficial for the planet and humanity.

Retired Princeton physics professor Dr. William Happer, who served as Trump’s climate adviser, told me years ago at a climate conference we both spoke at that the planet needed more CO2 and that plants were designed to live in an atmosphere with quite a bit more CO2 than the planet currently has.

Plus, human emissions of CO2 make up a fraction of 1 percent of all the so-called “greenhouse gases” present naturally in the atmosphere.

To summarize, if one truly believes that CO2 is bad for the climate, shipping U.S. production and industry to China is the worst possible way to deal with it. Logically, then, the policymakers behind this must have an ulterior motive.

Of course, the CCP loves the Paris deal: They do nothing but build more coal plants to power the industries and factories fleeing America for China as the U.S. government forces the United States to commit economic suicide.

This isn’t just an economic or “climate” issue, either. As the United States is “de-developed,” the economic destruction produces a major threat to national security. A strong military can’t be funded without a strong economy, obviously.

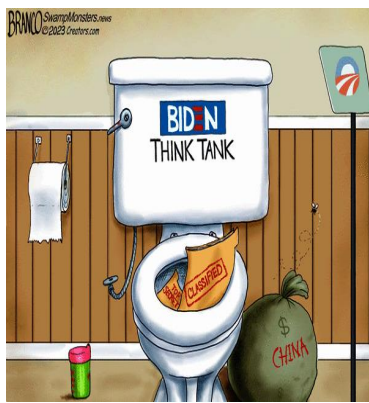
It’s time for lawmakers in the U.S. House of Representatives to shut down the administration’s “climate” policies that do nothing but expand CCP CO2 emissions and harm the United States.

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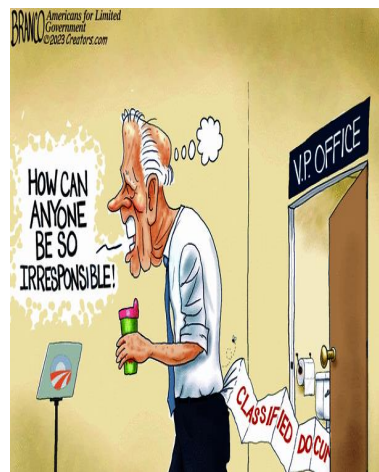
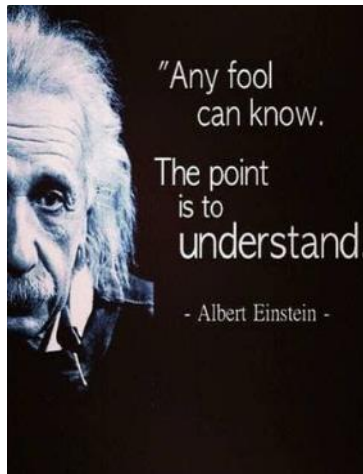
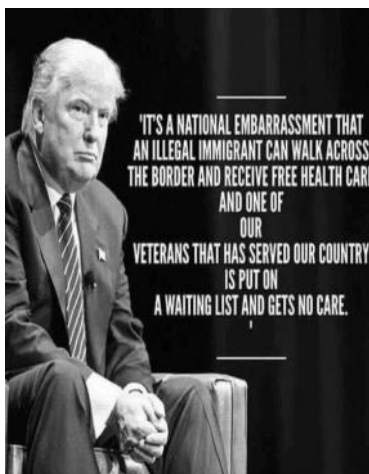
Alex Newman is a freelance contributor to The Epoch Times. Newman is an award-winning international journalist, educator, author, and consultant who co-wrote the book “Crimes of the Educators: How Utopians Are Using Government Schools to Destroy America’s Children.” He writes for diverse publications in the United States and abroad.

Political Cartoons

Car and Driver says 95% of electric cars are still on the road. The remaining 5% made it all the way home.



In life, it's important to know when to stop arguing with people and simply let them be wrong.
www.YourPositiveOasis.com



Constitutional Minute Series

By Jennifer Groysman

Power From the People

By: Michael Boldin | Published on: Dec 31, 2022 |

We've all heard or seen the slogan, "Power to the People," but it gets things almost completely backwards.

The word "TO" is the wrong word, by far.

Under the system and principles of the founders and old revolutionaries, all power comes FROM the people.

They don't need to ask for it. They don't need to beg for it. And they don't need to demand they get it as a gift from government, or get it back at all.

They just need to take it.

George Mason put it this way in 1775:

"In all our associations; in all our agreements let us never lose sight of this fundamental maxim – that all power was originally lodged in, and consequently is derived from, the people. We should wear it as a breastplate, and buckle it on as our armour."

This view represented one of the most important principles of the American Revolution. That is, sovereignty – or supreme and final authority – is with the people, not the government.

James Otis, Jr kicked things off – "the beginning of the controversy" with his 1761 speech against the Writs of Assistance, where he forcefully made the case that "an act against the constitution is void."

If government holds final authority – they get to determine whether or not they violate their own constitution – and the constitution isn't supreme, the government is.

Sounds familiar today, doesn't it?

Of course, the British didn't agree with the revolutionaries, not even close. But in the years to follow, Otis, along with John Dickinson, Samuel Adams and many others kept hammering home this concept of sovereignty belonging with the people rather than "the king in Parliament."

Thomas Jefferson prominently incorporated this view in the Declaration of Independence:

That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, – That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it

But it didn't end with the end of the Revolution. In fact, these principles were just as prominent – if not more so – during the ratification debates over the Constitution.

James Wilson reminded the Pennsylvania ratifying convention that, in the American system, the people were always at the top of the food chain. It wasn't a document that made it so:

*"The truth is, that, in our governments, the supreme, absolute, and uncontrollable power **remains** in the people."* [emphasis in original]

In Federalist 49, James Madison, quoting Thomas Jefferson, reiterated this essential principle:

"As the people are the only legitimate fountain of power, and it is from them that the constitutional charter, under which the several branches of government hold their power, is derived, it seems strictly consonant to the republican theory, to recur to the same original authority, not only whenever it may be necessary to enlarge, diminish, or new-model the powers of the government, but also whenever any one of the departments may commit encroachments on the chartered authorities of the others."

Here we get to the foundation.

If the people hold "supreme, absolute, and uncontrollable power," they certainly have the right to "alter or abolish," as the Declaration of Independence so eloquently stated.

But, it's also up to them to keep the branches of the federal government in check – "whenever" any of them goes beyond the limits of the Constitution.

Jefferson reminded us of this in the Kentucky Resolutions of 1798: *the Government created by this compact was not made the exclusive or final judge of the extent of the powers delegated to itself; since that would have made its discretion, and not the constitution, the measure of its powers*

Here's the short version:

Constitutional Minute Series

By Jennifer Groysman

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If the people of the several states are sovereign – and hold final authority – They create a set of rules for government in a constitution. And they are the ones to enforce the limits of their constitution on their government

Instead of waiting for the government to stop doing the things they weren't supposed to be doing in the first place.

Mercy Otis Warren put it this way in 1788: *"The origin of all power is in the people, and they have an incontestible right to check the creatures of their own creation."*

And in the 4th of his influential Fabius letters, John Dickinson asked the essential question, what is to be done with a *"bad administration?"*

The "penman of the Revolution" told us that *"the answer is instantly found ... before the supreme sovereignty of the people."*

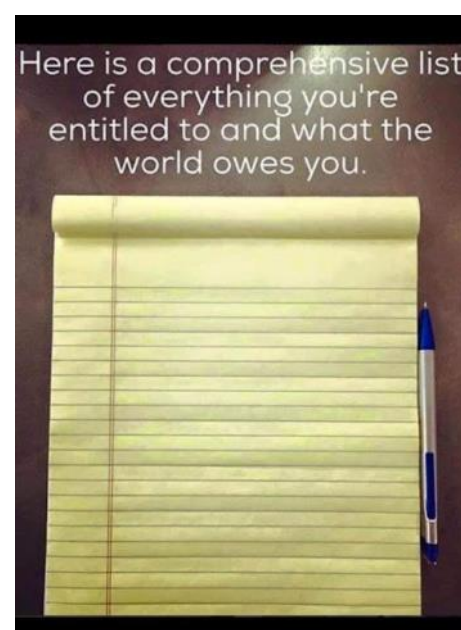
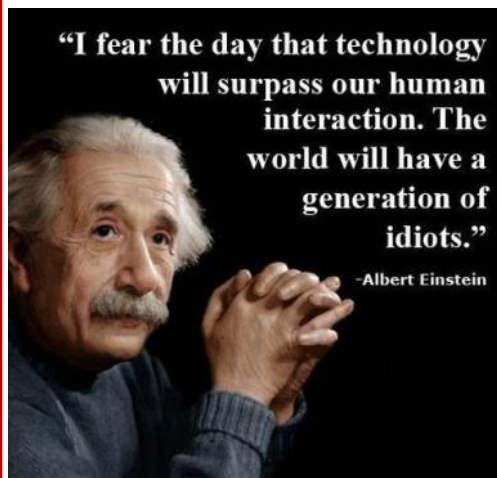
He continued, ALL CAPS in the original: IT IS THEIR DUTY TO WATCH, AND THEIR RIGHT TO TAKE CARE, THAT THE CONSTITUTION BE PRESERVED; Or in the *Roman* phrase on perilous occasions—TO PROVIDE, THAT THE REPUBLIC RECEIVE NO DAMAGE.

Ultimately, it's not about people asking – or even demanding that those who wield power give it back, or return it, or loan it out.

It's up to the people to exercise their rights – to protect and preserve their own constitution and their own liberty – whether the government wants them to or not.

Michael Boldin

Michael Boldin [\[send him email\]](#) is the founder of the [Tenth Amendment Center](#). He was raised in Milwaukee, WI, and currently resides in Los Angeles, CA. Follow him on twitter - [@michaelboldin](#) and [Facebook](#).



NEW TOLERANCE CAMPAIGN ANNOUNCES 2022 “WORST OF THE WOKE” AWARDS



WORST OF THE WOKE

WORST OF THE WOKE 2022 “THE GREAT UNWOKENING”

The Top 10 most hypocritical institutions of the year – and one “Champion of Tolerance”

In the past year, there was no shortage of institutions pushing phony tolerance under the banners of “diversity, equity, and inclusion” and “environmental, social, and governance” initiatives. But 2022 was also notable for the American public pushing back on institutions and their double-standards. Here are the 10 worst offenders:

Award Winner: Disney*

Reason: In 2022, now-ousted CEO Bob Chapek gave a master class on how *not* to respond to woke demands. Following the passage of Florida’s Parental Rights in Education bill (erroneously yet ubiquitously branded by the media as the “Don’t Say Gay” bill), Chapek demurred when Disney employees demanded the company condemn the legislation, rightly asserting that “corporate statements do very little to change outcomes or minds.” Weeks later, Disney did an about-face, declaring the company would support organizations seeking to “replace” the law or have it “struck down in the courts.” Florida legislators and Governor Ron DeSantis responded by stripping Disney of special taxation and self-governance perks it’s enjoyed for decades. The public wasn’t buying Disney’s activism either — quite literally. Following a string of box office bombs, in November Disney abruptly announced Chapek would be stepping down as CEO, making way for his predecessor Bob Iger to return. Iger stepped back into the role of chief executive committing to “quiet” the obsession with cultural issues at the entertainment powerhouse and “respect” consumers of their content.

Award Winner: BlackRock*

Reason: When you follow the ESG money trail, almost all roads lead to BlackRock. The financial behemoth manages \$10 trillion dollars, and has been prioritizing investments in “socially conscious” companies and those dedicated to “environmental sustainability” — except in China, a nation notorious for its rampant industrial pollution and human rights abuses. When called out on the hypocrisy, CEO Larry Fink doubled down. The result: treasurers in West Virginia, Louisiana, South Carolina, Missouri, Florida, Arkansas, Utah, and Arizona pulled state investments from BlackRock totaling \$4.28 billion.

Award Winner: Twitter*

Reason: After years of subjective censorship, account suspensions, and partisan activism, Twitter was at a breaking point by October of this year when Elon Musk stepped in and took over the tech giant, ushering in a new era of free speech and open debate. He also pulled back the curtain on Twitter’s previous policy revealing the platform’s critics’ worst fears: Twitter’s staff censored accounts at the bidding of political elites.

Award Winner: Apple

Reason: Apple touts a commitment to “diversity, equity, and inclusion” in the United States, while contracting with suppliers in China using forced labor that has propelled the company to record profits. In 2022, Apple took the hypocrisy to a dangerous new level: blocking iPhone communication features in China at the behest of the Chinese Communist Party to help crush domestic protests.

Award Winner: American Express

Reason: At American Express, prejudice and hypocrisy are everywhere you want to be. In 2022, journalist Christopher Rufo exposed AmEx rules that incentivized hiring and promotion based on race and sex. Not only are such policies illegal and in violation of the company’s fiduciary duties — they’re also un-American. In 2022, NTC unveiled the “UnAmerican Express” campaign in partnership with Color Us United and Consumers’ Research, rallying grassroots action that to date has generated more than 46,000 messages to state pension trustees alerting them to the concerning personnel standards at AmEx.

Award Winner: Georgetown University

Reason: The woke mob roared into action in January following a tweet by constitutional scholar Ilya Shapiro declaring SCOTUS nominees should be selected based on accomplishment rather than race. Georgetown Law responded by suspending Shapiro as the school’s Executive Director. The university exerted no such discipline in 2018 when Professor Christine Fair wished “miserable deaths” on supporters of Justice Kavanaugh. During a months-long Georgetown “investigation” into Shapiro’s tweet, students demanded that Georgetown use the

NEW TOLERANCE CAMPAIGN ANNOUNCES 2022 “WORST OF THE WOKE” AWARDS

Continued from Page 21

moment to develop a “reparations” package that included free food and a designated place on campus for students to cry. The fiasco prompted Shapiro to walk away from Georgetown — and its cancel-culture mob — entirely.

Award Winner: ACLU*

Reason: The Amber Heard-Johnny Depp defamation trial made news for weeks. At the heart of the case: the ACLU and a 2018 op-ed by Heard that implied abuse at Depp’s hands. Courtroom testimony from ACLU Chief Operating Officer Terrence Dougherty revealed the organization was “involved in conceiving, drafting and placing” the piece. By the time all was said and done, Heard was found guilty of defaming Depp, the #MeToo movement was effectively dead, and, in the words of Richard Klein, the once-respected ACLU had become little more than “a disgraced group of attorneys.”

Award Winner: The Olympics

Reason: The International Olympic Committee bent over backwards to accommodate China’s authoritarian government during the Winter Olympics in Beijing: gaslighting about the wellbeing of tennis star Peng Shuai and refusing to condemn CCP human rights abuses (in direct contravention of the Olympic Charter and Code of Ethics). Fox News host Laura Ingraham stepped up and rallied concerned Americans to tell NBC #NotOneMinute of their time would be spent watching Olympics television coverage. With Ingraham’s amplification, NTC supporters sent more than 26,000 messages to NBC executives. The United States staged a diplomatic boycott of the Games, and ratings reached record lows for NBC.

Award Winner: School Boards

Reason: “Nonpartisan” school boards pushing far-left agendas got a wake-up call this year, as parents asserted their right to know what their children are being taught in the classroom. In-home instruction via Zoom during the COVID pandemic alerted parents to the radical gender ideology and critical race theory being taught in grade schools. This year, alarm turned into action as grassroots campaigns driven by concerned parents replaced school board members pushing cultural agendas.

Award Winner: The NBA

Reason: The world of pro sports continued its wokeward drift in 2022, but none more so than the National Basketball Association (NBA). This year, for the first time in its history, it cancelled games on Election Day. In January, when pressed on the NBA’s business dealings with China’s authoritarian government, Golden State Warriors co-owner Chamath Palihapitiya said “nobody cares” about the Uyghur genocide in China. In February, NBA player and outspoken critic of oppression in China Enes Freedom was cut from the NBA roster — a move fans said was made because Freedom exposed how U.S. corporations essentially became foreign agents of Communist China. NBA viewership continues to plummet. From 1998 – 2022, the NBA lost 66% of its viewers.

** Denotes institutions that also made the 2021 “Worst of the Woke” list.*

2022 CHAMPION OF TOLERANCE

In a year filled with double-standards, one company upheld its principles rather than bending to the demands of the woke mob

Award Winner: Penguin Books

Reason: Penguin stood strong in the face of the woke mob, shutting down their demands for book banning with a quickness. So-called human rights activists and “literary professionals” signed an open letter demanding that Penguin Random House rescind Supreme Court Justice Amy Coney Barrett’s book deal, but Penguin Books held firm to its commitment to publishing works that represent diverse views.

“PEN America rejects calls for the cancellation of a planned book by Supreme Court Associate Justice Amy Coney Barrett,” the company said in a statement. “It is the role of major publishers to make available a wide array of ideas and perspectives. In so doing, they afford readers, critics, historians, and journalists insight that can help elucidate truths, expose falsehoods, and deepen our understanding of consequential individuals and events.” You can thank CEO Penguin Random House leadership for taking a principled stand here.

Tags: [Big Tech Censorship](#), [Cancel Culture](#), [Human Rights](#), [Intolerance](#), [Intolerance On Campus](#), [Speech](#), [Woke Corporate Hypocrisy](#)

Guest GOP Elected Official Article

In his op-ed for the New York Post, Speaker Kevin McCarthy (CA-20) details how House Republicans will keep their Commitment to America and how their policies and investigations will hold the Biden administration accountable.



House Republicans' first week: Keeping our promise to fight for Americans

Speaker Kevin McCarthy,

New York Post , 1/12/2023

While President Joe Biden wants to control the kind of stove Americans can cook on, House Republicans are certainly cooking with gas. It has been only one week since the 118th Congress was sworn in, and House Republicans have already shown we will keep our Commitment to America, work on behalf of the American people and deliver them a better future.

This isn't just the start of a new Congress. This is the start of a new direction in Washington.

Following through on our pledge for a more accountable, more transparent, more open chamber, House Republicans began this Congress by passing a rules package that transitions away from the top-down, centralized control that has defined this institution for many years.

Our new approach empowers members and restores regular order. We ended proxy voting and reopened the People's House to the American people after almost 1,000 days in which they could not petition their government in person.

We also promised the Senate that the days of last-minute, trillion-dollar omnibus packages are over. From now on, if a federal bureaucrat wants to spend taxpayer money, he or she must come before the House to defend it.

After adopting the new rules, House Republicans got to work passing legislation that advances the American people's priorities. We repealed funding for 87,000 new IRS agents in our very first piece of legislation, fulfilling our Commitment to America to protect hardworking taxpayers and small businesses from being spied on and shaken down by tax collectors. We also moved to protect life and condemn violence against pro-life organizations that help mothers and babies. Finally, we passed a bill to prohibit the Biden administration from selling oil from our Strategic Petroleum Reserve to China.

Republicans understand the government exists to work for you, not go after you. That is why we launched the Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of Government. In the wake of the Twitter Files, it is clear the danger of government collusion with the private sector to silence our freedom of speech is only growing. This committee will bring necessary reforms to the federal government, protect Americans' constitutionally protected liberties and will not rest until the public knows the truth of how the government may be working to silence you.

The new majority also moved to make America safer by establishing a Select Committee on the Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party. This select committee, which passed with overwhelming bipartisan support and will be chaired by Rep. Mike Gallagher, shows that Congress is ready to speak with one voice when it comes to countering the CCP's ever-rising threat.

It will focus on developing policies that bring jobs back to the United States that we've lost to China, create a level playing field in trade, end our dependence on the nation, protect our intellectual property and stop American tax dollars from flowing to the CCP.

This week's action came on the heels of a major win for our servicemembers. In December, I directly told President Biden that the COVID vaccine mandate was wrong and must end. House Republicans included a stop to the mandate in the 2023 National Defense Authorization Act, signed into law late last year. This week, the COVID vaccine mandate on our military was finally lifted.

This is the level of commitment the American people deserve, and it is the level of commitment House Republicans will work to deliver every single day. In fewer than seven days, there's been real progress on the priorities of the American people.

Moving forward, House Republicans will keep our commitment to advance legislation that supports law enforcement, secures our southern border by returning to common-sense policies that respect the rule of law, makes America energy independent and empowers parents through a Parents' Bill of Rights.

Likewise, we will honor our vow to hold the government accountable by investigating, among other things, the disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan, COVID's origins and the Department of Justice targeting parents who exercised their First Amendment rights.

As we continue to address Americans' top concerns, I make this promise: I will never give up. I will never give up on the American people, and I will never give up on keeping our Commitment to America.

Speaker Kevin McCarthy

The Transgender Tide Is Turning

Wesley Smith, January 23, 2023

Commentary

In recent years, transgender ideologues have mounted a cultural offensive that swept all rationality before them. First, biological science and objective reality were trashed as internal feelings came to matter more than biological facts. Then, existing procedures for dealing with transgender ideation were trashed, allowing anyone who believed themselves to be the opposite sex to simply declare their new identity—and, presto-chango—that’s what they are.

Next came language engineering in which lexicon police require media, employers, colleagues, and family to use the preferred pronouns declared by transgendered people under threat of social media exclusion, loss of employment, and in some cases, losing custody of one’s own children. Biden administration bureaucrats promulgated regulations that required doctors to provide transgender hormones and surgeries even if they violated their moral and religious beliefs. Catholic hospitals have been sued, some successfully, for refusing to perform transgender hysterectomies.

Soon, womanhood itself was canceled. Females began to be called by ridiculous terms such as “people with uterus.” We were told ubiquitously that “men can give birth” and “women have penises.” Female athletes were forced to compete with transgender “women” in sports such as track, swimming, golf, and volleyball. Girls’ and women’s locker rooms were opened to anyone claiming to be female, regardless of genitalia.

Then, they came for the children. Activists took to social media platforms such as TikTok to push transgender ideology onto youth and silently invaded even the most culturally traditional households. The number of children who claim to be the opposite sex went from a bare trickle to a flash flood. In the name of preventing youth suicides, the Biden administration, medical associations, and professional journals crafted standards of care requiring that youngsters and teenagers claiming to be transgender or nonbinary receive only “gender-affirming” support—meaning that their ideation is to be accepted unquestioningly.

Under the new regime, children claiming to not be their biological sex first receive unquestioning “social affirmation” — they are never called by their “dead (given) names” and are referred to only by their “preferred” pronouns. Some schools secretly affirm these ideations by openly promoting transgender ideology in classrooms and, sometimes, hiding ongoing student “transitions” from parents. Children were invited to “family friendly” drag queen performances that had the impact—and probably the point—of sexualizing childhood.

Worse, children and adolescents are next given “gender-affirming” medical care, in which doctors prescribe drugs and hormones to prevent normal puberty. Gender transition surgeries have become increasingly routine with thousands of girls as young as age 12 having had their breasts removed. Teenagers receive invasive facial reconstruction surgeries to masculinize or feminize their faces. A few even had their genitals reconstructed.

For too long, it looked as if this subversive social revolution was unstoppable. But now, the tide seems on the verge of turning. A cultural counter-offensive is gaining steam that, if successful, could halt the transgender juggernaut. Here are some of the new developments that may be changing the tide.

Socially Liberal Countries Are Hitting the Brakes

Contrary to what the ideologues tell us, “the science” around transgenderism—particularly with regard to caring for gender dysphoric children—is not “settled.”

The public health sectors in the UK, France, Finland, and Sweden—not exactly Bible-belt countries—have published new directives urging “great caution” in blocking the puberties of children or performing body-altering surgeries precisely because of the paucity of good scientific information and the potential for serious harm. The UK’s recently published guidelines noted specifically that childhood gender dysphoria is often “transitory.” Authorities in France, Sweden, and Finland worry that the number of children identifying as transgender has increased so dramatically that it can be deemed an “epidemic.” The new guidelines strongly encourage extended psychological exploration and care instead of puberty blocking and surgically altering the bodies of minors.

‘Detransitioners’ Are Telling Their Stories

The transgender movement has been propelled by stories of children celebrating their surgeries and worries about suicides. Now, young people who transitioned are increasingly returning to their born sex, a process known as “detransitioning.” Their stories are often tragic and compelling. For example, Chloe Cole, an 18-year-old detransitioner, recounts how she was

The Transgender Tide Is Turning

Wesley Smith, January 23, 2023

Continued from Page 24

“affirmed” in her sex confusion at age 12 and had her breasts removed at 15. Now 18, she understands she is a woman and is issuing a clarion warning, saying, “My teenage life has been the culmination of excruciating pain, regret, and most importantly injustice.”

Cole isn't alone. A new documentary, “The Detransition Diaries,” follows three young women whose bodies were harmed by medical and, in one case, surgical “gender affirmation,” issuing a warning to protect children from transgender ideology and transition procedures.

Attack of the Trial Lawyers

Cole has decided to sue the doctors who she says allowed her to be irreversibly harmed by medical and surgical interventions. Other cases are being threatened or filed. In Oregon, Camille Kiefel, 32, announced a lawsuit against the health professionals who, she says, approved her mastectomy after only two brief Zoom meetings.

If trial lawyers smell the scent of money, they could swarm the transgender medical community the way litigators did the tobacco and asbestos industries.

States Are Passing Youth-Protecting Laws

Conservative states have started enacting laws to protect children from being propagandized by transgender ideology and having medical and surgical transitions. Florida forbids discussion of sensitive sexual issues, including transgenderism, through the third grade. Several states have banned biological boys from competing against girls in sports. Some have required people to use the public restroom of their biological sex. Arkansas, Alabama, and Arizona have outlawed medical and surgical transitions in youth, with more such laws likely on the way.

Gender ideology is one of the direst cultural threats Western society faces. Not only are the bodies and minds of precious people—particularly children—at risk, but if all that matters ultimately are feelings, if we cast objective truth aside to accommodate deeply held personal desires, then the stability of civilization itself is at material risk.

The time has come for an intense but mutually respectful societal conversation that focuses not only on the causes of transgenderism and the potential benefits of transitioning such people but also on the many risks and alternatives that can care compassionately for suffering people while maintaining cultural equilibrium. Our future thriving requires nothing less.

Views expressed in this article are the opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Epoch Times.

Award-winning author Wesley J. Smith is host of the Humanize Podcast (Humanize.today), chairman of the Discovery Institute's Center on Human Exceptionalism and a consultant to the Patients Rights Council. His latest book is “Culture of Death: The Age of ‘Do Harm’ Medicine.”



Political Action Hours

By Political Action Chair Jennifer Groysman



Local election season is upon us. That means it is time for me to remind everyone about our rules when two or more Republicans are running against each other. If we have a known Republican running against a known Democrat, the following does NOT apply.

Candidate Endorsement:

- a) This club, its President and its Political Action Chair, shall not endorse any candidate for office in contested Republican elections.
- b) There shall be no public endorsement of a candidate by any member during a club sponsored candidate's forum, unless such member is a candidate, has a family member who is a candidate, or is a campaign manager for a candidate, but may not do so in the name of this club.
- c) "No candidate shall use the Texas Federation of Republican Women (TFRW) logo in any political advertising, and any political advertising shall contain the following disclaimer: "This endorsement is given by the individual(s) only, NOT the Texas Federation of Republican Women."

Candidate Fairness:

"Candidate Fairness: After the end of the filing period for any office and ending the day after the final election for that office, it is the policy of TFRW that all Republican candidates for that office shall be treated fairly and equitably. When one Republican candidate for an office is invited to speak at a Federation or club meeting, then all Republican candidates for that office shall be offered equal presentation time at the same meeting or another meeting before the election."

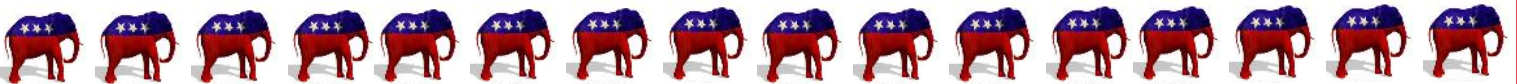
Working for a Candidate:

Individual members, with the exception of the President and the Political Action Chair, may work for any candidate of their choice in contested Republican elections, but may not in the name of the club.

I encourage all of our members to get out and work to elect the Republican candidate of their choice.

Remember any work you do for candidates counts as Political Action Hours.

Keep the challenge going! 10 hours per month!





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Many Thanks To Our Club Patrons

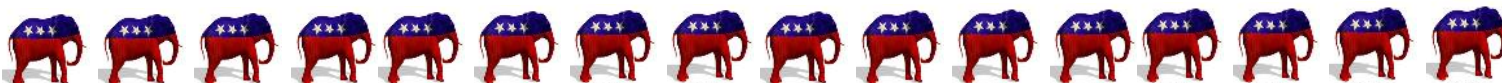


These members have donated \$100.00 in cash, given items to the club, or paid budgeted expenses valued at \$100.00 or more.

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Membership Update



Now accepting Renewals and New Memberships for 2023!

In 2022, PRW set a goal to have 100 members, we surpassed this and have 102 members for 2022!

We hope that 2023 will bring even more women in to network and work together for Republican values and Republican candidates!

Membership dues can be paid at the meeting (via cash or cheque) or can be mailed to the PRW Post Office Box.

The Membership form is included in the newsletter, printed copies are available at the meetings.

Memberships:

- \$40 Full Active Single Membership (PRW receives \$15, TFRW and NFRW receive \$25)
- \$45 Full Active Membership with Spouse
- \$25 Associate Membership – for Men or Active Members of other Republican Women Clubs
- \$20 Young Affiliate (young woman, age 10-17)
- \$140 Patron Member (includes Full Active Single Membership)
- \$145 Patron Member with Spouse

Check out the Frequently Asked Questions on our website:
<http://www.planorepublicanwomen.org/frequently-asked-questions.html>

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ROBERT GROYSMAN, MD

INTERVENTIONAL PAIN MANAGEMENT AND REGENERATIVE MEDICINE
DIPLOMAT OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF PAIN MEDICINE
DIPLOMAT OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF ANESTHESIOLOGY

Officers and Birthdays

PRW OFFICERS for 2023

- Cleo Marchese, President**
President@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org
- Jessica Bartnick, 1st. VP Programs**
- Lisa Babb, 2nd. VP Membership**
RSVP@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org
- Debby Arrant, 3rd VP Awards**
- Catherine Gibb, 4th VP, Ways and Means**
- Semida Voicu, Recording Secretary**
- Sheila Patterson, Corresponding Secretary**
- Lynn McCoy, Treasurer**



February Birthdays

Member Birthdays:

- Kay Barnett 2/1**
- Cleo Marchese 2/15**
- Beth Bean 2/19**
- Roswitha Hasenyager 2/20**
- Catherine Gibb 2/24**
- Jun Bowlin 2/25**
- Lily Bao 2/27**
- Denise Schaefer-Junger 2/27**
- Reva Bartlet 2/28**

Associates & Sponsors Birthdays:

- Chris Hill 2/6**
- Angela Paxton 2/14**
- Joanie Piki 2/18**
- Stacey Kemp 2/19**
- Jerry Madden 2/20**
- Maggie Whitt 2/23**

PLEDGE TO THE TEXAS FLAG

HONOR THE TEXAS FLAG; I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THEE, TEXAS, ONE STATE UNDER GOD, ONE AND INDIVISIBLE.





Please mail this form with your check made payable to PRW:

Plano Republican Women
P. O. Box 940461
Plano, Texas 75094

CORPORATE CHECKS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED

PLANO REPUBLICAN WOMEN MEMBERSHIP FORM

Year: 2023

Memberships:

_____ \$140 Patron Member (includes Full Active Single Membership)

_____ \$145 Patron Member with Spouse (includes Full Active Membership with Spouse)

_____ \$40 Full Active Single Membership (PRW receives \$15, TFRW and NFRW receive \$25)

_____ \$45 Full Active Membership with Spouse

_____ \$25 Associate Membership - for Men or Active Members of other Republican Women Clubs

_____ \$20 Young Affiliate (young woman, age 10-17)

Additional (Optional):

_____ \$10.00 Magnetic PRW Name Tag _____ \$4 Mail Delivery of the annual PRW Membership

TOTAL: _____ Check #: _____

PRW Membership Directory

Please provide the information to be included in the PRW Membership Directory

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____
Street City Zip code + 4

Phone numbers: (home) _____ (Office) _____ (Cell) _____

Email* _____ Precinct# _____ Birthday (month & day) _____

Associate Member Spouse Email* _____ Birthday (month & day) _____

* Email is used for newsletters and other PRW announcements

The information requested below is required by the Texas Ethics Commission:

Occupation _____ Employer _____



Plano Republican Women
P.O. Box 940461
Plano, TX 75094



Plano Republican Women

meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month
(except June, July & December)

Saltgrass Steakhouse Plano East

3320 North Central Expressway

Plano, TX 75074

11:15 am check-in

11:30 am meeting, lunch and program

Lunch is \$25 payable to PRW (Cash or Check) at the door.

You do not have to have lunch to attend,

But please RSVP to

rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org

