

Elephant Talk



Plano Republican Women

TFRW Region No: 3 Senate District No: 8

December 2023

President's Byline



We are living in volcanizing times. Identity politics and racism have become strange bed fellows in our country. This weekend in Dallas there was a Pro-Palestinian rally so large that it blocked the traffic on I-30 in the downtown area. It was described by the news as North Texans taking action by calling for a ceasefire in the ongoing Israeli-Hamas war and an end to the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories. But if you look at the large crowd in downtown Dallas holding signs and waving Palestinian flags, calling for Palestinian freedom with representatives from the Dallas Palestine Coalition, the Indian American Muslim Council, the Dallas Anti-War Committee and other local activism groups at the rally outside Dallas City Hall on Sunday, November, 19th, you see a bunch of strange groups marching together.

The first group are the LGBTQ+ crowd with their non-binary beliefs and endless array of genders marching alongside Antifa, and hard-core anti-Semitic groups who personally do not believe any Jewish nation should survive. Waving signs that say from the River to the Sea. This slogan does not mean ending Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories, they mean ending Israel. Supporting Hamas does not mean they will support you. Once again, we see fellow radical Democrats supporting another group of perceived victims. Using terms, like colonizers. A very popular neo-liberal term that uses racism to identify and shame whites in Western society for success. Modern radical democrat politicians use the word Colonizer to increase popularity within their base. You can see any one of the Squad talking about Colonizers and Palestine in the same breath at a rally. It sounds great and like they care. Colonizer was even used in the last Black Panther movie many times to describe one of the main characters, a white male who was made to look cowardly and pathetic even though he made lots of efforts to help the fictional Wakanda people.

Identity politics is used to describe liberal political activity that is based on a particular identity, such as race, nationality, religion, gender, sexual orientation, social background, caste, and social class. You have an extremely broad definition that bands together groups that should not belong together and arguably some groups that would harm the other group if they didn't need to use them for their cause because without the other group of useful idiots, they would not have enough people to support their cause. Which brings together the strange bedfellows/ useful idiots who are marching across our nation in every major city and on college campuses with hard-core antisemitic Pro-Palestinian Hamas supporters. Hamas are fundamentalist Muslims terrorists and most of the Palestinian people are very conservative Muslims. They do not support and never will homosexuality, multiple genders, independent women who work or travel without their husband's permission or are even educated without the permission of their parents. They laugh at effeminate men who believe women are superior to all men and that women are the future. They are fascinated by people who hate their own country and actively work to undermine the United States. They would imprison or kill every last person on the liberal left marching with them if they were in Palestine saying these same things about Hamas, they are saying about the US.

Many liberal professors teach identity politics from the intersectional perspective, which believes there are a range of interacting systems of oppression that may affect a person's life and originate from their various identities. According to many who describe themselves as advocates of identity politics, it centers the lived experiences of those facing systemic oppression to better understand the interplay of racial, economic, sex-based, and gender-based oppression among others and to ensure no one group is disproportionately affected by political actions, present or future. It teaches we are a nation or world of oppressors and the oppressed. Doomed from birth by successful or rich people who only did well because they are white or lighter skinned. It also teaches hardcore racism because to right a perceived wrong, you must oppress the perceived oppressor. Long before the current Israeli-Hamas war, we saw the Democrat politicians using race and racism to further their agenda in our country during the BLM

In this issue:

President's Message	1-2
January Meeting	3
PRW Photos	4
Legislative Report	5-7
Political Cartoons	8
Americanism Report	9-11
One Sick War By Victor David Hanson	12-13
Pro Terrorist Activists By Christian Milord	14-15
Political Action Hours	16
Membership Report	17
Sponsors	18-20
PRW Officers	20
Birthdays	20
Meeting Location	21



Calendar of Events

Next Board Meeting
January 2, 2024
11:30am
Napoli's Restaurant

Next General Meeting
January 16, 2024
11:30 am
Saltgrass - East Plano



PRW Presidents Byline

Continued from Page 1

riots of 2020. When COVID wasn't enough to keep people afraid and destabilize Donald Trump's presidency, they used heavily edited footage of the George Floyd incident that left out critical details to whip large parts of the country in roving groups of violent protestors who brutally assaulted random whites or people perceived as white such as lighter skinned minorities and caused billions of dollars in property damage. The flames of racism and division were fanned by every mainstream liberal media outlet and most Democrat politicians including Joe Biden and Kamala Harris.

Yet, there are critics of identity politics generally on both sides of the political spectrum. Many socialists, anarchists, and ideological Marxists deeply criticized identity politics for its divisive nature, claiming that it forms identities that undermine proletarian unity and the socialist message of class struggle. You can't have a nation of Soviet style comrades if people self-identify as everything under the sun. Many conservatives have criticized identity politics for encouraging tribalism, collectivism, and prejudice. I feel it also encourages something many of us under 50 have not seen in our lifetime, **open causal racism**. Racism that is so accepted by the general public that it is seen on TV as acceptable, spoken hatefully in public to the person or group it is directed at and taught as a mainstream social norm. It's like bringing back the Coloreds only water fountains. Everyone sees it, some people hate it but since so many people support it, it goes unchecked, and the non-racists are bullied into silence. Democrat politicians have used racism for decades as a cover for their lack of action or failed policies, and it has gone badly in the past with people dying or being gravely injured. Currently, we are repeating history, with the real history being suppressed or rewritten by nonsense like the 1619 Project. The Democrats have created a monster, and they have lost control of it. They cannot heal this country or move us past a mess of their own making. The Democrats have become so radicalized that they have more in common with Hamas, a government who cares nothing about its people, only how they can use them to stay in power. It's an open secret that the Democrats really think the Constitution is outdated because it gives rights that interfere with their goal of national socialism. A theoretical form of government that has never worked except to give more power to the political class. Our founding fathers aspired to do better, and they did. They drafted the Constitution and created a form of government that recognizes all men as created equal. As Republicans we must not let them continue to control the national public narrative because lives depend on it, and this country depends on us. Let's move forward in 2024 and start pouring tea in the harbor.

Clea Marchese

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PRW November Meeting



NEXT GENERAL MEETING:

January 16, 2024

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller

Texas Update

An eighth-generation farmer and rancher, Sid Miller is the 12th Commissioner of the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). He has devoted his life to promoting Texas agriculture, rural communities, and the great state of Texas. Born in De Leon, in Comanche County, in September 1955, Sid Miller graduated with honors from Tarleton State University in Stephenville with a Bachelor of Science degree in Vocational Ag Education.

A recognized community leader, Miller was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2000. He quickly earned a reputation as a staunch defender of Texas agriculture, constitutional freedoms, and individual liberties for all Texans.

He was elected statewide as the 12th Texas Agriculture Commissioner in 2014 and re-elected to his second term in office in 2018; followed by a third term in 2022, receiving almost 4.5 million votes--more votes than any candidate for Texas Agricultural Commissioner has ever received.

Since taking office as Agriculture Commissioner, Commissioner Miller has brought real common-sense reform to TDA. Within six months, he eliminated a two-and-a-half-year backlog in organic certifications. He reshaped field operations to maximize efficiency for Texas taxpayers. This included increasing the number of consumer protection inspections by as much as 183 percent while slashing the miles traveled by TDA inspectors by more than half a million miles a year.

[Click Here for Sid's website](#)

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
*Lunch will be salad, beef entree with vegetable, and carrot cake.***

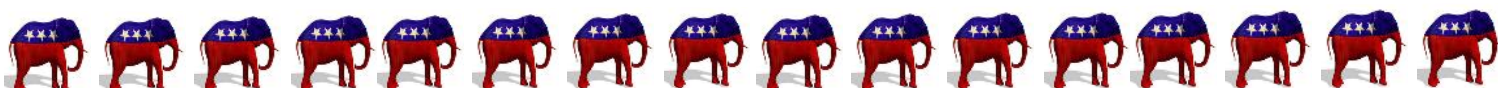
RSVPs for lunch must be made by 5 pm Friday, January 12, 2024

[RSVP here to pay with credit card](#)

Please note: all Online Credit Card Payments include a processing fee.

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 November Meeting Photos

Holiday High Tea
Tuesday, December 5th
 3-5pm
Chocolate Angel-High Street Antique Mall
 Pianist, Carol Sage

Reserve Before 11/29
 Tickets - \$35 per person
 Payment - via check or online





Legislative Report

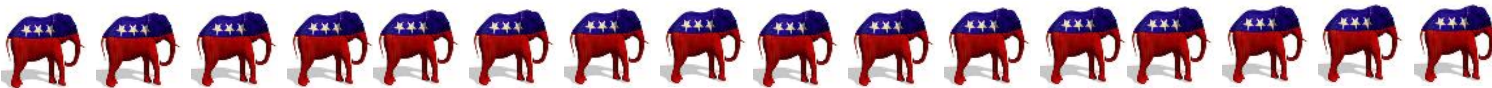


Local GOP Newsletter Update 11/24/23

The month in Washington was dominated by the recently passed continuing resolution (CR). This bill extended the funding deadline for certain types of funding bills to January 19, 2024 and others to February 2, 2024. This bill passed the House and is supposed to give Congress breathing room as it debates funding levels. I voted against this bill because I will not support the continuation of Joe Biden's FY '23 spending levels—the highest in history.

The Senate has passed this measure and, after calling it “unserious,” Biden signed it with little fanfare to avoid a shutdown. Many of my Republican colleagues and I are adamant to avoid an omnibus spending bill, in which multiple bills are tied together for a “yes or no” vote. I support regular order and standalone appropriations bills.

Thus far, the Republican House has passed seven appropriations bills while the Democratic Senate has passed three. Republicans in Congress have worked to cut specific programs in appropriations bills that are wasteful, but CRs continue to fund his woke agenda. Upon our return from Thanksgiving break, it's clear Congress must get serious and pass spending bills that advance conservative priorities before the deadlines set. The nation is in trouble so long as we do not get our fiscal house in order.



The Texas House Killed School Choice

Some members who voted against school choice attended private schools themselves or send their kids or grandkids to private schools. Now, they are denying that right to their constituents. If every House Republican or Democrat who has used private schools voted for school choice, it may have passed.

Speaker Dade Phelan didn't help either. Phelan abstained from voting on school choice. **Talk about a lack of leadership.** It's hard to pass school choice when the Speaker is too cowardly to vote for it himself.

Here is my statement on the House killing school choice:



The Truth About Education Funding

I keep hearing from many in the education system, teachers' associations, the media, and those who oppose parental choice that we greatly underfund public education, and that school choice would take money away from public education. Neither of those statements are true.

Texas spends about 50% of our entire state budget on public and higher education. That's one out of every two dollars. We spend about 30% of our state dollars on healthcare and about 10% on public safety. Those three items are about 90% of our state budget. Education is obviously our biggest priority. The Bible says, “For where your treasure is, there your heart

will be also” (Matthew 6:21). Our heart is in public education.

Homeschool became legal in Texas in 1994 with a 9-0 Supreme Court Ruling.

We heard the same arguments about homeschooling 30 years ago that it would undermine public education. The education system fought against parents' right to homeschool. Since then, our public school system has grown to be one of the biggest in the nation, and hundreds of thousands of parents homeschool their children.

Teachers should be paid as professionals. It's not just a job.

I value teachers and have led the way on teacher pay increases since becoming Lt. Governor. This session, the Texas Senate passed a bill that would increase rural teachers' pay by \$10,000 due to the wage gap between rural and urban/suburban teachers. Urban and suburban teachers would receive a \$3,000 raise on top of the raise they received in 2019.



Legislative Report

Continued from Page 4

In the 2023 regular session, we provided a \$5 billion stipend and a cost-of-living increase for retired teachers. We gave retired teachers 75 and older a \$7,500 stipend check, and those under 75 also received a payment. I wrote that bill with Senator Joan Huffman (R- Houston) with input from Tim Lee of the Retired Teachers Association. The Senate led on that issue.

Let's put our public school funding in perspective to school choice. For about 5.5 million students in public schools, we will spend about \$39 billion in our current budget. School choice is in a totally separate appropriation. Separate appropriations do not add or subtract from other appropriations. School choice money simply doesn't come from education funding.

The school choice program is about \$500 million. That is only about 1% of what we spend on public education as a whole. The choice program is for about 50,000 students. That's about 1% of all students in K-12. Texans have been fed total misinformation about school choice by those who oppose it. Those against choice need to understand this issue is not going away.

Those who voted for the budget (General Appropriations Act) in May already voted for school choice funding. It is inconsistent for them now to vote against it when they already voted to fund school choice with \$500 million. It makes one wonder if those who voted for the budget and against school choice even remember they voted to fund it earlier.

Those who say school choice is taking money away from public school funding and is part of a plan to end public schools are simply ignorant of the facts or not telling the public the truth. It's preposterous even to suggest.

The House killed Teacher Pay Raises - including \$10,000 for rural teachers. That's nearly a 20% raise for many rural teachers.

The 21 House Republicans who killed school choice this week also killed additional public school funding and teacher pay raises. They REFUSE to give students in failing schools and students with special needs just 1% funding for school choice compared to what we spend on public schools.

Governor Abbott has said he will not sign a funding and teacher pay raise bill unless an acceptable school choice bill also passes. There is no justification for all the Democrats and 21 Republicans who voted against a school choice plan. School choice is NOT a threat to public schools.

Many House members support choice...for their family.

Something I find offensive is that some of these anti-school choice Rs and Ds who killed the bill either went to private schools themselves or send their children/grandchildren to private schools. Private schools are good for them and their families, but they won't give the 1% funding to students in need in their districts.

I suggest the media ask every House Republican and Democrat who voted against school choice if they attended private school or if they send their kids or grandkids to private school.

And if so, why isn't it suitable for the families in their districts?

Let's see how many House members are bold enough to respond to both questions.

The Strongest Border Security Bills Ever Passed in Texas



Addressing the crisis on our southern border, perpetuated by the Biden Administration with historic levels of illegal crossings, has been a top priority of mine as long as I've been in office. In my first year as a state Senator in 2007, I fought to get funding for border security. The year before I was elected, there was little to no funding for border security.

In the October special session and the current special session, the Texas Senate has continued to take action to pass meaningful legislation to do all we can to protect our border.

We have passed all of the border bills Gov. Abbott has put in the special session call. The package of 3 border bills is the following:

Senate Bill 4, by Sen. Charles Perry, R-Lubbock, is the strongest border security bill Texas has ever passed. SB 4 will require criminal background checks and the collection of fingerprints and photographs of those arrested for crossing the border illegally. The illegal crosser can be jailed or ordered by a magistrate to be returned to the border. They will face even harsher penalties if they violate the order and return to Texas.

Another important bill in our fight for a safer and more secure border is Senate Bill 3, Funds to Build the Wall, by Sen. Joan Huffman, R-



Legislative Report

Continued from Page 6

Houston. SB 3 appropriates \$1.54 billion to continue building the border wall on our southern border and increase law enforcement overtime pay, including extra staffing at the Colony Ridge development in Liberty County. These funds are in addition to the over \$5 billion appropriated in our budget to continue funding Operation Lone Star.

In the October special session, the Texas Senate passed a different Senate Bill 4, Increasing Penalties Against Human Smuggling and Stash Houses, by Sen. Pete Flores, R-Pleasanton. This bill has now been signed by Governor Abbott and provides mandatory minimum sentences for the operation of stash houses and for human smuggling and increases penalties for these crimes committed during disasters.

The Texas Senate's work to secure the border is far from over. We must give Texas law enforcement as many tools as possible to secure the border and keep Texans safe. The Texas Senate will continue to ensure we are putting all our resources into the fight to secure the southern border.



No Vaccine Mandates in Texas

Senate Bill 7, by Sen. Mayes Middleton, R-Galveston, now signed into law and championed by the Texas Senate, prohibits private employers from requiring employees and contractors in Texas to get a COVID-19 vaccine.

Over the past few years, too many Texans have had to decide between their jobs and their health. As Lt. Governor, I have championed legislation prohibiting any governmental entity from imposing mask or vaccine mandates on employees to make sure that Texans are not forced to make that decision.

Congratulations, Texas!

Propositions 4, 7, and 9's passage is life-changing for Texans!

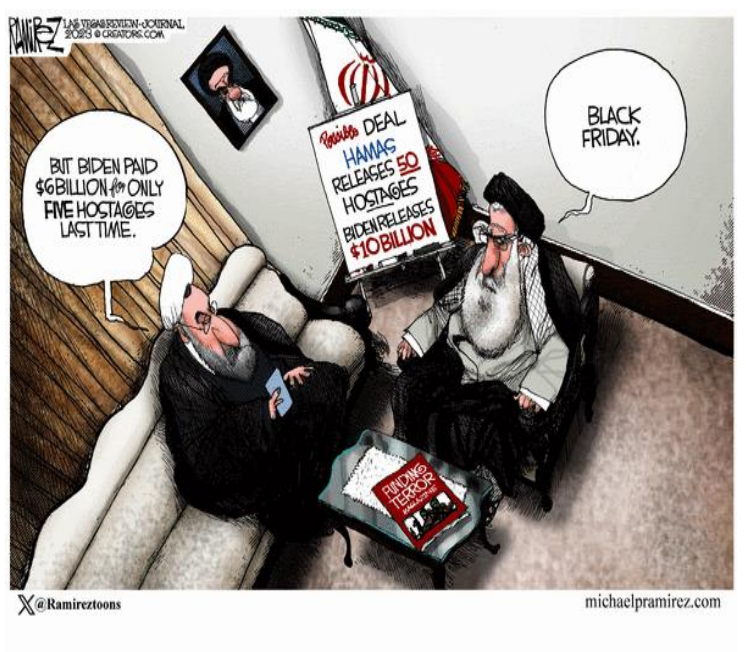
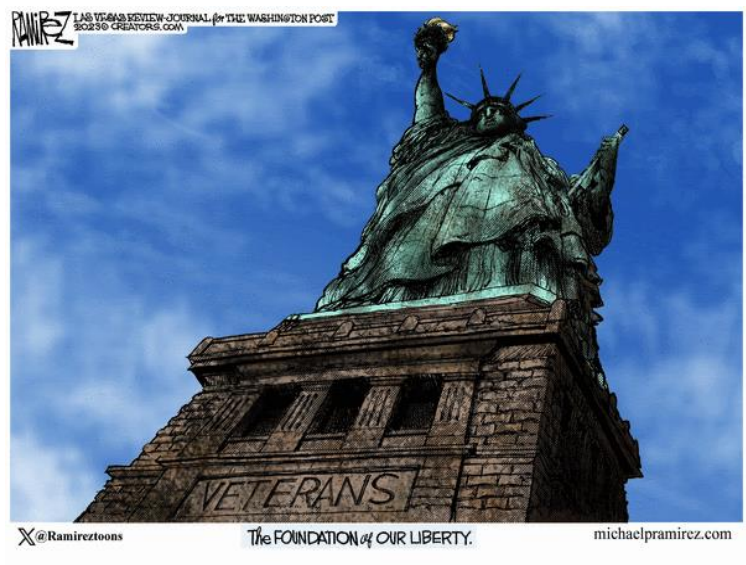
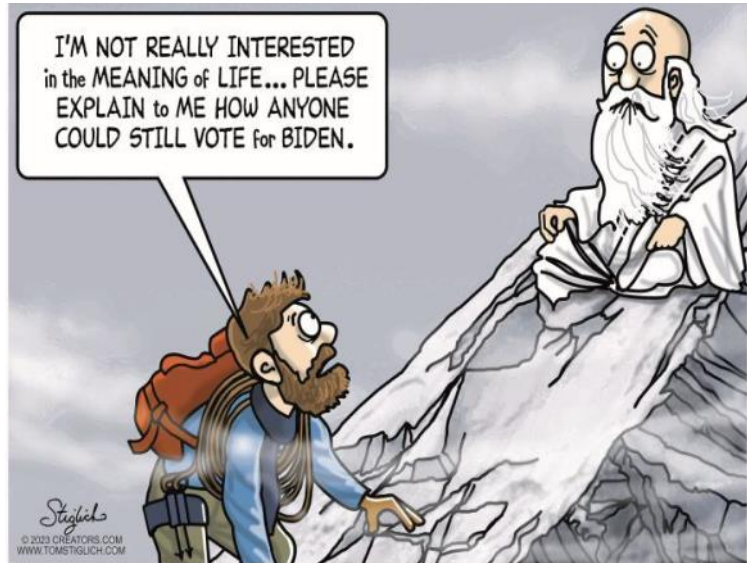
Thirteen of fourteen constitutional propositions passed, including Prop 4, meaning the \$100,000 homestead exemption will be codified in the Texas Constitution forever – a massive victory in the fight against property taxes that takes effect this year.

The Texas Senate put a lot of work into passing these important measures. Congratulations to all!

You can [click here to read my press release](#) following the passage of Propositions 4, 7, and 9.

Dan Patrick
Lieutenant Governor of Texas

Political Cartoons





AMERICANISM REPORT

by Ellen Leyrer



SUPREME COURT'S CONSTITUTIONALIST GOLDEN AGE THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DECEMBER 1, 2023

THE SUPREME COURT'S CONSTITUTIONALIST GOLDEN AGE



Over the last two years, the Supreme Court's new 6-3 constitutionalist majority has delivered a string of victories for conservatives unprecedented in the modern era.

At the conclusion of its most recent term, the Court handed down a series of landmark decisions—most notably in *Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. President and Fellows of*

Harvard College, and Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. University of North Carolina, which ruled that affirmative action in college admissions is unconstitutional—a long-time goal of the conservative legal movement and a significant blow to the left's identity politics apparatus.

In *303 Creative LLC v. Elenis*, the Court decided a landmark religious liberty ruling—determining that a

Christian website designer could not be compelled to violate her sincerely held religious beliefs by creating a website for a same-sex marriage. And on the final day of the Court's most recent term, the justices ruled against the Biden administration's illegal student debt forgiveness scheme, saving the American taxpayer hundreds of billions of dollars.

October 7, 2022 - Justices of the US Supreme Court during a formal group photograph at the Supreme Court in Washington, DC.

Image Credit - Eric Lee/UPI/Shutterstock



Although the left has predictably responded with outrage, public opinion rests squarely on the side of the majority in believing that merit—not race—should not be the leading factor in college admissions; that forced speech is inherently un-American; and that college graduates should pay their own debts.

Prior to its series of victories in 2023, one of the Court's most notable decisions came on June 24, 2022, when a 5-4 majority overturned *Roe v. Wade* in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. In a historic victory for unborn children, the rule of law, and judicial independence, *Dobbs* declared that there is no constitutional right to abortion, returning the issue to the people and their elected representatives in the state legislatures and Congress.

In another major conservative victory last year, the Court ruled last summer in *Kennedy v. Bremerton School District* that a public high school football coach has a right to pray on the field after games—a significant rebuke of the left's longstanding efforts to expel faith from the American public square. "Respect for religious expressions is indispensable to life in a free and diverse Republic," Justice Neil Gorsuch wrote for the majority.

In *Carson v. Makin*, another conservative legal win, the Court ruled that funds from Maine's state tuition assistance program could be allocated to secondary schools that provide religious instruction—a triumph for First Amendment protec-

tions, religious freedom, and school choice proponents.

In 2022, the Court also issued a staunch defense of Second Amendment freedoms in *New York Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen*. Here, the justices ruled that Americans have a constitutional right to carry guns for self-defense outside the home, invalidating a New York law that prevented citizens from doing so absent a "proper cause."

"The exercise of other constitutional rights does not require individuals to demonstrate to government officers some special need. The Second Amendment right to carry arms in public for self-defense is no different," Justice Clarence Thomas wrote for the majority.

To understand how historic the Court's past few terms have been, it's helpful to look back at the history of the Court and how we got to this moment.

History and Purpose: The "Least Dangerous Branch"

America's Founding Fathers saw the Supreme Court as essential to the survival of the rule of law. Described by Alexander Hamilton as "the least dangerous branch" of government, the framers hoped that the Court would interpret the Constitution neither through "force nor will," but instead through "judgment."

One of the Court's earliest and most consequential decisions, *Marbury v. Madison*, reaffirmed both the inde-

pendence of the Court from the other branches of government and the Court's role as an interpreter of the law. As then-Chief Justice John Marshall wrote for the majority, "It is emphatically the province and duty of the judicial department to say what the law is."

Dred Scott, the Warren Court, and the Birth of 'Living Constitutionalism'

Unfortunately, it did not take long for the Court to drift away from its constitutionally prescribed role. In one of the most egregious examples of judicial overreach in American history, under Chief Justice Roger Taney, the Court ruled in the notorious *Dred Scott* decision that black Americans were ineligible for US citizenship and the rights it entailed.

In addition to being immoral, *Dred Scott* was an unconstitutional attempt to maintain social and political harmony. Though it was later nullified by the ratification of the 13th and 14th Amendments, the decision left a devastating mark on American jurisprudence.

Over the course of the next century left-wing activism gained new life with the ascendancy of progressive President Woodrow Wilson and a few decades later with the 1953 appointment of Earl Warren as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

Warren saw himself not as a guardian of the Constitution or objective interpreter of the law, but as a social activist tasked with moving the country



Continued from Page 10

in a progressive direction. Warren's tenure on the Court paved the way for a far-left legal activism that empowered future liberal justices to flout the Constitution and strike down laws that they found personally objectionable on dubious legal grounds.

Described by scholars as "revolutionary," the philosophy of the Warren Court has had a monumental effect on how Americans perceive the law—and how the judiciary seized the lawmaking powers of Congress. It was Warren's jurisprudence, for instance, that empowered the Court to invent constitutional rights to abortion in *Roe v. Wade* and a laundry list of other leftist social transformation projects—even though such "rights" had no basis in the law itself.

The progressive legal theory championed by Warren, as well as left-wing justices like Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sonia Sotomayor, often goes by the name of "living constitutionalism," which suggests that the definition of the Constitution and written legal statutes should change with the times—or with whatever ideology is fashionable on the left at any given moment.

This philosophy of "living constitutionalism" even empowered former Justice Anthony Kennedy, who was appointed by President Reagan, to cast the deciding vote in the 2015 case *Obergefell v. Hodges*, which forbade states from enacting laws that define marriage as a union between one man and one woman. As Justice Antonin Scalia observed in his famous dissent, Kennedy's deci-

sion was based on "the mystical aphorisms of the fortune cookie."

Justice Antonin Scalia and the Rise of Originalism

The opposing legal theory to "living constitutionalism" has been the jurisprudential methodology of originalism, which argues that the Constitution should be interpreted as written and read in light of what it meant at the time of its ratification.

Originalism was brought into the mainstream by Justice Antonin Scalia and has since become the dominant legal theory on the right.

Making laws and casting political judgments, Scalia maintained, was not the duty of a judge, but rather the duty of the American people through their elected representatives in Congress. "Originalism says that when you consult the text, you give it the meaning it had when it was adopted, not some later modern meaning," Scalia said.

"It is that rock to which the republic is anchored," he explained on another occasion. "If the Constitution does not speak to a matter, it's for the democratic process to provide an answer."

In other words, the Constitution is not a living document—and it is not a vehicle for the Court to arbitrarily impose its own political will on the American public.

Donald Trump and the Court's New Conservative Majority

Prior to Trump's election, Justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito were the only reliable originalists sitting on the High Court—and "living constitutionalism" was the driving force behind the Court's legal interpretation. But that all changed with Trump's three appointments—Justices Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh, and Amy Coney Barrett—who handed constitutional originalists their first ever Court majority.

The Court's current 6-3 Republican-appointed majority has served as the main bulwark against the Biden administration's brazen political and social overreaches and issued a series of landmark conservative decisions.

In the years ahead, the Court is almost certain to add to its impressive repertoire of conservative legal wins—and should the Republican nominee win the presidency in 2024, the Court's current 6-3 Republican-appointed majority could continue to grow. ★

Aaron Flanigan

Aaron Flanigan is the pen name of a writer in Washington, DC.

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One Sick War

By Victor David Hanson, November 17, 2023

Commentary

There is something surreal, even sick about the current Gazan war.

Throughout European and American cities and campuses, tens of thousands of Middle Eastern immigrants and students and radical leftists chant nonstop, “Free Palestine from the river to the sea.”

More recently, they are also yelling, “Israel, you can’t hide, we caught you in genocide.”

Consider the hypocrisy of that dual messaging.

Hamas and its supporters are openly and eagerly calling for the genocidal end of Israel by wiping it out from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea.

Yet at the same time, they also claim that it’s Israel that is committing genocide—the very current self-described agenda of Hamas and its expatriate community of devotees!

The war has become crazier still.

Hamas and its megaphones abroad also blast Israel daily for retaliating for the Oct. 7 butchery of some 1,200 Israeli infants, children, women, and the elderly.

They further demand that Israel must be selective in its airborne targeting of the Hamas killers, who burrow beneath hospitals and mosques while using civilians as shields.

Hamas takes for granted that a supposedly heartless Israel nevertheless will be reluctant to strike the Hamas terrorists when and if they are surrounded by civilians.

Indeed, Gazans are put in more danger by Hamas than they would otherwise be by the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

Yet the world accepts that Israel itself would never employ such a ruse of using civilians to shield its cities from indiscriminately fired Hamas missiles.

The world further knows that if Israel ever employed such a barbaric tactic, Israeli civilian shields would attract—not deter—Hamas rockets.

Hamas’s apologists insist that Israel warn civilians in advance to keep clear of Israeli bombs.

Yet at the same time, Hamas launches rockets daily into Israel. And no one in the international community lectures Hamas first to drop leaflets or text Israeli civilians that Hamas rockets are on the way to their vicinity.

Instead, the only purpose of Hamas rockets is to indiscriminately strike and kill Israeli civilians.

So the real issue isn’t about the principle of civilian deaths—given Israel is damned when it tries to avoid noncombatants and Hamas is cheered on when it deliberately targets them.

Instead, the asymmetry is explained by the efficacy of the Israeli response and the impotence of Hamas rocketry.

In other words, Hamas can’t stop the IDF from hitting its targets, while Israel can knock down far more Hamas rockets.

So Israel is being blamed for being too effective—or “disproportionate”—in its bombing, and Hamas is rewarded for being too ineffective in its rocketing.

There are other sick paradoxes in this war.

Hamas started the conflict by sending death squads of 2,000 killers into Israel at a time of peace to surprise murder more than 1,000 Israeli civilians. There was no precivilizational, unspeakable atrocity that the butchers didn’t commit—torture, beheading, rape, mutilation, and necrophilia.

The terrorists were followed into Israel by a multitude of opportunistic Gaza civilians, who, in turn, joined in the violence and looting.

Back in Gaza, crowds reviled and tried to harm Israeli captives bound as hostages to trade for jailed terrorists in Israel.

In sum, the population that once elected Hamas into power, and cheered on its bloodletting—as long as there was yet no Israeli response—now claims to have no connection at all with Hamas. Yet the world assumes correctly that the people of Israel are inseparable from its military.

The surreal paradoxes of this war still do not end there.

In its mass murdering spree on Oct. 7, Hamas butchered more than 30 American citizens, and perhaps another 13 still are unaccounted

One Sick War

By Victor David Hanson, November 17, 2023

Continued from Page 12

for—and are likely hostages inside the tunnels of Hamas in Gaza.

Yet the Biden administration has not forced Hamas to return kidnapped Americans, much less responded to its killing of U.S. citizens.

Why then, despite all the rhetoric of solidarity, is the United States constantly pressuring Israel to be measured in its retaliation against the Hamas terrorists in Gaza, pressure that will only make things easier on Hamas?

Why are we seeking to restrain those who are trying to destroy the killers of Americans and indirectly aiding those who murdered them?

And why is the global elite community siding with the murderous aggressors and not those seeking justice for the murdered?

Lots of reasons.

There are 500 million Arabs in the world and nearly 2 billion Muslims—but only 9 or so million Israelis.

Nearly 50 percent of the world's oil reserves are found in the Muslim Middle East.

Westerners, like tiny Israel, are considered too rich and powerful, while non-Westerners are romanticized as blameless, victimized underdogs.

But the best way of understanding this sick war is that Israelis are Jews and the ancient plague of anti-Semitism is again sweeping the globe.

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

Victor Davis Hanson is a classicist and military historian. He is a professor emeritus of classics at California State University, a senior fellow in classics and military history at Stanford University, a fellow of Hillsdale College, and a distinguished fellow of the Center for American Greatness. Mr. Hanson has written 17 books, including "The Western Way of War," "Fields Without Dreams," "The Case for Trump," and "The Dying Citizen."



Who Are the Pro-Terrorist Activists?

By Christian Milord, November 20, 2023

Commentary

Who are the pro-Hamas protesters on college campuses and in the streets of California and America? It appears that most are relatively young, misinformed Marxists, while some are professional agitators and tag-alongs. Although passionate free speech is an American tradition, the virulent protesters who instigate the subversion of ordered liberty and promote violence are crossing a red line.

Some protesters chant insidious mindless slogans such as “Gas the Jews” or “Defeat Zionist Terrorists.” This is eerily similar to the mindset of the Nazi Third Reich from 1933–45. Why are Jewish Americans feeling unsafe in a nation that is supposed to support the pillars of liberty and time-tested laws?

One wonders how the demonstrators would react if they were conditioned to remain alert every day due to the unpredictable nature of incoming terror assaults from three directions. Moreover, they seem clueless that the dissent rights they take for granted would be met with persecution and torture in the autocratic states they fervidly admire.

Do these marchers actually know why they are protesting, or are they assembling because influencers on social media gave them instructions? Is their anti-Semitic venom against Israel and the Jews spur of the moment, or has it been building due to university indoctrination? Glancing over their banners and handheld posters, it appears that these hordes are driven by emotion rather than factual reasoning, because they merely repeat the propaganda of Iran’s regional surrogates.

For example, “From the River to the Sea, Palestine Will Be Free,” are code words for the annihilation of the Israeli state. They seem to be ignorant of the fact that Israel’s statehood has been recognized since 1948, and it is here to stay. Gaza could be free when Hamas is neutralized and no longer is a threat to Israel, or to the Palestinians.

Some Orwellian signs read, “End the Colonization, End the Occupation,” “Resistance Against Occupation is a Human Right,” or “Halt all Aid to the Apartheid State.” These phrases are merely gaslighting, because Prime Minister Ariel Sharon withdrew all Israeli soldiers from Gaza in 2005. Fatah ruled Gaza for a brief period until Hamas ousted the Palestinian Authority back to the West Bank in 2007.

Other placards read, “Ceasefire Now for the Sake of Palestine,” or “Let Gaza Live.” If the domestic and international protesters genuinely desired peace, they would urge Hamas to stop initiating wars. One idiotic sign read, “Genocide Has No Two Sides.” It refers to Israel, yet Hamas is committing genocide, while Israelis and Palestinians are at the receiving end of this medieval terror. Some chant for the release of Hamas “political prisoners.” How in good conscience can Israeli leaders release Hamas terrorists from Israeli prisons?

Similar to Antifa and Black Lives Matter, the current protesters have resorted to defacing iconic symbols and bullying pro-Israel demonstrators by swarming one individual or small groups of Israel supporters.

These small groups are harassed through the heckler’s veto, while some resort to physical intimidation. Shouldn’t these pro-Hamas rabble-rousers oppose the destabilizing effects of Iranian proxies in the Mideast? Indeed, they likely would be the first to go ballistic and call for security if they were victimized by crime or terror.

Many of the domestic and global protesters chant, “Allahu Akbar,” which means God is great. If God is great, shouldn’t they be vigorously denouncing Hamas terror instead of celebrating the mass slaughter of Israelis?

Shouldn’t they be railing against Hamas for hoarding humanitarian relief supplies, holding scores of innocent hostages, and using Palestinians as human shields as they launch rockets against Israeli civilians? Moreover, about ten percent of Hamas rockets misfire and rain down death and destruction as they fall back into the Gaza Strip. To a degree, many Palestinians are complicit in their own suffering, because they either support or tolerate Hamas.

Unlike the protesters in America, the pro-Hamas and Hezbollah crowds in Muslim dominant states are allowed freedom of assembly and speech when it is directed at the West and not at internal regime policies. These protesters can blow off steam as a relief valve. It provides a distraction away from the dysfunction that plagues a number of Arab states.

Authoritarian leaders even encourage these protests against the Great Satan (United States) and the Little Satan (Israel). However, many Arab leaders secretly detest Islamist terror groups, because they threaten state power, and far more terror strikes

Who Are the Pro-Terrorist Activists?

Continued from Page 14

By Christian Milord, November 20, 2023

are unleashed against their own regimes than there are attacks aimed at the West. Making deals with the devil only delays the progress so desperately needed in Arab states.

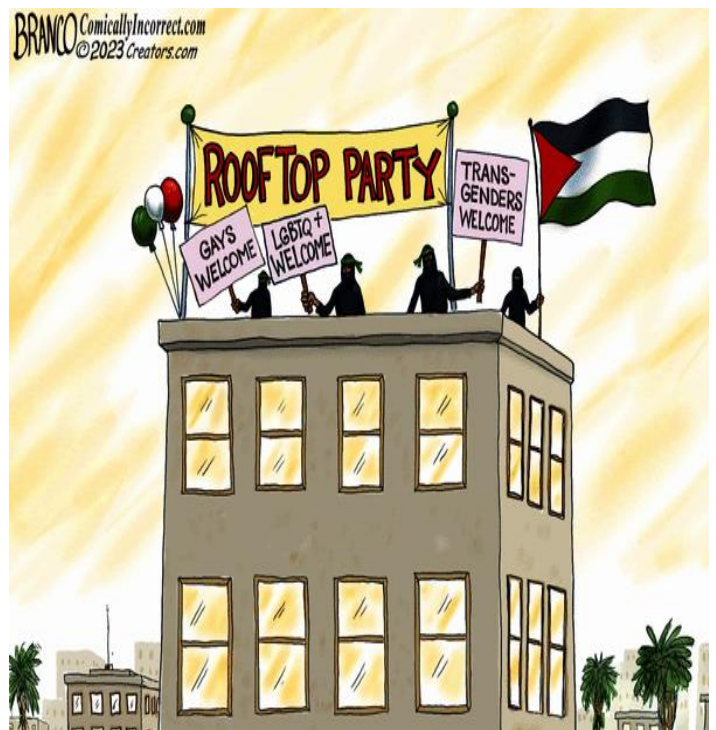
However, there might be some silver linings in this current conflict. American Christians and Jews are forming bonds and finding greater areas of common ground with Israeli Jews. Major donors are also engaging in a domestic movement to defund several American propaganda factories (universities). Moreover, if Israel defeats Hamas, the Palestinians could find their voice and demand better governance.

Hezbollah and Islamic Jihad would be put on notice, along with their financiers in Tehran. Israel, or any nation, should not have to endure daily threats to their existence. For its future survival, Israel has no choice but to break the cycle of terror that is sponsored by Iran's addiction to permanent revolution.

It is also possible that additional Arab states would be grateful for the heavy lifting carried out by Israel and work toward improved relations. Indeed, key regional stakeholders are already discussing what a de-militarized post-Hamas Gaza might look like and how it would be governed.

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

Christian Milord is an Orange County, California-based educator, U.S. Coast Guard veteran, and writer. He graduated from the University of Winnipeg and received his M.S. in education administration at California State University–Fullerton (CSUF). He mentors students at CSUF and participates in library literacy programs.



Political Action Hours

By Political Action Chair Jennifer Groysman

Our year is winding down. Everyone has done so much work to help keep Collin County Red this year. If you have not handed in your hours yet, please go to our website and submit them.

During our Holiday Tea, we will give the woman with the most hours for the year an award. Next year is a Presidential Election Cycle, so we will have lots of work and lots of chances to rack up the political hours. Remember every hour you work for a candidate you save them money on staff. I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and enjoys the holiday season.

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You can submit your hours on our website here: www.planorepublicanwomen.org



Membership Report

By Membership Chair Lisa Babb

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We are currently accepting Membership Renewals for 2024! And we always welcome new members!

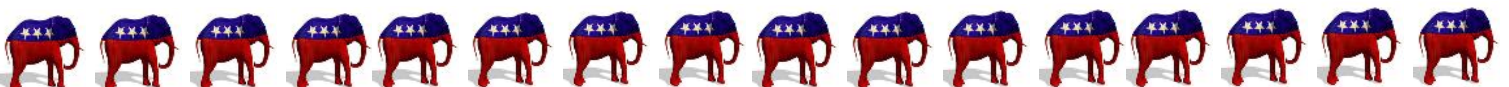
In 2023, PRW had 105 members, we hope that 2024 will bring even more women in to network and work together for Republican values and Republican candidates.

Membership dues can be paid at the meeting, online through our website
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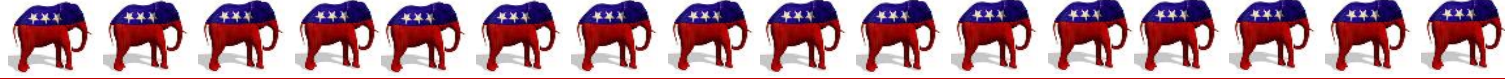
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