

# Elephant Talk

Plano Republican Women

TFRW Region No: 3 Senate District No: 8

February 2021

## President's Byline



As I write this, Texas is recovering from a terrible winter storm. Millions of Texans were without power, water, or both during the storm. Some of our own members were apart of those millions. I was one of those without water, because of a frozen outside pipe. I was lucky that my pipes survived the storm. Unfortunately, some of our members were not as lucky, as they have broken pipes and water damage. As a former northerner, I have experience with freezing temperatures and winter snow storms. In my 30 plus years living in the state of New Jersey, I have never heard of pipes freezing and power failures due to the cold. I did not have to run my sink faucets every time it went below freezing. Also, in all my experience with snow storms in the north, I was never trapped in my house for more then a day or two. You see, no matter how much it snowed, the towns always plowed the snow and salted the roads. That way first responders could get to work, and people could get to the store and to their jobs safely. So, why did Texas have such a hard time with this winter storm? What could we have done differently? To answer these questions, I did some research and here is what I found.

The first reason Texas had such a problem with the freezing temperatures is no one prepared for them. In the north, homes, pipes, power plants, windmills, and water treatment facilities are all winterized. That means homes, water pipes, valves, transmitters, pipelines, and other equipment have added insulation and heat lamps. The only city in Texas that did not have power outages was El Paso. El Paso got through the storm easily, because El Paso Electric winterized its power plants after the 2011 winter storm. They spent \$4.5 million to adapt its facilities for prolonged freezing temperatures. Their Montana Power Station was built in 2016 and can run in -10 degrees. It also burns oil fuel and natural gas, so it does not rely on one kind of fuel. Unlike El Paso Electric, other power companies ignored the voluntary winterization guidelines after the 2011 storm, even though federal regulators said they were necessary. El Paso is also not on the same grid as the rest of Texas. The city is on the Western Interconnection grid, which was able to handle the increase in demand for power.

Another reason the power was turned off was the windmills froze. Again, Texas did not winterize the turbines so they could work in freezing temperatures. Our grid has come to rely on the power it gets from the windmills. Wind accounts for 20% of the total electricity in Texas. The rest of the energy comes from natural gas (47.4%), coal (20.3%), and solar (1.1%). When the windmills froze, gas and coal energy had to make up the difference. With the frozen lines and equipment, the companies could not meet the rise in demand. The grid could also not handle the demand increase. To save the grid from overload ERCOT, the board that runs the grid, ordered power outages. With no heat to keep houses warm, pipes froze and broke. Some people even died from the cold.

The third reason for the power outages was all of Texas was dealing with the winter storm at the same time. This was very unusual for the state and our grid.

The energy industry is not the only utility that was effected by the storm. Our water plants and treatment facilities also suffered from frozen equipment. Due to the deep freeze, water mains broke and caused people to have undrinkable water; therefore, the water utilities need to prepare for the cold as well.

ERCOT answers to the Public Utility Commission who answers to the Texas Legislature. It can mandate winterization of power plants and water facilities. The Legislature can also pass legislation to reinforce the grid. State Senator Hall has tried to pass legislation to do just that. I predict his bill will pass this legislative session easily.

Homes and offices can also be winterized so pipes don't freeze and break. Of course it is easier to do that in new construction, but existing homes can also be winterized.

## In this issue:

Presidents Message	1
March Meeting	2
Americanism By Anne Logan	3
Ruby Kerr	4
Legislative Report	5-7
Candy Noble	8
Constitutional Minute	9-10
Chairman West	11-12
Political Cartoons	13
Remembering Rush By Jennifer Groysman	14
Limbaugh Genius By Victor Hanson	15
Political Cartoons	16
Protect Womens Sports By Nikki Haley	17
Membership Update	18
TFRW Spotlight	18
Anti Drilling Policy By Assoc Press	19
Show Trial By Roger Simon	20
Political Cartoons	21
False History By Ella Kietlinska	22-23
First Amendment By Phil Kline	24-25
PRW Patrons	26
Political Action Hours	26
Sponsors	27-29
Happy Birthday	29
PRW Officers	29
Member Form	30
Meeting Location	31

# PRW March Meeting



## PRW March Meeting March 16th, 2021

### Speaker: Orlando Sanchez Texas Latino Conservatives

Orlando Sanchez was elected Harris County Treasurer in November of 2006, the first immigrant to be chosen county-wide by the voters for a non-judicial office. He served in that office until December 2016, overseeing Harris County's multiple bank accounts, paying the county's expenses and serving as an independent set of eyes in overseeing spending of county taxpayer dollars.

Sanchez immigrated to Houston when his father was hired by former Harris County Judge Roy Hofheinz to be one of two Spanish announcers for the Colt 45s Baseball Club and then the Houston Astros. Sanchez graduated from Bellaire High School, joined the U.S. Air Force, and enrolled at the University of Houston.

He graduated cum laude from the University of Houston with a degree in political science and embarked on a career as a public servant, first as a three-term Houston City Council member and then as Harris County Treasurer. Orlando sat on the Harris County Bail Bonds Board, is a member of the Board of Directors of Capital Bank, a life member of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, the 100 Club of Houston and is a current advisory member of Volunteer Interfaith Caregivers-Southwest. He is a member of the University of Houston Foundation Board of Directors and is a former advisory member of the University of Houston Law School Foundation. In addition, he is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and is a Fellow of the British-American Project.

Orlando was appointed to the U.S. Senate Task Force on Hispanic Affairs. He is the founder of Texas Latino Conservatives PAC.

**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, January 15th, 2020**

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](mailto:rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org)

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



Continued from Page 1

The cost of this winter storm is estimated to be \$50 billion. It would have been a lot cheaper for water plants, power plants, homes, and offices to be winterized.

If you had power outages, no water, pipes burst, or property damage from the storm, our state representatives want to hear from you. The Legislature will be holding hearings on the black outs, contributing factors, and response.

*Jennifer Groysman*  
president@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org



# AMERICANISM REPORT

BY ANNE LOGAN, AMERICANISM CHAIR

## Betty Friedan

Betty Friedan was an American feminist writer and activist. It is said by some that Betty Friedan sparked the modern women's rights movement with the publication of her famous book *"Feminine Mystique"* (1963). The book criticized the strictures placed on women in American society.

Betty was born in Illinois with the name of Betty Naomi Goldstein. She graduated from Smith, a prestigious all women's college in 1942 and briefly studied psychology at the University of California at Berkeley. She gave up her studies and married a New York theatrical producer, Carl Friedman in 1947. He later dropped the "m" from their last name.

As a suburban housewife in the 1950s, Betty began to notice that many young mothers her age were despondent, despite their material prosperity. The prevailing attitudes held that "truly feminine" women had no desire for higher education, careers, or a political voice, rather they found complete fulfillment in the domestic sphere.

Raising *children* and keeping a neat home proved to her, as well as many other women, stifling and unfulfilling. In the *Feminine Mystique* she referred to this sense of creeping malaise as the "problem that has no name".

Her book said: "The problems lay buried, unspoken, for many years in the minds of American women. It was a strange stirring, a sense of dissatisfaction, a yearning that women suffered in the middle of the twentieth century in the United States. Each suburban wife struggled with it alone.

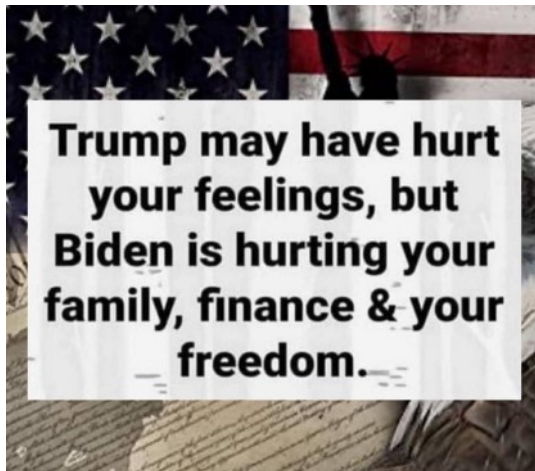
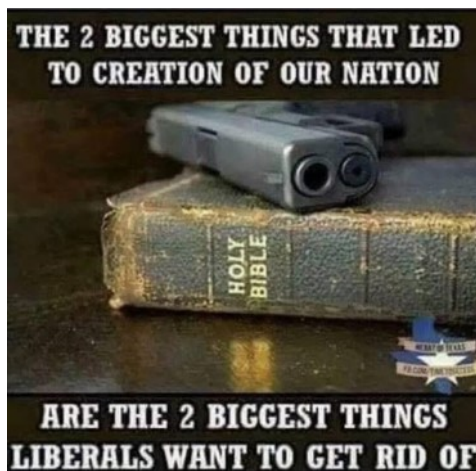
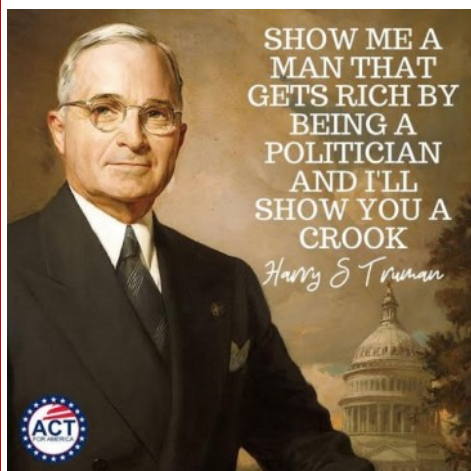
As she made the beds, shopped for groceries, matched slipcover material, ate peanut butter sandwiches with her children, chauffeured Club Scouts and Brownies, lay beside her husband at night—she was afraid to ask, even of herself, the silent question, "Is this all?"

The book struck a nerve among millions of American women by giving voice to their frustrations, and it was a huge success. After its publication, Friedan would go on to help found the National Organization for Women (NOW, established in 1966) and several other feminist groups, lobbying against gender discrimination, unequal pay in the workplace and restrictions on abortion.

Are Friedan's comments still relevant? Jessica Valenti, a young feminist author and writer says one of Friedan's most powerful legacies is her anger. She said we forget anger can be justified. Anger concerning sexism, income inequality, and domestic inequality for instance is righteous and relatable. 'These are indeed relevant today.

### Additional information:

As president of NOW, one of Friedan's first projects was a campaign to stop airlines from requiring "Stewardesses" to resign once they reached the age of thirty-two.



# In Memory of Ruby Kerr



Ruby Kerr passed away on Saturday, February 13, 2021. She was a long time member of Plano Republican Women. Prior to that she was Cliff Hills RW for 5 years.

While a member of Cliff Hills RW, Ruby was President, Parliamentarian, Yearbook Chairman, Newsletter Chairman and a Delegate for Dallas County Republican Women's Club 1992-1993.

As a member of Plano RW, Ruby served as the Newsletter Chairman for 4 years, Corresponding Secretary, Historian, Literacy/MELP and Installation Luncheon Chairman.

Ruby was elected TFRW District Director for 1993-1995. In addition, she served on a committee for Regional Vice President Barbara Pinscher, for a Regional meeting in Dallas in 1994 for the National Federation of RW. Ruby served as a delegate to several TFRW State Conventions and was a delegate to the NFRW Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico in 1995.

Ruby worked on the campaigns for every Republican Candidate for President starting with Barry Goldwater in 1964. She also worked on campaigns and contributed to the following: Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, Representative John Cornyn, Senator Phil Graham, Congressman Sam Johnson, Governor Rick Perry, State Senator Florence Shapiro, State Representatives Jerry Madden, Brian McCall, Jody Rushton and County Commissioner Jerry Hoagland.

There will be a memorial service on June 1, 2021 for both Ruby and her husband Lloyd who passed away in December, 2020. Please keep her family in your prayers.

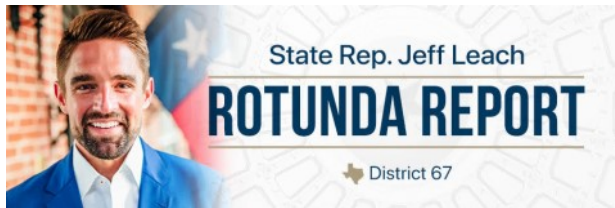


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# Legislative Report



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dear Friends,

There's a lot to catch you up on this week so let's get straight to it...

Clearly, the main focus of the Texas Legislature over the past several days, rightfully so, has been on the historic winter storms that impacted every citizen and every corner of our state last week. Our anger has turned into action and we are

committed to working aggressively to find solutions to ensure this never happens again in the State of Texas.

My week has been consumed with meetings and communications with countless constituents, community leaders, industry experts and fellow legislators and agency heads here in Austin. I've been asking tough questions and demanding answers on your behalf.

Just yesterday, the Texas House commenced formal investigative hearings at the Texas Capitol, allowing legislators the opportunity, with Texans looking on, to get answers from ERCOT, from the PUC, from the Railroad Commission, from our electric providers and from others who are responsible for decision-making and oversight of the state's electric grid. After a marathon hearing lasting more than 15 hours, it became abundantly clear to me that what I have believed and have been arguing all along is indeed true: While this was an unprecedented winter weather event, the fallout, the results, the loss of power, of heat, of water, and the unfortunate loss of life, all could have and should have been avoided.

This week, I am glad to report that several of the Board Members of ERCOT, including the Board Chair and Vice Chair, both of whom resided outside of the State of Texas, submitted their resignations. Further, last night I called on the ERCOT CEO and the PUC Commissioners to swiftly submit their resignations as well. I firmly believe that new leadership in these integral positions is key to ensuring the people of Texas, and your legislators, have the confidence needed as we move forward in to the future.

While these personnel decisions are important and necessary, make no mistake that additional reforms will be needed to ensure this never happens again in the Lone Star State. We can and should remain on our own electric grid here in Texas. I firmly believe that. But there's no question we need to make wholesale, top-to-bottom, substantive changes, both in terms of how we operate, how we prepare for weather events, how we store reserve energy capacity, how we prepare and weatherize our key components and generating capabilities, and how we communicate during times of emergency to the people of Texas.

All of these things are on the agenda and all solutions are on the table. And I and my team are working around the clock to make sure that we deliver answers and results on your behalf. You demand and deserve nothing less



## 4 Minutes and 37 Seconds...

### Texans Deserve Answers!

On February 15th, Texas came within 4 minutes and 37 seconds of a complete collapse of the power system.

If that had happened, we would have been thrown into a pre-industrial revolution world without power, fuel, internet, cars, running water, grocery stores, cell phones, or any of the other necessities required to support almost 30 million people and the world's ninth largest economy.

Given the tremendous costs of the blackouts we did endure, imagine the chaos, misery, and death that would have resulted from months of being cut off from modern life.

Imagine the riots. Imagine the carnage in hospitals and nursing homes. Imagine the famine as millions of people went without food or clean water. Imagine the disease as human waste piled up, untreatable and not disposable.

It would have been a world changing event that would have seen millions of desperate people migrate from Texas for the safety and security of other states and nations as potentially millions more died miserable, preventable deaths.

And it would have all been laid at the feet of Governor Greg Abbott.

Only by God's grace, and 4 minutes and 37 seconds, did we avoid that fate. What we did endure was bad enough, but we must never forget what almost came to pass...and where the buck stops.



## Legislative Report

Continued from Page 5

Yes, renewable energy failed. So did coal and natural gas. Even one of our four nuclear generators went down. This was a system-wide disaster, a system overseen by the state government, the Public Utilities Commission, and ERCOT.

The failure belongs to them all.

In the wake of the crisis, we are hearing about further failures by power providers who prioritized profits over their duty to properly prepare and winterize their equipment and crazy rules that allowed them to jack up prices from \$50/ kilowatt hour to \$9,000/ kilowatt hour on those lucky enough to have power!

The resignations of the out-of-state ERCOT board members was a necessary start, but it was only a pebble thrown into the raging river of systemic failures that Texas must dam to account for this massive calamity, renew Texans' faith in our government and public service providers, and provide accountability to those that failed us so spectacularly.

It is up to all of us to provide that accountability through our elected leaders and the institutions that they oversee.

Texas is rich in human capital, resources, and infrastructure. We are envied around the world for our economy and our ability to provide opportunities for those who seek them.

The fact that we came within 4 minutes and 37 seconds of being impoverished beyond even what we see in the world's poorest and most mismanaged nations should shock and appall the sensibilities of every Texan.

This is a call to every Texan to stand up, speak up, and demand that far more than five heads at ERCOT roll. Accountability starts at the top.

Texans deserve better.



Texas Agriculture Commissioner



Since the beginning of this pandemic, federal efforts to combat the virus and help the American people have boasted widespread bipartisan support. But tonight, as millions of Americans, thousands right here in North Texas, struggle to recover from the pandemic, Speaker Pelosi has chosen to put partisan politics over the American people.

Let me be clear: this \$1.9 trillion spending package is not pandemic relief. In fact, less than 9% of the spending in this bill has anything to do with combatting COVID-19. Under the guise of pandemic assistance, this bill is little more than a fig leaf to double the minimum wage, send billions of dollars overseas, bail out mismanaged states for their longstanding reckless spending, and accomplish a laundry list of items on Speaker Pelosi's liberal agenda.

This bill is a betrayal to the American workers, businesses, and families who have been impacted by the pandemic. Targeted COVID-19 relief is not a "Republican" issue or a "Democrat" issue, it is an American issue, and now is not the time for political games.



Van Taylor, Member of Congress

## The Non-Covid Spending Blowout - WSJ Editorial Board, Feb. 21, 2021

*Most of the \$1.9 trillion House bill has little to do with the virus. Here's a breakdown*

The Biden White House is pointing to polls showing that its \$1.9 trillion spending bill is popular, and the press corps is cheering. Yet we wonder how much public support there'd be if Americans understood that most of the blowout is a list of longtime Democratic spending priorities flying under the false flag of Covid-19 relief.

Let's dig into the various House committee bills to separate the Covid from the chaff. The Covid cash includes some \$75 billion for vaccinations, treatments, testing and medical supplies. There's also \$19 billion for "public health," primarily for state health departments and community health centers. One might even count the \$6 billion to the Indian Health Service, or \$4 billion for mental health.



## Legislative Report

Continued from Page 6

The package also hands more to businesses and individuals most hit by lockdowns. That includes \$7.2 billion more for the Paycheck Protection Program, \$15 billion for economic injury disaster loans, \$26 billion for restaurants, bars and live venues, and \$15 billion in payroll support for airlines. The recipients of this taxpayer money will at least be required to prove economic harm, and in some cases repay loans.

Not so the recipients of the \$413 billion in checks Democrats intend to send to households far and wide, at \$1,400 per man, woman and dependent, that begins phasing out at \$75,000 of individual income. The Congressional Budget Office says the bill's unemployment provisions will increase deficits by \$246 billion, and that its \$400 a week in federal "enhanced" unemployment benefits through August "could increase the unemployment rate as well as decrease labor force participation." So much for economic stimulus.

All told, this generous definition of Covid-related provisions tallies some \$825 billion. The rest of the bill—more than \$1 trillion—is a combination of bailouts for Democratic constituencies, expansions of progressive programs, pork, and unrelated policy changes.

\* \* \*

- Start with the \$350 billion for state and local governments and cities and counties, even as state revenues have largely recovered since the spring. Democrats also changed the funding formula to ensure most of the dollars go to blue states that imposed strict economic lockdowns.

Last year's Cares Act distributed money mainly by state population, but much of the \$220 billion for states in the new bill will be allocated based on average unemployment over the three-month period ending in December. Andrew Cuomo's New York (8.2% unemployment in December) and Gavin Newsom's California (9%) get rewarded for crushing their businesses, while Kristi Noem's South Dakota (3%) is penalized for staying open. These windfalls come with few strings attached.

- The bill includes \$86 billion to rescue 185 or so multiemployer pension plans insured by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. Managed jointly by employer sponsors and unions, these plans are chronically underfunded due to lax federal standards and accounting rules. Yet the bailout comes with no real reform.

- Elementary and secondary schools get another \$129 billion, whether they reopen for classroom learning or not. Higher education gets \$40 billion. The CBO notes that since Congress already provided some \$113 billion for schools—and as "most of those funds remain to be spent"—it expects that 95% of this new money will be spent from 2022 through 2028. That is, when the pandemic is over.

- Enormous sums go to expanding favorite Democratic programs. The package adds \$35 billion to pump up subsidies to defray ObamaCare premiums. The bill eliminates the existing income cap (400% of the poverty level) on who qualifies for subsidies, and lowers the maximum amount participants are expected to contribute to about 8.5% of their income, down from 10%.

The bill also spends \$15 billion to provide a temporary five percentage-point increase in the federal Medicaid match to states that expand eligibility to lower-income adults. This is bait for the dozen or so states that have resisted ObamaCare's Medicaid expansion, which enrolls working age, childless adults above the poverty line. The political goal overall is to chip away at private coverage on the way to Medicare for All.

- There's \$39 billion for child care; \$30 billion for public transit agencies; \$19 billion in rental assistance; \$10 billion in mortgage help; \$4.5 billion for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance program; \$3.5 billion for the program formerly known as food stamps; \$1 billion for Head Start; \$1.5 billion for Amtrak; \$50 billion for the Federal Emergency Management Agency; \$4 billion to pay off loans of "socially disadvantaged" farmers and ranchers; and nearly \$1 billion in world food assistance.

- Don't forget the \$15 an hour minimum wage, which CBO estimates will cost 1.4 million jobs. The bill increases the child tax credit to \$3,000 from \$2,000 (\$99 billion) and temporarily expands the Earned Income Tax Credit to certain additional childless adults (\$25 billion). It eliminates the cap on the rebate that drug makers must pay Medicaid for outpatient drugs. This is a rare provision that increases federal revenue (\$16 billion), though only by undermining pharmaceutical innovation.

- This being Congress, Members are also slipping in pet causes. Our favorite is \$1.5 billion for the Seaway International Bridge, which connects New York to Canada and is a priority for New York Sen. Chuck Schumer. And don't overlook the nearly \$500 million for, as the CBO puts it, "grants to fund activities related to the arts, humanities, libraries and museums, and Native American language preservation."

No wonder Democrats want to pass all this on a partisan vote. It's a progressive blowout for the ages that does little for the economy but will finance Democratic interest groups for years. Please don't call it Covid relief.

# Representative Candy Noble - TFRW Honoree

*For Texas and the Country!*

## *Woman of Distinction*

*February 2021*

### CANDY NOBLE

State Representative, District 89

Re-elected to represent District 89 in the Texas House of Representatives, Representative Candy Noble began serving her second term when the 87th Legislature convened on January 12, 2021. During the 86th Legislative Session, Rep. Noble served on the House Committees on Ways and Means, Human Services, and General Investigating.

Candy also serves as Secretary on the Texas House Republican Caucus Board and is also serving on the Boards of both the Texas Conservative Research Institute and Texas Conservative Coalition.

In her Freshman term, Rep. Noble carried a major piece of priority legislation—Senate Bill 22, a bill that protects taxpayers from funding abortion providers and their affiliates, passed and was signed into law by the Governor. This law provides two of Candy's favorite things: saving innocent lives and saving tax dollars.

In 2019, Rep. Noble was named an "Emerging Leader" by GOPAC. She was one of only 30 Republican state legislators from across the nation to earn this distinction.



Candy is a Past President of Golden Corridor Republican Women. As an active member of her club, she has attended many TFRW Conventions and Legislative Days in Austin and loves spending time with her TFRW sisters. She is an Associate Member of many Collin County TFRW area clubs, and appreciates all they do to keep Texas red.

In 2015 Candy was honored as one of TFRW's 10 Outstanding Women. In 2016 Candy was elected to serve as the Texas Electoral College's Chairman and was thrilled to announce that Texas had voted for President Trump.

A strong proponent of education, Rep. Noble has a degree in Education from Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene and serves on their Board of Trustees.

A 27-year resident of Collin County, Candy has been married to Robert for 37 years and they live in Lucas where they are active members of Prestonwood Baptist Church. They have three daughters, three sons-in-law, and eight grandchildren.



# Constitutional Minute Series

## Part I

### Paths to Nullification: In Law vs in Practice

By: Mike Maharrey | Published on: Jul 23, 2015 | Tenth Amendment Center

Pundits, members of the media, and legal experts generally focus exclusively on nullification in a purely legal sense, specifically on a particular process created and proposed by South Carolina Sen. John C. Calhoun during the so-called tariff crisis in the late 1820s and early 1830s. By doing this, they completely ignore nullification happening in a more practical sense.

Calhoun held that since each state is a party to a legal compact – the Constitution – each state had the constitutional authority to determine whether or not it had been exceeded or violated. In his conception of the process, a single state could then take a steps to legally nullify any act it deemed unconstitutional.

However, Calhoun's scheme isn't the only path we can follow to render a federal act null and void, or simply unenforceable in practice. Looking at nullification from a results-oriented, practical understanding, there are various avenues to nullify beyond Calhoun's peculiar legal process. In fact, Thomas Jefferson himself mentioned no specific path to nullify in the Kentucky Resolutions. He never outlined a process, much less an exclusive method of nullification, like Calhoun claimed.

The nullification process Calhoun conceived tracked closely to the general principle Thomas Jefferson wrote about in the Kentucky Resolutions of 1798, asserting that a part of the federal government (the Supreme Court that is) could not serve as the final arbiter in determining the extent of federal power. Jefferson wrote:

*"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; but that, as in all other cases of compact among powers having no common judge, each party has an equal right to judge for itself, as well of infractions as of the mode and measure of redress."*

But Calhoun took this general principle and invented his own elaborate process to carry out nullification. As I noted in my handbook [Smashing Myths: Understanding Madison's Notes on Nullification](#).

*"The Calhoun-inspired South Carolina plan for nullification held that if a single state declared a federal act unconstitutional, it legally repealed the law. From that point forward, the state's position would be recognized as legally binding, correct and true until ¾ of the other states, in convention, overruled the single state and overturned its nullifying act."*

James Madison was asked to offer his opinion on the proposal and came down strongly against it. And rightly so, based primarily on the "peculiar" (his word) process that Calhoun and South Carolina proposed. The [Smashing Myths](#) handbook covers Madison's views in more detail.

At the time of the founding, the federal government did very little in comparison to what it does today. The size, scope and reach of the federal government in the early days of the American republic would barely register as a blip in the 21st Century.

Because of its massive size and reach, the federal government has become more and more dependent on state and local support to carry out its laws and regulatory programs. We witness this with most federal programs. Here are some examples.

Federal enforcement of laws across the spectrum include a state or local component in the vast majority of cases. Whether they are going after firearms, marijuana, or something else, when the feds carry out a raid, state and local law enforcement almost always supports them. In many cases, state and local personnel on the scene outnumber federal agents.

Programs like the Affordable Care Act count heavily on states to implement and execute the program. When states refuse to set up exchanges or expand Medicaid, it has a significant impact on the federal government's ability to operate the program as planned.

Some federal laws, like the REAL ID act, rely almost entirely on states to implement them.

# Constitutional Minute Series

## Part I

Continued from Page 9

Today, very few federal programs operate on federal resources alone. This holds true of NSA spying, enforcement of gun regulations, drone surveillance, prohibition and countless other federal actions.

During the partial, temporary federal government shutdown in 2013, the National Governor's Association confirmed this reality in a statement expressing its concern.

*States are partners with the federal government in implementing most federal programs. A lack of certainty at the federal level from a shutdown therefore translates directly into uncertainty and instability at the state level.*

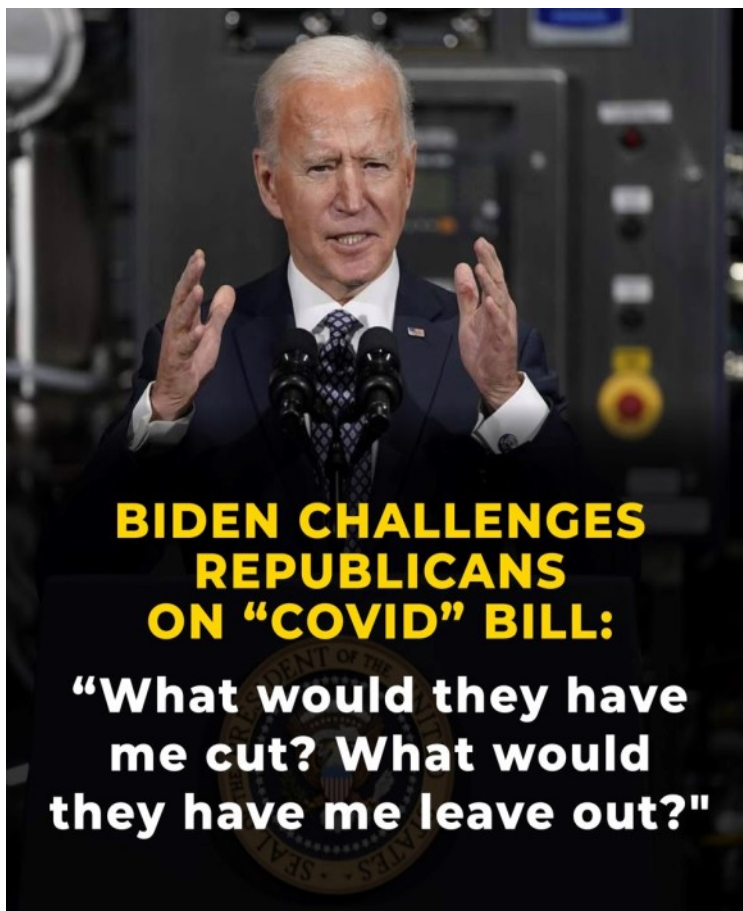
Not some federal programs – most of them.

Logic dictates that if a lack of participation on the federal side of this “partnership” can cause problems for states, the opposite holds true as well. The “Father of the Constitution” knew this in 1787, and it holds true today.



**Mike Maharrey**

Michael Maharrey is the Communications Director for the Tenth Amendment Center. He is from the original home of the Principles of '98 - Kentucky and currently resides in northern Florida. He is the author of the book, **Our Last Hope: Rediscovering the Lost Path to Liberty**. You can visit his personal website at [MichaelMaharrey.com](http://MichaelMaharrey.com) and like him on Facebook.



## CHALLENGE ACCEPTED.

### HERE'S A START:

- Silicon Valley Underground Tunnel
- \$350 billion in blue state bailouts
- \$86 billion in union pension bailouts
- \$56 billion cost to raise the minimum wage
- \$34 billion to expand Obamacare
- \$200 million for Institute of Museum and Library Services
- \$135 million to the National Endowment of the Arts

# Chairman West's Monday Message for 2.1.21

LTC Allen West - The Real American Crisis: Executive Power



*"Those who would surrender essential liberty for temporary security, will, in the end deserve neither liberty nor security." -- Benjamin Franklin*

*"Never let a good crisis go to waste"-- Rahm Emanuel*

When I hear people -- even elected officials -- say that America is a democracy, I just cringe. This is a real indicator as to why we need to have civics taught, not just in our schools, but to adults. America is a Constitutional Republic, its fundamentals being the rule of law and individual rights.

However, what we are witnessing, at warp speed, is a "fundamental transformation" of America into a constitutional monarchy. Now, you may ask what the difference is? Well, it comes back to our lesson in civics. We have three co-equal branches of government: the legislative, executive, and judicial. If you wish to know the basis for this governmental structure, I suggest you read "The Spirit of the Laws" by French political philosopher, Montesquieu.

In structuring our government -- the result of the Constitutional Convention of 1787 -- our founding Fathers created this constitutional Republic designing the enumerated duties and powers to each respective branch, legislative being the most powerful. However, there exists a system of checks and balances in order to maintain a "balance of power" between these respective branches. It is different from an Article V Constitution of States.

Sadly, the current occupant of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, by executive order, just eliminated the 1776 Project, basically admitting that he disregards the establishment of these United States of America. That is a very critical decision because the Declaration of Independence establishes the sovereignty of the individual citizen over the institution of government. That incredible document decreed that our unalienable individual rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness do not emanate from man, meaning government. Those rights are endowed to us by our Creator, the Judeo-Christian God.

What is happening now is that we have a government, namely the executive branch, using so-called "emergencies" to suspend, supersede, and usurp individual rights. Hence, we find ourselves in a situation where the new president of our Constitutional Republic is not seeking to govern us according to the rule of law, rather he is ruling by Executive Order, 40+ and counting, as of this writing.

Executive Orders are not a means to an end to implement an ideological agenda, which should be done by the legislative process. America, or any of our sovereign States, are not to be ruled by order, mandate, edict, or decree, yet this is exactly what is happening.

Here is a case in point. Last year, globally, there were some 1.5 million deaths related to COVID-19. Last year, globally, there were over 42 million preborn babies murdered in the womb. What did Joe Biden do? He decided by Executive Order that US taxpayer dollars would go overseas to support countries in continuing the heinous practice of dismembering preborn babies in the womb. The enumerated power of appropriating the tax dollars of US citizens belongs to the legislative branch, that is in Article I of our Constitution, not Article II which enumerates the powers of the executive branch.

Sadly, even here in Texas, we are experiencing a similar issue: our own governor decided unilaterally to appropriate taxpayer funds -- \$275 million -- to a corporation, MTX, for contact tracing without legislative approval. Heck, the Texas legislature was not even called back into session on the issue.

The second quote in the introduction to this week's missive explains the perspective of the government: "never let a good crisis go to waste." That means with each "emergency" declared, we find ourselves losing more of our individual rights.

Think about the creation of FISA courts after 9/11, and how they were inappropriately used against the incoming Trump administration. The FISA courts are a violation of our 4th Amendment rights. Consider after the shootings at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland Florida -- [clearly attributable to government failures](#) -- but out of that crisis we got Red Flag Laws, which are a violation of our 2nd and 4th Amendment rights.

And, of course, we are living the most recent "emergency" with the COVID-19 issue. I must admit, 1.5 million versus 42 million dead in one year, which one is the real emergency? Also, we know, definitively, that COVID-19 has an overall 99.96 percent recovery rate. Preborn babies in the womb have a 0 percent recovery rate when forceps enter into the safe space of a mother's womb to dismember the child.

# Chairman West's Monday Message for 2.1.21

LTC Allen West - The Real American Crisis: Executive Power

Continued from Page 12

The COVID-19 scare was leveraged using the best-known means by the government to consolidate power: the threat of death. All of a sudden, elected officials, executives, made the unilateral declaration as to who and what was "essential." As Franklin articulated, the most essential quality in America is liberty. However, executives decided that they would issue mandates, edicts, orders, and decrees to restrain our individual liberty. Heck, dads were arrested for playing with their children at playgrounds. A paddle-boarder was arrested for paddling alone on the open ocean. Businesses were told to shut down. Churches were told to shut their doors, a violation of the first liberty, freedom of religion and the free exercise thereof. We were ordered to wear masks, now some are insinuating we need to be ordered to wear three masks. None of these executive actions went through the legislative process.

During the 2020 election cycle, executives made decisions to change election law. Here in Texas, our governor decided to extend early voting an additional week, without legislative consult or approval. In Dallas County, County Judge Clay Jenkins decreed that the "fear" of catching COVID-19 was a disability, and grounds for a mail-in ballot, a violation of Texas election law. We saw executives violate state election law in Georgia, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, Arizona, and Nevada, with no consequences.

It all goes back to an op-ed written by former US Attorney General, Eric Holder, on April 14, 2020, in Time magazine titled, "[How the Coronavirus Should Permanently Change Elections in the United States](#)." And, what was the crux of his opinion? A pitch for universal mail-in ballots, completely different from the controlled electoral process of absentee ballots.

The bottom line is that we have government executives using "emergencies" to expand their powers. We are made to believe that we are more secure, when, in all actuality, as Franklin says, we have less liberty, and are less secure.

What must happen is that our legislatures, federal and state, must regain their enumerated powers. These legislatures must define what constitutes an "emergency" and ensure that our rule of law is followed. We cannot have state legislatures suspended, paralyzed, and locked out by not being called back into session as executives usurp their branch. If this continues, we may need to ask why we have legislatures?

I recall back in 2014, Barack Obama stated the following:

*"We're not just going to be waiting for legislation in order to make sure that we're providing Americans the kind of help they need. I've got a pen and I've got a phone. And I can use that pen to sign executive orders and take executive actions and administrative actions that move the ball forward in helping to make sure our kids are getting the best education possible (never mind he canceled the DC school voucher program in 2009), making sure that our businesses are getting the kind of support and help they need to grow and advance, to make sure that people are getting the skills that they need to get those jobs that our businesses are creating [regardless of how Obamacare hurt businesses]."*

Obama would proclaim the same thing at his State of the Union address, and members of Congress stood and cheered. They were cheering monarchical despotism.

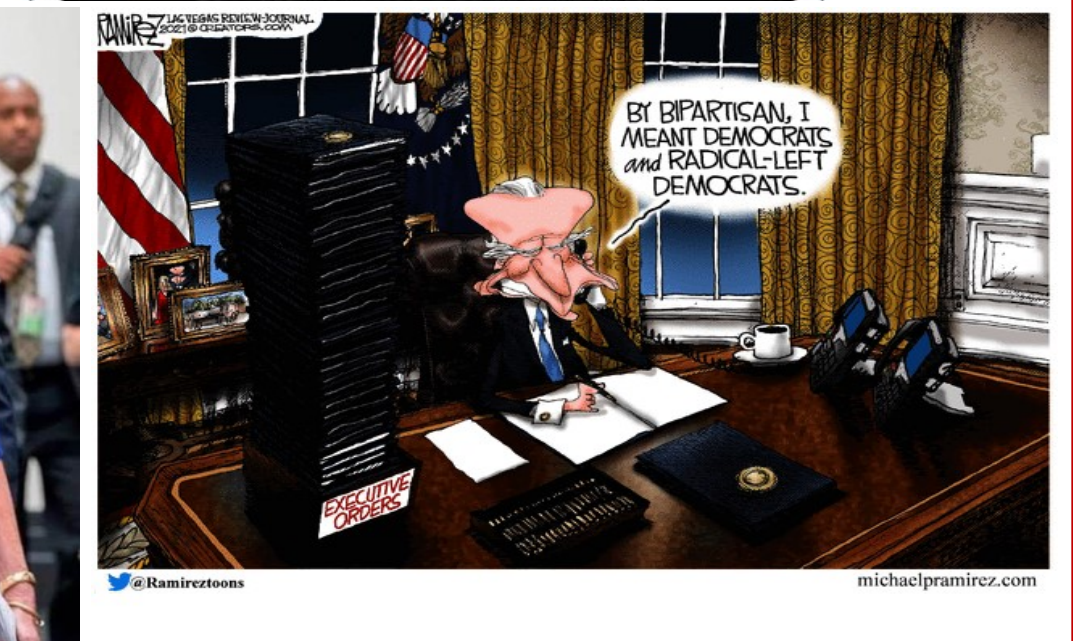
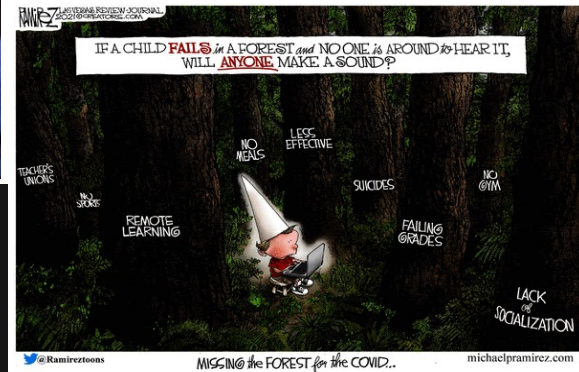
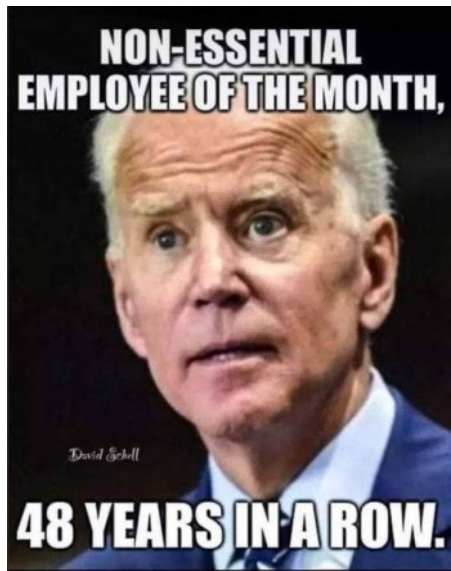
We are watching a continuation of Obama, his third term, with Joe Biden, ruling by Executive Order, not governing. All under the guise that Biden is doing what is best for America, like putting Americans out of work for a delusional ideological green energy agenda.

Americans and Texans, ask yourselves: do you wish to live in a Constitutional Republic as citizens? Or, would you prefer to be subjects in a monarchy being ruled by executive orders and actions?

Never forget, as Benjamin Franklin said, "it is a Republic, if you can keep it".  
Steadfast and Loyal,

LTC Allen West (Ret.)  
Chairman, Republican Party of Texas  
#WeAreTheStorm

# Political Cartoons



# Remembering Rush Limbaugh

By Jennifer Groysman

On February 17, 2021, conservative radio host icon, Rush Limbaugh, passed away after a 12 month battle with lung cancer. I first came across Rush Limbaugh when I was in college. While I was driving home from school one day, I accidentally turned on the Rush Limbaugh show. This was the first time I ever heard a conservative on the radio. After that first day I was hooked. From then on, if I was in my car between the hours of 11 and 2, Rush was on my radio.

Rush first started his show in 1988. At that time AM radio was dying, and his show brought it back from the brink of death. His show also birthed the national conservative talk radio industry. Conservative talk radio hosts such as Sean Hannity, Mark Levin, and Glenn Beck credit Rush for their start. Rush was also the greatest spokesman for conservatism the world had. He had a way of explaining conservatism that was easy to understand, while never talking down to people. Rush would simply say that conservatism is limited government, low taxes, low regulations, so people can be free to fulfill their potential." He wanted everyone to succeed, and any politician who interfered with that to fail.

The Rush Limbaugh show has been the number one radio talk show since it went on the air 33 years ago. Rush was able to stay at the top for so long, because he made politics fun and entertaining. Rush was able to connect to people unlike anyone else on radio. He was also a true patriot, and his optimism of America could lift people up.

Rush was not just a talk show host but a teacher. He taught generations of people conservative principles, freedom, love of country, and history. Millions of "Rush Babies" grew up listening to Rush while riding in their parent's car. School age children are learning American history while they read Rush's book series Rush Revere.

Before President Trump, Rush talked about fake news, and gave people and organizations nicknames. Some of my favorites are Feminazi, Drive By Media, Nags, and Clinton News Network (CNN).

The death of Rush Limbaugh is a gut punch to conservatives and talk radio. Our "all-knowing, all-sensing, Maha Rushie" can never be replaced. However, El Rushbo would want us to remain optimistic about America even in the face of Socialism. He would want us to continue to teach conservatism and its principles.

Rush loved his work and being on the radio. He believed the Lord put him on earth to do the Rush Limbaugh show. Rush would often say his talent was on loan from G-d. Well, G-d got his loan back, and our lovable fuzz ball will be missed, but never forgotten. Rush Limbaugh's memory will always be a blessing.

*\*note- As a Jew, Jennifer cannot write the Lords name. That is why the - is between the letters G and D.*



# Victor Davis Hanson: This Was the Core of Rush Limbaugh's Genius

By Victor Davis Hanson, Published February 24, 2021 at 3:35pm

Rush Limbaugh created modern national talk radio as we now know it. For over three decades he kept at rapt attention — live from noon to 3 p.m. on weekdays — the largest conservative audience in broadcast history. More than 15 million tuned in each week.

Last week, 32 years and more than 23,000 hours of on-air commentary after he went national in August 1988, Limbaugh died of lung cancer at age 70.

By the 1990s he had become the voice, literally and iconically, of the conservative movement and its hot/cold liaisons with the Republican Party. Limbaugh was hated by the left because he was deadly effective in fighting them, and he was feared at times by the Republican establishment — because he could also be deadly effective in fighting it.

Limbaugh had an uncanny sense of what conservative populism could do — such as abruptly end Barack Obama's control of Congress after just two years in the sweeping Tea Party midterm election of 2010.

He also instinctively sensed what it should not do: endorse Ross Perot's quixotic third-party surge of 1992 that eventually would split the conservative vote and ensure Bill Clinton the presidency with just 43 percent of the popular vote.

Limbaugh was a master comedian. His pauses, intonations and mock tones were far funnier than those of our contemporary regulars on late-night television. He was a gifted mimic, an impersonator, with as wide a repertoire as masters of the past such as Vaughn Meader, David Frye and Rich Little. Yet Limbaugh worked mostly behind the microphone, without the aid of an onstage presence.

During the 2009 Republican depression over the Obama craze, it was a lonely, much-caricatured Limbaugh who revived Republicans. He famously announced — to the furor of the left and the chagrin of what within a decade would become the NeverTrump right — that he wanted the newly inaugurated president and his agenda to “fail.”

At the time of such heresy, a deified Obama was gloating over the Democrats' “elections have consequences” control over the House and Senate.

Limbaugh was a natural impromptu public speaker. He could rev up a crowd in the fashion of a Ronald Reagan or Donald Trump. True, he was also a natural actor, but in part because he read widely, prepped constantly and outworked his opponents.

The cheap postmortem attacks on Limbaugh were as expected as they were tasteless. In his thousands of hours of live broadcasting, did he on rare occasions say the wrong things? He admitted that he had, regretted it, and often apologized for it.

He certainly never took out progressive insurance — the kind of occasional triangulation with the left that wins some conservatives exemption from the cancel culture.

This week, many would have preferred to read less about what Limbaugh had apologized for and more about the apologies Joe Biden never offered for his lifelong compendium of racial insensitivity and prejudicial bombast — all to be contextualized in service to his “correct” thinking.

Limbaugh's canon was never to talk down to or insult the base. It was natural for him because he grew up with, knew intimately and felt most comfortable with traditional middle America. Deplorables and clingers trusted him to stay Rush. They were assured there would never be a sudden about-face, confessional or sellout.

Limbaugh knew how to golf with the rich but also knew what it was like to be fired often and unemployed with the deplorables.

**RELATED:** Cal Thomas: Rush Limbaugh Existed Because the American Left Thought They Could Ignore Us

He grew increasingly frustrated that the naive right never fully understood the mind of the left. In “Groundhog Day” fashion, conservatives, he believed, became shocked on cue that any means were not just necessary for the left but ethically justified, given that the ends were global justice delivered by supposed moral superiors.

For someone with a reputation for mockery, I never heard Limbaugh in private or in correspondence fixate on his enemies or blast his former friends. Mostly he laughed them off, and instead turned to what he told hundreds of those who knew him: “How can I help you in any way?”

Limbaugh was confused by the NeverTrump Republican virulence. He had dutifully fought for the four Bush election bids. He had loyally supported their three combined terms.

And he tried to empower the failed and inept McCain and Romney efforts. His theory was that after the primaries were over, winning 50 percent of what you wanted in a general election was better than nothing.

The amnesiac NeverTrumpers didn't just fail to return the courtesy, he believed, but never even worried that they should have.

Limbaugh's was a quintessential American success story. It is impossible to imagine any other country producing either him or his career. We are mourning for Rush, but also for ourselves. We are going to miss him and need him more, not less, each day that he is now silent.

# Political Cartoons

## A Tale of Two States



Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) Florida

Population: 22,000,000

State income tax: 0%

State budget: Balanced

COVID-19 cases: 42,402

COVID-19 deaths: 1,827



Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) New York

Population: 19,500,000

State income tax: 8%

State budget: In debt

COVID-19 cases: 338,617

COVID-19 deaths: 27,448

FOR SOME REASON, THE MEDIA THINK THE GUY ON THE RIGHT IS DOING A GOOD JOB.

REUTERS/Carta Allighi, Mike Segar

I'm sending Hunter to Texas, he's a pipe expert.



Joe, they have cracked pipes, not crack pipes

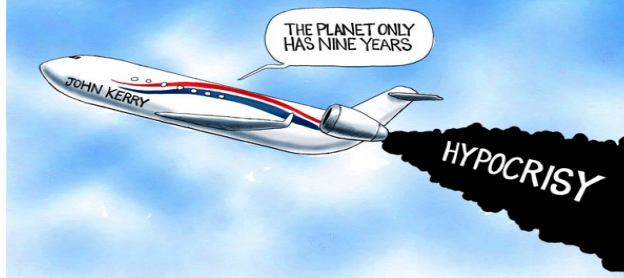
BRWCO Americans for Limited Government ©2021 Creators.com

## BEFORE MY PRESIDENCY...



THERE WAS NO ISIS.  
THERE WAS NO CALIPHATE.  
THERE WAS NO BLACK LIVES MATTER.  
THERE WAS NO ANTIFA.  
THERE WAS NO WAR ON POLICE.

### I BUILT THAT!



@Ramireztoons michaelpramirez.com



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## LIVES MATTER

IF YOU HAVE TO PUT A COLOR IN FRONT OF THOSE TWO WORDS...

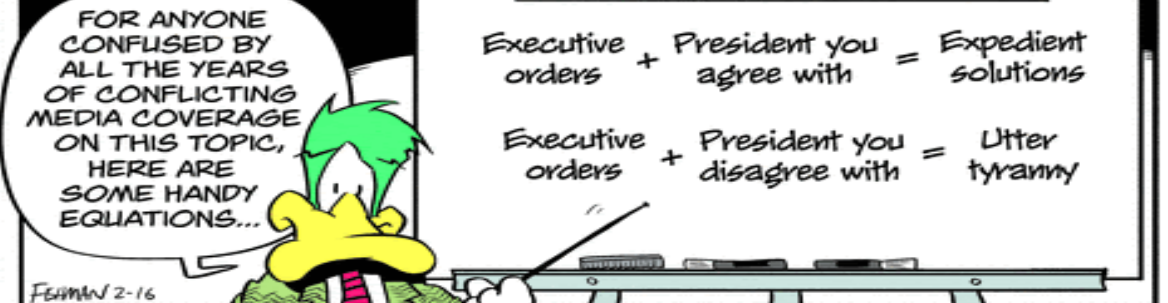


## YOU'RE A RACIST.

THERE IS ONLY ONE RACE, THE HUMAN RACE!



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**MALLARD'S CIVICS LESSON**  
#12  
**EXECUTIVE ORDERS...**



FEINMAN 2-16



# We Must Protect Women's Sports

By Nikki Haley Feb 8, 2021

When I was a teenager, tennis was my life.

I started playing when I was ten. By the time I was 13, it was all I wanted to do. I practiced 24/7. A lot of days, my parents wouldn't see me — I'd be up and at the courts before dawn, and back after dusk. On weekends, I got up extra early because our small South Carolina town only had a few courts. I wanted to make sure I got one before someone else did.

I wasn't the best player at my high school. I was never first seed. But I was good enough to make the team. My dream was to be on the U.S. women's team and meet my sports heroes, Chrissie Evert and Martina Navratilova. Of course, I never would have made it — I clearly didn't! — but I still had hope. Frankly, I would have been just as happy to be the best at my school.

Will today's young girls have that hope? Will they have any chance of being the best in their schools, much less in their districts or states? I worry many won't, and not just in tennis. Across the sporting world, the game is being rigged against women and in favor of biological men.

President Biden is the latest man to do the rigging, which is strange coming from someone billed as a defender of women. In one of his first acts as president, he signed an executive order paving the way for a federal mandate that all schools receiving federal funding let biological men play on women's sports teams. The order was framed as a matter of transgender rights. But really, it was an attack on women's rights.

Generations of women fought hard to ensure that their daughters and granddaughters had a level playing field, because girls deserve the same chance as boys to play sports. Thanks to the efforts of countless feminists, the number of women's teams in schools has taken off over the past 50 years. Before then, less than 4 percent of girls played a sport. Now 40 percent do.

My generation was one of the first to benefit from these victories. My daughter's generation has reaped the rewards, too. But Biden's actions will roll back those victories and put women at a disadvantage. Now, when a girl steps up to compete, she'll have to ask herself: Who am I really competing against?

Transgender kids deserve support and respect. The fact remains, however, that biological boys and girls are built differently. The best male athletes have a natural advantage over the best female athletes. You have to ignore science not to see it. The world's fastest female sprinter has nine Olympics medals, but nearly 300 high-school boys are still faster than her. In states where biological boys compete against girls, the girls almost always lose — not just the match, but also possible college scholarships and a lifetime of success in their favorite sport. Their chance to shine is being stolen.

I approach this issue as a woman and as a mom. When my daughter ran track, I'd go to the meets. I can't imagine how hard it would've been to watch her lose to someone with an unfair advantage. And I hate to think how my daughter would have reacted. She ran because she always felt she had a shot. If she lost that feeling, would she have kept running? Why compete when your best can't possibly be good enough? Girls across America could be asking themselves these very questions before too long. Some surely already are. On this critical issue, women's rights are moving in the wrong direction.

If this trend isn't stopped, the achievements of so many brave women over so many years will be erased. That's wrong. It's insulting. And women know it, too, whether they're retired athletes, middle-aged mothers, or a 16-year-old girl thinking of signing up for swimming. They're just afraid to speak out, because they know they'll be silenced and called bigots.

But we're not bigots. We're women. And we need to be heard, not silenced. We also need the backing of those who should know better. Most feminists are missing in action right now. They should be on the front lines of this fight. Men should get off the sidelines, too. Men's sports are unlikely to be affected, but if they were, you'd bet the boys would be up in arms. They should be anyway, standing in solidarity with their wives and girlfriends and daughters and classmates.

Justice and equality are on the line, and common sense is just as important as compassion. Women haven't run this race only to find we never had a chance to win.



**NIKKI HALEY** was governor of South Carolina from 2011 to 2017 and U.S. ambassador to the United Nations from 2017 to 2019.

# Membership Update

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Our Membership drive for 2021 has started. If you have not renewed yet, please fill out our membership form in this newsletter and bring it to the next meeting. You can also mail it to the address on the form. Membership for 2021 is \$40.00. So far we have 62 members. If everyone who was a member last year renews for 2021, we will have 100 members.



### Club Spotlight for NFRW

PRW honors club members who commit to upholding Republican values by running for local office. Our two members currently running for office of Mayor of Plano are Lydia Ortega and Lily Bao.

Running for reelection for Plano ISD Place 2 is member Angela Powell. Running for Plano ISD Place 1 is member Semida Voicu. Member Heather Wang currently holds Plano ISD Place 4. Additionally, two PRW club sponsors, Rick Smith and Anthony Ricciardelli are running for reelection to the Plano City Council.

We wish our members, associate members and sponsors who run for office every success and thank you all for your service to our community.

*Disclaimer: Images are submitted for informational purposes only and do not constitute endorsement or promotion by Plano Republican Women.*

**RE-ELECT**  
ANGELA POWELL  
FOR PLANO ISD PLACE 2  
PROVEN, DEDICATED, LEADER.

**SEMIDA VOICU**  
FOR PISD SCHOOL BOARD

HEATHER4PISD.ORG  
**HEATHER WANG**  
for  
PLANO ISD, PLACE 4

**PRW MEMBERS CURRENTLY ON OR RUNNING FOR PISD SCHOOL BOARD**

COUNCILWOMAN  
**LILY BAO**  
for  
**MAYOR**

**LILY BAO**  
CANDIDATE FOR  
MAYOR OF PLANO

**LYDIA ORTEGA**  
for Plano Mayor

**LYDIA ORTEGA**  
CANDIDATE FOR  
MAYOR OF PLANO

**PLANO REPUBLICAN WOMEN CLUB SPONSORS RUNNING FOR PLANO CITY COUNCIL**

**RICK SMITH**  
Plano City Council - Place 8  
Vote May 1, 2021

**ANTHONY Ricciardelli**  
for Plano City Council Place 2

# Republicans Sound Alarm as Biden's 'Knee-Jerk' Anti-Drilling Policy Threatens to Sink State's Economy

By The Associated Press Published January 22, 2021 at 3:27pm

President Joe Biden's 60-day moratorium on new oil and natural gas leases and drilling permits is prompting widespread concerns in New Mexico, whose economy hinges on the industry's success.

Top Republicans in the state as well as local leaders in communities that border the Permian Basin — one of the most productive regions in the U.S. — say any moves to make the suspension permanent would be devastating for the state.

Half of New Mexico's production happens on federal land and amounts to hundreds of millions of dollars in royalties each year.

Congressional members from other western states also are raising concerns, saying the ripple effects of the moratorium will hurt small businesses already struggling because of pandemic lockdowns.

"During his inauguration, President Biden spoke about bringing our nation together. Eliminating drilling on public lands will cost thousands of New Mexicans their jobs and destroy what's left of our state's economy," Carlsbad Mayor Dale Janway told The Associated Press on Friday.

"How does that bring us together? Environmental efforts should be fair and well-researched, not knee-jerk mandates that just hurt an already impoverished state."

Industry groups said the order effectively brings all regulatory activity to a halt, from routine requests that arise during the normal course of business to requests for rights of way for new pipelines designed as part of efforts to reduce venting and flaring — a practice that Democrats have targeted in their fight against climate change.

"It really has the opposite intent," Robert McEntyre, spokesman for the New Mexico Oil and Gas Association, said.

"It means some natural gas is not going to be captured, and that's not what operators want to do. They want to capture it and send it to market."

New Mexico's sole Republican in Congress, freshman Rep. Yvette Herrell, was the only member of the state's delegation to speak out after Biden's order was issued.

She said she's supporting Republican-backed legislation to prevent the Biden administration from imposing any permanent plans that would limit new leases and drilling permits on federal land.

The issue has been a thorny one for Democrats in New Mexico, where the oil and gas industry has been vilified despite its role as the state's top economic driver. Aside from funneling revenues to the state's coffers, the industry supports about 100,000 direct and related jobs.

The office of Democratic Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham said the administration is reviewing the federal action and the short- and long-term fiscal implications for the state.

"Certainly we all understand the critical importance of this industry to New Mexico's bottom line and of the imperative to diversify our state economy and energy portfolio," Lujan Grisham spokeswoman Nora Meyers Sackett said in an email.

The executive order includes an exception giving a small number of senior U.S. Interior Department officials authority to approve actions that otherwise would be suspended. But industry officials expect there to be a bottleneck given the amount of requests nationwide.

In Utah, the state's delegation asked Biden to reconsider what they called an arbitrary decision. They argued that such a widespread suspension of routine permitting decisions normally made in the field is unprecedented.

The order has drawn praise from environmentalists, who have been seeking to rein in development across the West.

# Opinion: Moral Narcissism and the Show Trial of Donald Trump

By Roger L. Simon, February 8, 2021 for Epoch Times

## Commentary

Discussing the Democrats' impeachment trial in legal terms is a ludicrous waste of time. Anyone literate in the English language can see that the concept of impeaching a former president is entirely absent from the U.S. Constitution.

Removing someone from office who is no longer in office in the first place is a serio-comic oxymoron straight out of the Theater of the Absurd.

What is actually going on is Trump Derangement Syndrome taken from a neurosis to some kind of bizarre psychosis with overtones of obsessive-compulsive disorder.

The level at which this "trial" is worth examining, therefore, has a psychoanalytic, not a legal, tilt. It raises, once again, the question of why the Democrats and their media cohorts despise former President Donald Trump so much.

Yes, I know they fear his political comeback above all things and wish to extinguish it, but what is it, on a deeper level, that makes them believe this man to be such a monster that they are going full Stalinist in conducting what Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) aptly called a "show trial"?

Allow me to be a tad self-referential because I think, at least to some degree, the answer can be found in my 2016 book—actually written before Trump won the nomination and with few specific references to him—"I Know Best: How Moral Narcissism Is Destroying Our Republic If It Hasn't Already."

The narcissism I was referring to was not the traditional kind based on the Greek youth Narcissus's fascination with his own image, but a narcissism of ideas, of "moral" self-description.

I explained it this way: What you proclaim, what you say you believe, is what makes you good, what makes you important—not the actual results of those beliefs, which are irrelevant.

Biden's recent cancellation of the Keystone XL pipeline could be described as a purely morally narcissistic act—proclaimed as something significant for the environment when, in reality, all it does is put people out of work and give comfort to our enemies as America becomes more energy-dependent. (Ironically, it also has negative environmental repercussions, forcing the oil to be transported by more risky means, such as by rail.)

John Kerry, the White House climate czar, is a moral narcissist par excellence, jetting around endlessly in his carbon-belching private plane to save us all from climate change.

Moral narcissism fits today's liberals and progressives to a "T," living millionaire and billionaire lives that make hypocrisy the understatement of all time while disdaining the working class, as well as their needs and values to a degree that would embarrass Marie Antoinette.

Trump undermined all that. He makes and made plenty of proclamations and certainly loves his private plane(s), but he's all about results.

In fact, he makes a point of delivering on his promises, the exact antithesis of standard operating procedure in Washington, where politicians send us endless emails and texts (almost always asking for money) about what they say they believe or are planning, but almost never about what they have accomplished, as if we don't and shouldn't care about that.

It's the way the game has been played in D.C. for ages, quite comfortable and insular when you think about it, and self-replicating. No wonder Trump is loathed.

(He also made things such as improving the economy seem remarkably easy and quick—just remove excessive regulations and lower taxes—actually common sense, when it was supposed to be so complicated and arcane that only wise politicians and economists could do it over years.)

Although nearly pervasive in the Democratic Party, moral narcissism isn't exclusive to it. A number of Republicans fit the description as well and you can almost be certain they will be among those voting to convict Trump in the show trial.

These politicians (both sides) and the media are particularly angry because, as narcissists, moral or otherwise, they have a great need of fans—people to admire them constantly and make them feel alive.

Trump ruined that to a great extent by unmasking them as phonies. Rage and vengeance were and are the natural responses.

In a less-overtly psychological realm, it's not inconsequential that he made his money before coming to Washington; they usually make theirs during and after.

Trump even had the temerity actually to lose half his fortune while serving, at the same time donating his salary to various federal agencies.

How "off-message" is that! Imagine if that became pro forma for our public servants.

So, it's a "twofer" ... or even a "threefer" ... or is it a quinella when it comes to hating Trump?

*Roger L. Simon is an award-winning novelist, Oscar-nominated screenwriter, co-founder of PJMedia, and now, editor-at-large for The Epoch Times. His most recent books are "The GOAT" (fiction) and "I Know Best: How Moral Narcissism Is Destroying Our Republic, If It Hasn't Already" (nonfiction). He will return to Parler, when that happens, as @rogersimon.*

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

# Political Cartoons

**Covid: I can't get these  
Texans to stay  
home**

**Texas weather: Hold  
my beer**

It's so cold  
outside I  
just saw  
a teenager  
with his  
pants pulled  
all the way up!



**Thank you Mother  
Nature for proving not  
only is  
Global Warming a hoax  
but relying on wind and  
solar is equally stupid**



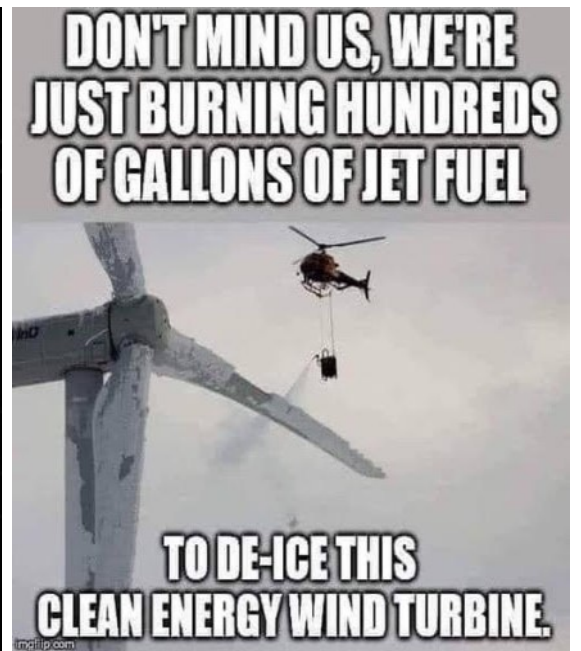
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Now, this is funny, I don't care who you are:



USS Al Gore  
Global Warming  
Research Vessel

To all my  
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## Alex Newman: False History Taught in Schools Incites Children to Hate America

BY ELLA KIETLINSKA

October 27, 2020 Updated: October 28, 2020

The history taught in public schools is “a complete and total reversal of reality” and the root cause of the civil unrest sparked by the death of George Floyd in police custody in Minneapolis that has spread across the nation, said Alex Newman, an author, and award-winning international journalist.

President Donald Trump said during the Independence Day celebration at Mount Rushmore on July 3, “Against every law of society and nature, our children are taught in school to hate their own country and to believe that the men and women who built it were not heroes, but that were villains.”

“The violent mayhem we have seen in the streets of cities that are run by liberal Democrats, in every case, is the predictable result of years of extreme indoctrination and bias in education, journalism, and other cultural institutions,” Trump said.

“He hit the nail right smack on the head. That’s what I’ve been arguing for years,” said Newman, co-author of the book “Crimes of the Educators: How Utopians are Using Government Schools to Destroy America’s Children.”

“Now, when I say [what’s been taught is] a complete and total reversal of reality, that’s what I mean,” he told The Epoch Times’ “Crossroads” program. “It’s not hyperbole, that’s not exaggeration.”

He said what defines American people as Americans are principles enshrined in the country’s founding document, the Declaration of Independence, “that all men are created equal, and that everyone is endowed by their Creator with unalienable rights,” Newman said.

However, the history taught in schools has been replaced by a historical narrative that reverses those principles, claiming that the country’s founding principles were “slavery, oppression, racism, white supremacy,” and similar things, Newman said.

An example of U.S. history reversal is a New York Times series, called the 1619 Project, created by New York Times reporter Nikole Sheri Hannah-Jones, whose opening line of an essay that won her a Pulitzer was, “Our democracy’s founding ideals were false when they were written.”

According to the 1619 Project, America was founded in 1619 when a group of 20 Africans, who were considered to be the first enslaved Africans in British America, arrived in the colony of Virginia.

The project is “essentially fake history, as historians from across the political spectrum—and even The New York Times’ own fact-checker—publicly confirmed,” Newman wrote for the Epoch Times.

Despite this criticism, the series, which posits that America was not founded on the basis of liberty in 1776, but on the basis of slavery in 1619, has become school curriculum that is taught across America, Newman said.

According to Hannah-Jones, the notion is that racism and evil are embedded in the very DNA of America, Newman said. Since DNA cannot be changed or removed, “and so what she’s really saying—as the mullahs say in Iran—‘Death to America.’ You’ve got to kill America to get rid of this horrible DNA,” Newman said.

“This could not be more wrong,” because America’s founding fathers wanted to abolish slavery as it was incompatible with the country’s founding principles based on Christian values, Newman said, adding that Thomas Jefferson fought a war against slave catchers in North Africa, and James Madison, the father of the Constitution, “loathed slavery” and expressed this view on many occasions.

Almost every civilization or culture has practiced some form of slavery at a certain point in its history, Newman said.

### Rewriting American History

The consequence of teaching wrong and reversed American history to children is that “our children hate America” and “they’re burning down our cities,” Newman said.

One of the most popular history books in the United States is Howard Zinn’s “A People’s History of the United States” which is a key text in schools and has sold more than 3 million copies, Newman said.

Dr. Mary Grabar, a resident fellow at the Alexander Hamilton Institute for the Study of Western Civilization, exposed Zinn’s distortions of American history in her book, “Debunking Howard Zinn: Exposing the Fake History that Turned a Generation against America.”

Zinn portrayed Christopher Columbus as a “genocidal monster” in his book, according to Newman, who added that Grabar already knew that Zinn’s book was biased when starting her project. However, Grabar wrote in her book that “even I was surprised by how blatantly and deliberately Zinn lied.”

Reading Columbus’s own diaries shows very clearly how Columbus was mischaracterized by Zinn. Columbus wanted to bring the Bible and Christianity to people, Newman said, and was inspired by his religious belief to embark on his journey.

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BY ELLA KIETLINSKA,

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Continued from Page 22

"The truth, I believe is much more powerful than lies" and this is our big advantage, he said.

"Anybody can go look at the primary source documents, and investigate these things for themselves, and see what really happened."

## Chinese Communist Party Applauds 1619 Project

"The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has been openly celebrating the 1619 Project," Newman said, because through propaganda, brain-washing, lies, indoctrination, misinformation and disinformation, and psychological warfare, Americans can be convinced to hate their own country and dismantle it from the inside. Then America's economic or military power will no longer pose a threat to the CCP.

Americans will just "burn their own country up and that's what we're seeing right now," he said. "It's incredibly dangerous."

The CCP, which understood this principle, launched the Cultural Revolution, one of the key elements of which was wiping out China's true history, Newman said.

"China was this incredible civilization with thousands of years of the amazing, incredible history that contributed so much to humanity," Newman explained, so the communists "were burning books, and they were pulling down statues and setting libraries on fire and murdering people who knew real history so that they could start from a blank slate."

Everything prior to the communist revolution was branded "evil, backward, uncivilized, barbarous, and so on," he said. "Everything post-Communist Revolution was wonderful and glorious, and all the rest of it."

"That is exactly the same thing they're trying to do in America and it's the same thing they've done around the world."

*Joshua Philipp contributed to this report.*



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# The First Amendment Is in the Political Crosshairs

Phill Kline, The Epoch Times Opinion Page, February 2, 2021

## Commentary

I stood on the Kansas House floor as a newly minted state legislator in 1994, opposing legislation that most of my colleagues desired, and which would make life much easier for those in power. The bill criminalized lies stated during campaigns.

Believe me, I was sympathetic!

And I remain sympathetic. I can't count the lies and misrepresentations that have been uttered by my political opponents regarding my public service. Yet, then and now, I oppose criminalizing politics. Affording government the power to determine what is a truth and what is a lie, backed by the threat of fine or imprisonment, chills the type of speech that is the lifeblood of a healthy democracy—political speech.

A free country must proceed on the presumption that citizens will endeavor to learn the truth, and that those vying for elective office will hold each other accountable to the truth. Moreover, I said in 1994, such a law would likely run counter to the First Amendment of the Constitution. The rejoinder to my criticism from the bill's co-author still rings in my ears: "Can't you just forget about the Constitution for once!"

My answer, then as now, is that I cannot "just forget" about the Constitution. Nor should you.

Our founders recognized the need for vigorous and aggressive debate as a method of seeking and discovering truth, forcing transparency, and enabling the electorate to hold public servants accountable. They also recognized that each individual has the inherent right of expression. Give a fool a stump to stand on, for we value free speech to the point that we allow fools to reveal themselves. This is why I don't believe government officials should be arrested for their rhetoric, even if they grossly misrepresent substantive issues.

It took me a full year in the legislature to realize that a "budget cut" was actually a reduction of the requested increase in a budget. When Kansas public schools called for a budget increase of 20 percent and the legislature passed an 8 percent increase, for instance, this was referred to in the media and by education officials as a 12 percent budget cut, despite the fact that the increase exceeded both inflation and pupil population growth.

In response, I was motivated to inform the electorate of the truth—not arrest public school officials.

Many in Congress today are taking the opposite approach.

Today, the authoritarian impulse to force cultural hegemony and groupthink has gained political prominence, undermining faith in the ability of the American public to discern truth from fiction and foolishness from wisdom. This loss of faith in the individual has joined forces with the ascendance of the false belief and hope that government can keep all of us free from being offended.

And so the left assaults free speech. HR 1, pushed each year by leftists in Congress, seeks an objective that most Americans would agree with in principle, but which, in method, defeats its claimed objective. The bill criminalizes material misrepresentations about elections and endorsements, granting prosecutors the opportunity to define what is material and what is a misrepresentation in order to advance their political agendas. The fear that this would inevitably generate would chill speech even before any politically motivated prosecutions could materialize.

There were a grand total of 58 federal crimes when our Constitution was adopted, all of which involved clear moral wrongs that directly and intentionally harmed others—rape, murder, battery, and so on. A few years back, Congress asked the Congressional Research Service to count all current federal crimes, and after two years, CRS came back and reported that the task is impossible. There are hundreds of thousands of federal crimes.

As a former prosecutor, I understand that this makes it possible to manufacture a criminal out of virtually any person. All it takes is patience.

This temptation to criminalize political opponents has always overcome weakly constituted persons who hold such power. Moreover, this raw exercise of government power masquerades as virtuous under a false guise of government's role.

Our government wasn't formed to keep us safe from offense. It was formed to keep us free!

Freedom, however, is one of the most uncomfortable conditions in which to exist, for it forces self-responsibility—and in today's victim society, we teach that everyone but self is responsible for our present condition. This obsession keeps all of us in a state of fear, and we vainly call on government to alleviate the fear that government helps create. Do you not sense the fear in America today? Into this breach, step powerful elected officials and social media giants who seek to appropriate to themselves the power to determine what is a lie and what isn't in order to protect you from yourself.

The criminalization of political speech and political conduct strikes at the heart of a free republic. And that's what we are—a democratic-



# The First Amendment Is in the Political Crosshairs

Phill Kline, The Epoch Times Opinion Page, February 2, 2021

-republic built on the recognition that each individual has value. We aren't a democracy; at least I hope not. In fact, our nation cherishes the most anti-democratic document in human history—the Bill of Rights, which protects us from mob tyranny.

Now, identity politics directly attacks the individual and proclaims that persons of certain groups have greater rights than those in other groups. Those in power, therefore, feel justified in using that power to oppress those who refuse to join the dominant group, and as a result, the formerly oppressed become the oppressors.

The cycle is only broken when courageous leaders step forward and offer what the world views as foolish—faith and grace. Faith in one another and the grace to defend the freedom of expression of others, even when they offend, for we must be humble enough to recognize that none of us walk unerringly on the path of truth—we live and we learn. This perspective prevents division from devolving into violence.

This requires us to view each individual as inherently valuable, rather than allowing government to define extrinsic value applying utilitarian analysis. The math of utilitarianism is as brutal to the individual as mobbism and identity politics, for two is always greater than one. And that is why HR 1 must be defeated in Congress.

Because a free nation cannot endure when its people aren't willing to stand for the freedom of others, especially when they disagree.

Phill Kline is the former attorney general of Kansas. He currently serves as pulpit pastor of Amherst Baptist Church, a law school professor, and director of the Amistad Project of The Thomas More Society. Previously, he served as president of the Midwest Association of Attorneys General, was on the executive committee of the National Association of Attorneys General, and was co-chairperson of the Violent Sexual Predator Apprehension Task Force. He was a Kansas House member for eight years, where he chaired the Appropriations Committee and the Taxation Committee and authored victims rights laws and welfare reform.

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



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