

Elephant Talk

Plano Republican Women

TFRW Region No: 3 Senate District No: 8

October 2022

President's Byline



At the center of all civilized societies is the family with a mother and father who under the best conditions raise healthy, happy adults who are contributing members of society. Somewhere along the way, the Radical Left decided the best way to maintain power was to destabilize the family unit. Men were the first victims, portrayed as toxic brutes no civilized woman would want. Then they ridiculed motherhood and childcare as a form of repression, only for uneducated women who were not smart enough to work outside the home. Now they have come for our children.

On October 15th in Plano, there was an all ages "Drag Show Brunch" at Ebb and Flow restaurant in the Shops of Legacy. During the Drag Show Brunch, at least one small child was filmed being exposed to a grown man dressed as a woman, being tipped dollar bills while dancing to lewd adult lyrics including so many expletives, it was just one long censored beep when it was aired on the Fox News Network. Lifting his dress to flash a phallic shaped sex toy strapped to his hips as he danced around the room. The child's mother was sitting right next to her, she did not seem distressed, nor did she leave during the lewd performance.

The restaurant's advertisement said, "Since opening in Plano's Shop at Legacy development, Ebb & Flow has proved to be one of the city's top draws for food, drinks and good times. Now, the fun-loving restaurant is giving diners another reason to visit, as it prepares to host its first [Garden of Eden Drag Brunch](#) on Saturday, October 15, with performances at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Following the October 15 event, Ebb & Flow's Drag Brunch will take place on a monthly basis with dates to be announced soon."

In the Plano Start Courier, Owner Dallas Hale says the parents were warned of the explicit nature of the show. "I was there personally to run the door and make sure everything went off without a hitch," Hale said. "I personally met them at the door and explained to them, and their response was that they go to drag shows all the time, and their daughter goes to drag shows."

Mr. Hale said they had a disclaimer online during the ticket purchase stating the show had strong suggestive sexual content and underage minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. The owner has complained the negative publicity the restaurant has received but Hale says he plans to continue hosting drag shows and will not, "succumb to small-minded people."

Hale is hiding behind Neo-liberalism where anything goes and if you don't want to see adult entertain in public restaurants then you are the problem. He said, "Everybody has beliefs, and that's their freedom of speech, our first amendment. If you're going to cry 'first amendment,' then you ought to be able to support it."

Let's examine this statement. When did exercising free speech cover exposing children of any age to pornographic music, and highly sexualized performances? I have reread the Bill of Rights, I can't find that clause anywhere.

Drag shows have become increasingly popular and are often labeled as "family friendly". They are held at parks like the Plano gay pride festival, public restaurants, and other public venues. The Garden of Eden Drag Brunch came with a strong sexual content disclaimer that works exactly like the R rating on a movie. Where parents can use their own discretion to expose children to extreme violence, strong sexual content, nudity, foul language, and drug use. The Plano Police said they could do nothing because no laws were broken.

As usual, the Left labeled anyone who does not want to expose children to drag shows or drag queens in any

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Calendar of Events

PRW Board Meeting
November 1st
Napoli's Italian Restaurant
11:30

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday
November 15th, 2022
PRW General Meeting
11:30 Saltgrass - East Plano

PRW Presidents Byline

Continued from Page 1

setting as bigots or racists. The Dallas Morning news and other mainstream media outlets defended Ebb & Flow's owner calling for the end of harassment to this small business. But Conservatives need to stand firm on this. Drag shows were once fringe culture, now they are mainstream with progressive parents indoctrinating their children in the name of diversity and inclusion.

As much as everyone wants to blame Ebb & Flow's owner, this is part of a larger problem in our society. The intentional indoctrination and grooming of children for sexual exploitation by adults. Statistics show children who are exposed to graphic adult sexuality through books, visual media, paraphernalia, or sexually explicit live shows are easier to manipulate by adults into illicit sexual relationships. Other drag performers and people in the gay community have spoken out against this, saying drag is being used to further transgenderism. They are right.

What can we do to stop drag shows in everyday restaurants? Put drag shows back where they belong in SOBs, sexually oriented businesses. In the 87th Legislature, S.B. 315 was a bi-partisan bill passed to raise the age of employment in sexually oriented businesses from 18 to 21, **prohibit sexually oriented businesses from allowing minors on the premises**, and hold businesses who break the law accountable. S.B. 315 amends the current law for SOBs that restricts the age to 18 and older for people being allowed to work or **enter** the premises of a sexually oriented business and creates a criminal offense including the loss of their liquor license for repeat offenders.

These changes were made to provide necessary safeguards for our communities and protect children from human trafficking and sexual exploitation, which are often **harmful secondary effects** of sexually oriented businesses. Drag shows need to be placed back where they belong in adults-only cabarets or shows. This could be achieved by amending S.B. 315 to include sexually explicit drag shows so they are not held in common public places.

The Left will say what about parent's rights. Parent's rights should always end at child abuse. Plus, many young parents today have been indoctrinated themselves in public schools and universities, and by social media to automatically accept any extreme Leftist doctrine. Including the belief children are sexual beings capable of consenting to sexual contact.

I think it's interesting Democrats are so obsessed with exposing children to transgenderism and complex adult topics. We need to ask ourselves why? What do they gain from manipulating another generation of kids. Transgenderism is especially harmful because it makes children question their own gender. Then well-meaning liberal parents get gender affirming care for children as young as 3 years old to teens. Gender dysphoria care before puberty causes permanent sterility, low self-esteem and increases the risk of suicide in transgender adults and teens.

Protesting at drag shows is not enough. We need to be proactive and push law makers at the local and state levels to move harmful adult entertain to licensed sexually oriented businesses only. This would remove drag shows from the general public and make it difficult for children to be exposed to drag content including drag classes where kids have "drag moms" that teach them the "art of drag performing" and stop underage children from being drag performers.

Our future is our children, we can no longer be on defense putting out fires after they happen. We must stop the dangerous sexualization of children now. Hitler, a socialist had the Hitler youth. Stalin, a communist has the Komsomol. Why? To change a society, you must go after its youth. Once the majority of young people are indoctrinated, you are only one generation away from the complete control of a society.



Cleo Marchese

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PRW November Meeting



NEXT GENERAL MEETING: November 15, 2022

Jill Tate "School Security"

Jill graduated from Baylor University and worked for a number of years in commercial real estate before deciding to become a stay at home mom. While at Baylor, she served as youth coordinator for George Bush for Governor, President of the Young Conservatives of Texas, and State Secretary of YCT. She has worked for numerous campaigns both locally and nationally and has served as delegate to every Texas GOP Convention since she was 20 years old. She has served on and chaired numerous committees within the party including platform, organization, and credentials.

She supports her community by serving as an ambassador for Patriot Paws Service Dogs giving presentations to raise funds, awareness, and inform the public about the important role that service dogs play in the lives of disabled veterans. She is a long time volunteer for GRACE in Grapevine, serves as the VP of Programs for the Grapevine-Colleyville ISD council of PTAs, and VP of Volunteers for Colleyville Middle School PTA.

In 2017, Jill was appointed by Gov. Abbott to serve on the Texas State School Safety Board and was reappointed in 2021. She is a founding member of Texas Strong RW where she currently serves as President. Jill has served on TFRW's board as Caring for America Chair and currently as Vice President of Finance. She was a TFRW Tribute to Women Honoree in 2018. She lives in Colleyville with her husband, Fred, son Sawyer, and Labrador retriever Sawyer, Jr.

**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, November 11, 2022**

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

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

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

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



Invitation to Holiday High Tea



Holiday High Tea

For

Plano Republican Women



Tuesday, December 6th, 2022

Time: 3:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Chocolate Angel Café & Tearoom

@ High Street Antique Mall

800 N Central Expy, Plano, TX 75074

Please join us for our Annual Christmas and Hannukah Celebration at Chocolate Angel Café & Tearoom.

Shop, dine and enjoy the musical selections of pianist Carol Sage.

We will announce the Volunteer of the Year and the recipients of the Ann Harrington and Patsy Standefer awards.

Tickets are \$35. Spouses and friends are welcome.

RVSP by Dec 1st. to: rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org

Mail your payment to: 4305 Angelina Dr. Plano, TX 75074



Legislative Report



UNITED STATES HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
WAYS & MEANS
 REPUBLICAN LEADER KEVIN BRADY

More Than Half of American Adults Have Suffered Losses to Their Retirement Savings Due to Biden-Flation

Rising prices in Biden's cruel economy have forced Americans to sacrifice their hard-earned saving

October 28, 2022 - PRESS RELEASE

More than half of American adults have been forced to either scale back or completely cease contributions to their retirement savings as Biden-Flation continues to ravage the financial security of families, [according to a new survey from Allianz Life](#) as [reported by CNBC](#).

Worse, 43 percent of American adults have had to prematurely dip into their retirement savings to make ends meet.

READ: [SURVEY: Over Half of Americans Are Behind on Retirement Savings Due to Biden-Flation](#)

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

Americans are already delaying retirement amid surging prices with no end in sight.

- More than half of American adults are being forced to cut back or completely stop their contributions to their retirement savings.
- At least 43 percent of American adults have even had to dip into their retirement savings.
- More than half of Americans feel they haven't saved enough for retirement.
- More than half of Americans cited inflation as the reason they haven't saved more for retirement.
- More than 70 percent of Baby Boomers – the next generation getting ready to retire – said they're falling behind on retirement savings.
- Around 20 percent of Americans said they took money out of their retirement account in the last two years, while 11 percent of these took savings out to cover everyday expenses like groceries or utilities.

READ: [Pelosi, Democrats Sweep Inflation Under the Rug As Americans' Suffering Worsens](#)

American families are suffering to make ends meet in Biden's cruel economy and are bracing for recession.

- More than 75 percent of Americans are making changes to their lifestyle including delaying major purchases (34 percent), delaying paying down debt (29 percent), and cutting back on spending for the holidays (28 percent).
- More than 70 percent of Americans believe "their financial momentum is threatened" by skyrocketing grocery bills (78 percent) and the rising cost of gas (76 percent). At least 74 percent of Americans are concerned about inflation

READ: [Bracing for Biden's Cruel Recession, Majority of Families Are Delaying Major Purchases](#)

READ: [Analysis: Average American Has Lost \\$34K to Biden-Flation](#)

Democrat-fueled inflation is disproportionately hurting lower- and middle-income Americans, despite President Biden dismissing inflation as a "high-class problem."

- According to Gallup, 71 percent of low-income households experienced some level of hardship due to rising prices when less than a third of high income households experienced hardship.
- The Penn-Wharton Budget Model estimated that higher prices outpaced an increase in earnings for many households earning less than \$60,000.
- The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) and the Penn-Wharton Budget Model have also estimated that President Biden's inflation tax costs the typical family \$5,000 a year, and hits the middle class and those just starting their career or families the hardest.
- For working Americans, in just one year, Democrats wiped out three years of wage gains through inflation.
- More than half of American workers' paychecks have fallen behind – the highest share of workers since 2011, the last time President Biden was in the White House.

READ: [ANALYSIS: Bidenflation Hits Low-Income Households Harder than the Wealthy](#)

READ: [Americans Forced to Work Multiple Jobs to Survive in Biden's Economy](#)



Legislative Report

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UNITED STATES HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
WAYS & MEANS
REPUBLICAN LEADER KEVIN BRADY

Brady, Ferguson Request IRS Clarify Whether it Plans to Use \$80 Billion Budget to Expand Surveillance Regime

October 28, 2022 - PRESS RELEASE

In a new letter to Secretary of the Treasury Janet Yellen, **Ways and Means Republican Leader Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX)** and **Rep. Drew Ferguson (R-GA)** requested the Department of Treasury make clear how they intend to spend the \$80 billion Democrats handed the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as part of the so-called “Inflation Reduction Act.”

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the letter.

The members wrote:

“With \$80 billion in new IRS mandatory funding, we are concerned that the Administration and congressional Democrats will renew their efforts to surveil American bank accounts.”

“We remain strongly opposed to any effort to impose a bank surveillance scheme on Americans and believe it is important for the American people to know where this Administration stands on this issue.”

READ: [Ways and Means Republicans Introduce Bill to Protect Middle Class, Small Businesses from Supersized IRS](#)

KEY BACKGROUND:

Ways and Means GOP Introduced a Bill to Protect the Middle Class from a Supersized IRS.

- The Biden Administration’s bank surveillance scheme would lead to local banks reporting to the IRS on details of nearly every American’s bank account. This plan is particularly troubling given the agency’s history of data leaks and political targeting.
- Ways and Means Republicans, led by Rep. Brady, introduced a bill to prevent the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) from using its massive, \$80 billion infusion of taxpayer dollars to squeeze more revenue out of American taxpayers who earn less than \$400,000 per year.
- Democrats voted to supercharge the IRS, but [voted against guardrails](#) that would have protected lower- and middle- income taxpayers from more audits.

READ: [Ways and Means Republicans Introduce Bill to Protect Middle Class, Small Businesses from Supersized IRS](#)

Democrats Want the IRS Snoop on Americans’ Bank Transactions.

- President Biden’s original proposal to spend \$80 billion on an army of auditors also came with a plan to require local banks to report on the gross transactions of your personal and business bank accounts.
 - Now that the IRS has \$80 billion, the Administration is likely to try to find a way to impose its original bank surveillance scheme.
- Every American must pay their taxes, but tax administration should not come at the expense of basic privacy.

The IRS has a Long History of Political Targeting and Leaks of Private Taxpayer Information.

Given the agency’s inability to protect confidential taxpayer data over the last decade, the American people are rightfully concerned about the implications of giving the IRS a vast amount of new private data.

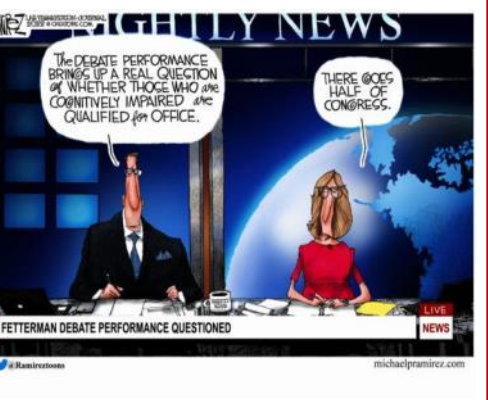
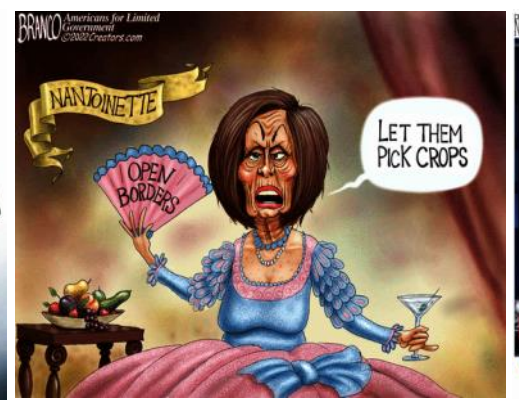
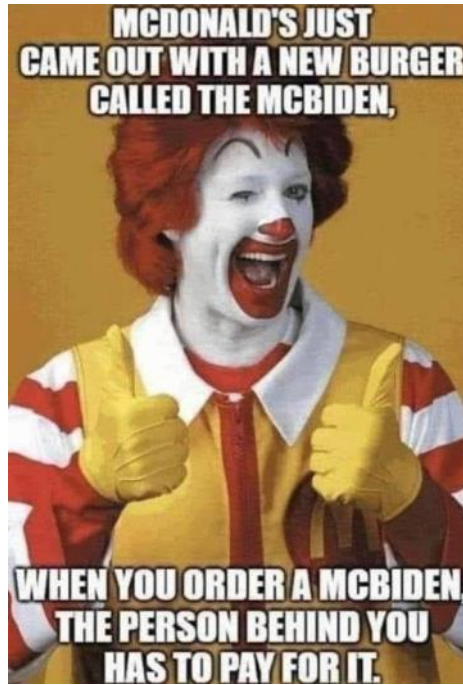
The Burden Of Democrats’ Supercharged IRS Reporting Falls On Families, Small Businesses, and Local Banks.

- The American people understand that a surveillance plan will be incredibly broad, and like most other government programs, there is no doubt that the Democrats will try to expand this effort in the future.
- Ways and Means Republicans are committed to protecting American taxpayers from government overreach and from breaches of privacy like the one being proposed by the Biden Administration.

Political Cartoons



I'd like a happy meal with extra fries.
Sir this is a car wash.





AMERICANISM REPORT

by Ellen Leyrer



Gratitude is About Action Too

We celebrate Thanksgiving Day as a sign of gratitude for our American freedoms. We commonly associate Thanksgiving with Pilgrims and turkeys. Food often plays a large part. We plan happy family gatherings, and typically eat too much of our family favorites. (I *do* miss my mom's dressing.)

I don't know about you, but when I think of those Pilgrims celebrating that first Thanksgiving (a three-day festival), my first thoughts are not of their hardships. My thinking skips right over the trials and tribulations to the success, the win! (An interesting sidenote: The Pilgrims' feast may have included turkey, but not much else would be familiar fare to us today: In addition to venison, the group probably ate fish and shellfish, which were abundant in the region, as well as fruits and vegetables that the colonists grew in their home gardens. "Cabbage, carrot, cucumbers, leeks, lettuce, parsnips, pumpkins," a chronicler lists. "There were also a lot of native wild plants that English learned how to cook, including Jerusalem artichokes, garlic, cranberries, Concord grapes, walnuts and chestnuts.")

Freedom of religion was the main motivation of the first settlers in what became America. Today that freedom of religion is in dire danger, as are all our God-given rights.

The Pilgrims (previously known as Puritans and/or Separatists) left their homeland and in 1609 and moved to Leiden, Holland, where they hoped to worship freely, without harassment from church authorities. The religious climate in England was hostile and threatening, especially towards religious nonconformists like puritans.

They didn't come straight to the New World from England. For 12 years, until 1619, they lived in Holland, then they decided to move on. These Separatists sought out investors in England who would be willing to finance their journey to the New World. The group made a deal with the Plymouth Company who promised to finance their trip to North America to establish a colony. In return, the colony would repay the company by harvesting supplies, such as fur, timber, and fish, to send back to England.

Governor John Winthrop was among a group of 300 that went to the New World. There they would work "to do more service to the Lord." Before the first year was out, 200 of the settlers had died.

It is not known exactly where or when John Winthrop delivered his famous "Model of Christian Charity" speech, but the intended audience was clearly his fellow emigrants. "It is by mutual consent [that we] seek out a place of cohabitation and consortship under a due form of government both civil and ecclesiastical. In such cases as this, the care of the public must overshadow all private respects..." he told them. We go "to improve our lives, to do more service to the Lord... We have entered a covenant with [God] for this work." He continued: **"For we must consider that we shall be as a city upon a hill. The eyes of all people are upon us."**

By the late 1600s, Thanksgiving had become an annual fall tradition. It wasn't until 1863 that President Abraham Lincoln named the last Thursday in November a national holiday.

So, as we plan our Thanksgiving Day 2022, let us remember and be grateful, yes, but let us also remember the why and the struggle.

And right now, as Election Day is about a week away, and as we continue to be ever-so-thankful for America, let's remember the hard work and suffering that won the day, and let's put our gratitude into action by voting and serving as election workers and poll greeters, by speaking up and by getting others out to vote. We must continue to strive to save America. Complacency is our enemy. We must not fail our founders, ourselves, and future generations of Americans!

Patriotism is not a short and frenzied outburst of emotion but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime.

- Adlai Stevenson II

Looking past November 8th –

The fight to keep the America that the Framers founded (and that many have fought and died in the cause for) *never* ends. In fact, as I'm sure you know, the next two years, until we are through the 2024 Presidential election, are just as critical. Our red wave on November 8th is absolutely necessary. Without that, America will be in even graver danger.

For the gift of America and all it stands for, we must continue to put action with our thankfulness. A gift not taken care of is lost or destroyed.

Take heart; be encouraged. Stand up, speak up, take action.



AMERICANISM REPORT



Continued from Page 8

by Ellen Leyrer

Ways to Engage

Be an advocate/activist

If you are not as engaged as you want to be, please consider what else you can add to your battle plans in this fight for America.

There are dozens of ways to make a difference. Now is the time for conservatives to get engaged. Being the silent majority is not working. Here are some opportunities to engage:

Contact your representatives, local, state and federal:

- Call
- Write
- Email
- Visit in person
- Go with a group to the capitol in Austin
- Reach out to an SREC committeeperson

With mid-term elections in November:

- Precinct Chair – There are several vacancies, and this is a BIG opportunity.
- Volunteer for candidates - phone calls and block walking, having a sign in your yard
- Campaign
- Donate
- Become a Voter Deputy Registrar – you can register people to vote.

Be an election worker:

- Poll greeter (no training required)
- Election clerk (training is available)
- Election judge (training is available)

City positions are critical:

- School Board
- City Council
- Planning and Zoning

Other ways to engage and be informed:

- Attend other meetings – You'll learn more ways to engage. You'll be more informed, you'll be entertained, and you'll be encouraged and energized by being with like-minded people.
- Heritage Action – <https://heritageaction.com>
- Imprimis - <https://imprimis.hillsdale.edu/>
- Texas Scorecard - <https://texasscorecard.com/texas-minute/>
- Plano Citizens' Coalition - <https://planocitizenscoalition.org/>
- Texas Eagle Forum - <https://www.texaseagleforum.com/>
- True Texas Project - www.TrueTexasProject.com - also has an advocate option
- Heritage.org - <https://www.heritage.org/> - The World's Leading Think Tank for Policy Impact
- Citizens for Free Speech - www.CitizensForFreeSpeech.org - advocate arm, Citizen Ninja (training)
- Save Our Elections - www.SaveOurElections.com
- Association of Mature American Citizens (AMAC) – www.AMAC.us

Constitutional Minute Series

Understanding the Constitution: The Power to Restrict Immigration

By: [Rob Natelson](#) | Published on: Oct 2, 2022 |

The Constitution doesn't use the word "immigration." Those consulting the constitutional debates of 1787–1790 (such as the essays in "The Federalist") will find no discussion of the subject.

Consequently, some modern writers argue that, constitutionally, America should be an "open borders" country—that Congress has no power to limit immigration. Others say that there must be immigration-control authority somewhere in the Constitution. After all, the document alludes to a power in Congress, beginning in 1808, to prohibit the "Migration or Importation of ... Persons" (Article I, Section 9, Clause 1). The word "Importation" refers to the slave trade, but "Migration" refers to the movement of free people.

This uncertainty has encouraged the usual claims that the Constitution is defective, and that the framers made another of their alleged mistakes.

False Answers

In a recent [Epoch Times essay](#), I described the "Great Forgetting," during which 19th-century Americans lost the meaning of key terms in their own Constitution. One of the casualties of the Great Forgetting was the source of Congress's immigration authority. The amnesia continues even today: I recently used the Westlaw database to collect articles on immigration composed by law professors. The overwhelming majority still had no clue as to the source of Congress's immigration authority.

Even the Supreme Court has cast about for an answer. In 1875, the court [concluded](#) that Congress's authority to restrict immigration stemmed from its power to "regulate Commerce with foreign Nations" (Article I, Section 8, Clause 3). The justices soon abandoned that idea—and with good reason: Non-commercial cross-border travel is not "Commerce" as the Constitution uses the word ([pdf](#)).

In 1889, the court suggested that the power to control immigration was "inherent" in the federal government's sovereignty ([pdf](#)). Some modern writers agree. But that proposition directly violates the terms of the 10th Amendment, which prescribes that if a power isn't listed in the Constitution (or incidental to a listed power), then the federal government doesn't have it.

Still other writers speculate that Congress's authority to regulate immigration comes from its power "To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization" (Article I, Section 8, Clause 4). But that dog won't hunt, either. Immigration control is a subject as important as, and separate from, naturalization: It isn't merely incidental to naturalization ([pdf](#)).

Modern writers have offered other suggestions as well, but they are even more far-fetched.

The 'Define and Punish' Clause

As I mentioned briefly in an earlier [Epoch Times essay](#), Congress's authority to limit immigration is contained in its power to "define and punish Piracies and Felonies committed on the High Seas, and Offenses against the Law of Nations" (Article I, Section 8, Clause 10). This is called the Define and Punish Clause. The phrase "the law of nations" is the 18th-century term for international law.

When the Constitution was written (as today) there was no international agency available to punish certain conduct internationally recognized as criminal. Moreover, international law usually didn't specify the elements of such a crime, how a defendant should be charged and tried, or what the punishment might be. Without such standards, it was impossible to apprehend and punish those who violated international law while still respecting the rules of due process. It was a common practice on capturing a pirate, for example, to string him up then and there.

The Define and Punish Clause addressed this situation by granting Congress authority to enact criminal statutes setting forth the details of piracy and other "Offences against the Law of Nations."

The 'Law of Nations'

In the 18th century, the term "nation" often referred to an ethnic group—such as "the Arabs" or "the Koreans"—rather than to a sovereign state. A sovereign state might be composed of one "nation" or of many. Or a "nation" might (as is true of the Arabs and Koreans today) sprawl across several sovereign states.

Two thousand years ago, the Romans developed a common law for non-Romans within their empire. They called it the *ius gentium*—"the law of ethnic groups" (or "peoples"). Later, the spelling was altered to *jus gentium*.

In accordance with the contemporaneous meaning of "nation" as an ethnic group, the phrase was translated into English as "the law of nations." A more modern translation might be "the jurisprudence of all ethnic groups."

Despite the ancient origins of the *jus gentium*, the modern law of nations didn't take shape until the 17th century. The man generally recognized as



Constitutional Minute Series

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as its founder was the brilliant Dutch scholar and diplomat Huig de Groot. His masterpiece, published in 1625, was entitled “De Jure Belli ac Pacis” (“The Law of War and Peace”). It was, like all learned books of the time, composed in Latin, and the author’s name was Latinized to “Hugo Grotius.” It is by his Latin name that he is known today. (This is true of many historical figures: We also refer to Cristoforo Colombo by his Latin name: “Christopher Columbus.”)

As formulated by Grotius, the law of nations applied not just to “nations” in the sense of ethnic groups, but to sovereignties. It sometimes applied to individuals as well.

Following in the footsteps of Grotius were other outstanding international law scholars. The most important were Samuel von Pufendorf, a German who published his leading work in 1672; Christian Wolff, another German, who published in 1749; and Emer de Vattel, a Swiss lawyer and diplomat, whose 1758 volume was composed in French. Additionally, a French scholar, Jean Barbeyrac (1674–1744), gained fame for his translations of, and commentaries on, the works of Grotius and Pufendorf.

America’s Founders were familiar with all of these scholars. American courts relied on the opinions of Grotius, Pufendorf, Barbeyrac, Vattel, and, more rarely, Wolff. In 1783, a committee of the Confederation Congress recommended a list of important books for acquisition. They included the principal works of all these authors. The committee was a notable one. It consisted of three men destined to be among the Constitution’s framers: James Madison, Thomas Mifflin, and Hugh Williamson.

During the Constitutional Convention, delegates cited Vattel. During the subsequent public debates over the Constitution’s ratification, participants mentioned Grotius, Pufendorf, Barbeyrac, and Vattel.

An author even more famous among Americans also devoted some attention to the law of nations. He was William Blackstone, whose “Commentaries on the Laws of England” was the most popular law book in the United States.

Immigration Control as Part of the Law of Nations

We can summarize the rest of the story quickly. Here it is:

All of these authors affirmed that just as one usually may not enter a property-owner’s land without permission, it usually is an “Offense against the Law of Nations” to cross another sovereign’s borders without permission.

If a state intrudes into the territory of another state without the consent of its sovereign, the intruding state offends against the law of nations. If an individual enters the territory of a foreign state without the consent of its sovereign, the individual offends against the law of nations. It also violates the law of nations for a state to permit or encourage its citizens to cross a foreign border without permission.

There are some exceptions and modifications to the foregoing rules. The authors disagree slightly on their scope. However, they agree that a sovereign has a legal or moral obligation to try to accommodate exiles, refugees, those shipwrecked on foreign shores, and those required to pass through a foreign country. Even in those cases, however, each sovereign has wide discretion to set the terms and conditions of entry.

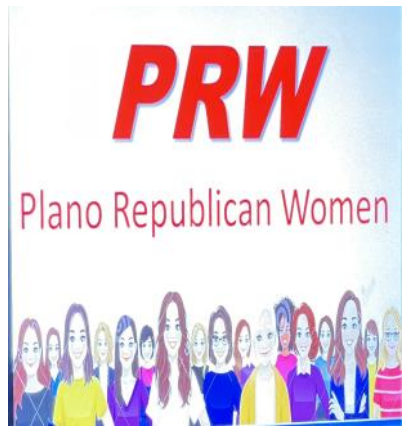
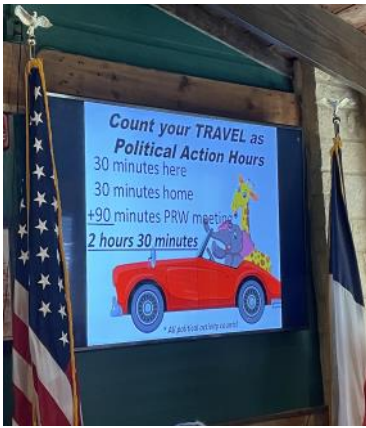
All of this was confirmed by yet another international law scholar, Georg Friedrich von Martens, a German professor who published in 1789, while the Constitution still was under debate in North Carolina, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Thus, Congress’s power to “define and punish Offenses against the Law of Nations” includes authority to adopt laws restricting immigration. As chief executive, it’s the president’s sworn duty “take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed”—and therefore to enforce those laws.

Once again, a claimed weakness in the Constitution turns out to be non-existent, and the framers are absolved of error. The prevailing uncertainty on this subject is our fault, not theirs.

This essay was first published in the Aug. 29, 2022 Epoch Times.

October PRW Photos



What Happened to the Democratic Party?

Roger Kimball, October 13, 2022 Updated: October 17, 2022

My title is my subject: What happened to the [Democratic Party](#)?

Well, nothing good. That isn't a full answer, but it's an accurate one.

The party of Scoop Jackson, of JFK and FDR and Harry Truman, the party, that is to say, whose patriotism and seriousness no one could dispute, is gone.

Sometime in the 1960s, hitching its star to the welfare industrial complex and various public sector unions, it became the regime party.

Gradually, its only interests were special interests.

Then, in the Obama and post-Obama years, it went mad.

No longer was it a party of politics. It was transmuted into a party of identity politics.

The imprecations of "The Squad"—Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Ilhan Omar, Rashida Tlaib, and the others—make headlines but, like the mutterings of the weird sisters in "Macbeth," portend only chaos and evil.

Following that seemingly ineluctable logic that Marx described in "The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Napoleon," what had been a party of politics became a party of identity politics: Tragedy had degenerated into a species of farce.

The final stage came with the emergence of Donald Trump on the political stage.

For reasons I don't completely understand, this brash, unclubbable populist exploded like an EMP attack, disrupting the symbiotic consensus that had knitted together the regime party and suckling pseudopods into an engorging unity.

Since 2016, it's been constant screaming at the sky, special counsels, and fantasies of impeachment, indictment, and destruction.

As anyone who can utter the syllables "Liz Cheney" knows, this pathology has infected the GOP wing of the establishment consensus just as much as it has infected the Democratic Party.

But providing an explication of that part of our national nightmare is a task for another day.

For now, I want to detail some of the things that have happened to the Democratic Party.

I write, by the way, not as a partisan but as a documentarian.

For an assist, I turn to [Tulsi Gabbard](#), a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve, former U.S. representative from Hawaii, former presidential candidate, and, as of last week, former Democrat.

Gabbard was always an outlier in the contemporary Democratic Party.

It isn't that she's conservative. She isn't.

But she is sane. And in the context of the rampant psychopathology of our politics, that gives her the sheen if not of conservatism, then at least of reasonableness.

On Oct. 11, Gabbard announced in a video clip on Twitter that she was leaving the Democratic Party and would henceforth style herself an independent.

Were I a Democratic strategist, her performance and bill of indictment would make me nervous.

As a citizen who's more worried about the direction of our country than I have ever been, Gabbard's indictment impressed me with its plainspoken accuracy.

That accuracy also gave me hope, for the first step on the road to recovery is a candid recognition that one is lost.

Gabbard showed just how lost the Democratic Party had become.

The party is, [she said](#), and said rightly, now "under the complete control of an elitist cabal of warmongers who are driven by cowardly wokeness." Can anyone seriously dispute this?

Moreover, she said, this cabal divides us by "racializing every issue and stoking anti-white racism, ... actively [works] to undermine our God-given freedoms, ... [and] are hostile to people of faith and spirituality."

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Roger Kimball, October 13, 2022 Updated: October 17, 2022

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Any dissenters?

Then, there are some particulars. The Democratic clique that Gabbard apostrophizes “demonize the police and protect criminals at the expense of law-abiding Americans, believe in open borders, ... weaponize the national security state to go after their political opponents, and above all, ... are dragging us ever closer to nuclear war.”

True, all true.

Far from supporting Lincoln’s (and the Founders’) vision of government “of, by, and for the people,” she said, the Democratic Party shows daily that it stands for government “of, by, and for the powerful elite.”

Gabbard ends by calling on any “common sense independent-minded Democrats” to join her in leaving the party that has become a wicked caricature of its former self.

The inveterate addiction to power will probably stanch the flow of recruits to her defection.

But that doesn’t mean partisans of common sense shouldn’t applaud Gabbard’s message.

For myself, I respond to her courageous and heartfelt testimony with an enthusiastic “Amen,” our version of the Hebrew word meaning “So be it.”

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



Hello Ladies

Early voting has started in Collin County. Collin County has safe elections and when audited showed zero problems. We are also honored to have PRW members who work on ballot board. Every vote counts, vote down the ballot for **all** Republicans.

Remember, if you are registered in Collin County, you may vote anywhere in Collin County. Click the link below to find times and voting locations for your city. Also sample ballots.

[Collin county Early Voting Locations and Times](#)

Reasons to vote early:

1. Skip the potential long lines of voting day.
2. Lock in your vote early.
3. Erase the potential to miss voting because of unforeseen events such as illness, death in the family, auto accident, un-planned business trip, family emergency, power outages, bad weather, hailstorm, tornado, earthquake, tsunami, blizzard, underground volcanos, sink holes.

Life happens, make sure you vote!!

Early Voting: Monday, Oct. 24 – Friday, Nov. 4, 2022

Election Day: Nov 8th

Early Voting Dates & Times:

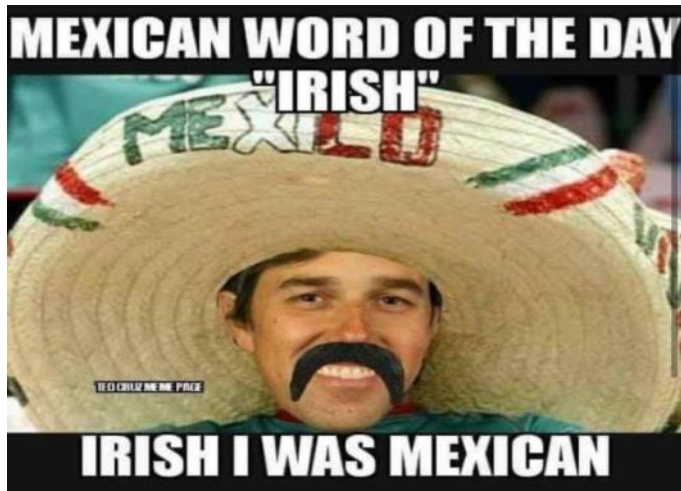
Oct. 24 - Oct 28: 8am – 5pm

Oct. 29: 7am – 7pm

Oct. 30: 11am – 5pm



Political Cartoons



**Nothing says
"I Hate Texas"
like a
Beto sign
in your yard!**

~Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (2018)



"Owning guns is not a right. If it were a right, it would be in the Constitution."

(try the 2nd amendment ratified Dec 15, 1791)



**NEVER JUDGE A BETO
SUPPORTER
UNTIL YOU'VE WALKED IN THEIR
SHOES**



Remember: When something goes wrong in the circus, they send in the clowns to distract the audience. Well, something has gone very wrong with this circus, and the clowns are everywhere.

Is ESG Emerging as the Next CRT in Electoral Politics?

By Emel Akan, Epoch Times, October 17, 2022 Updated: October 19, 2022

Environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG) has been one of the most popular investment trends in recent years. While it encourages businesses to be more environmentally and socially responsible, it's frequently criticized for advancing a "woke" agenda.

Republican governors such as Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis and Texas Gov. Greg Abbott are among many who speak out against ESG. The disapproval has led multiple state treasurers to withdraw state funds from asset managers such as BlackRock, which have pioneered the ESG movement.

As the November midterm elections approach, numerous Republican lawmakers are also becoming more vocal in their opposition to ESG investing. For example, Rep. Jim Banks (R-Ind.) has labeled ESG as a scam.

"ESG is the left's attempt to abuse our nation's finances for their own political ends," Banks told The Epoch Times. "They are prioritizing wokeness over dividends, and millions of American retirees are paying the price."

Last year, the idea of implementing critical race theory (CRT) curriculum in classrooms across the country sparked a similarly heated debate. Many believe that Republican Glenn Youngkin's victory in the Virginia governor's race in 2021 was largely due to his efforts to fight CRT and racial education in schools.

So can ESG help Republicans in the upcoming election in the same way that CRT did?

Amy Walter, publisher and editor-in-chief of the Cook Political Report, says that hot-button issues such as ESG could sway swing voters.

Speaking at the annual membership meeting of the Institute of International Finance (IIF) on Oct. 10, Walter said some voters feel that "when Democrats get in charge," they tend to impose "these restrictions" or "their worldview" that are out of touch with the reality.

"I don't know that [ESG] is really permeating quite yet into ... our average voter conversation," she said, noting, however, that issues such as CRT and ESG "do motivate a certain type of voter—a type of voter who already feels like the Democratic Party is out of touch and has lost its way."

That's where Democrats get into trouble, particularly with swing voters, according to Walter.

"It's when those voters think that Democrats are spending way too much time on their own sort of partisan agenda and not enough time on bread-and-butter issues," she said.

Amy Walter, publisher and editor-in-chief of the Cook Political Report, speaks onstage during the Institute of International Finance's annual membership meeting in Washington on Oct. 10, 2022. (Emel Akan/ The Epoch Times)

Few Investors Understand ESG

ESG funds seek to invest in companies that adhere to environmental, social, and governance principles. This entails taking measures to reduce pollution and carbon emissions. It also means having a diverse and inclusive workforce, from entry-level employees to the board of directors. ESG requires businesses to promote ethical and socially conscious themes such as social justice and racial and gender equity.

While ESG investing is a trend that grabs headlines, numerous surveys have revealed that many retail investors know little about it. Only 24 percent of 1,228 investors polled correctly defined ESG investment, according to [one survey](#) in April. And about one in four thought the abbreviation stood for "earnings, stock, growth."

The big three asset managers—BlackRock, Vanguard, and State Street, which hold nearly [20 percent](#) of the outstanding shares of the companies in the S&P 500 Index—have made substantial climate pledges during the past few years.

In response to accusations, BlackRock, the world's largest asset management firm, recently launched a [web page](#) to defend its investment strategy and approach to climate risk.

According to one BlackRock official, the investment management firm has become "the punching bag" for both political parties. Larry Fink, CEO of BlackRock, also responded to the criticisms during the IIF annual meeting on Oct. 12.

"The facts are not important with some subgroups in this country," Fink told attendees. "I'm now being attacked equally by the left and the right, so I'm doing something right."

Matthew Peterson, cofounder of New Founding, which fights against "woke" corporations and investment funds, believes that people are awakening to the "radical" aspects of ESG.

"There's more awareness than there has been in the past," Peterson told The Epoch Times

The PayPal Fiasco Was No Accident

Jeffrey A. Tucker, Epoch Times, October 10, Updated October 15, 2022 .

Commentary

[PayPal](#) on Oct. 8 sent out an update to its terms of use, or acceptable use policy (AUP), that included a shocking addition. It reserved the right to confiscate \$2,500 from people's accounts if they spread "[misinformation](#)." It was a clear announcement of what many already suspected: PayPal has enlisted in the information war.

This comes weeks after PayPal blocked several important accounts in the UK, including Toby Young's personal account, the Free Speech Union, and the DailySceptic. These are hugely important venues for the English-speaking world in countering the COVID propaganda narrative. It was no accident that they were targeted.

After global protests and news coverage from alternative sources, PayPal relented and restored their accounts without explanation.

In a similar vein, protests all over the world poured in about PayPal's new policy. Twitter filled up with announcements from people who were canceling their accounts.

By the following day, PayPal reversed itself, claiming that the banning of "misinformation" was just a mistake.

"An AUP notice recently went out in error that included incorrect information," a spokesperson [told](#) The Epoch Times. "PayPal is not fining people for misinformation and this language was never intended to be inserted in our policy."

In other words, PayPal claimed that its policy on misinformation was itself misinformation!

It's very likely that the user protest itself—and a big selloff in PayPal stock—made the crucial difference. Many people cheered, but actually, this is extremely unsettling. We can't live in a world where our essential rights, privacy, and liberties always hang in the balance and depend on Twitter-based protests in order to have them recognized.

In addition, surely PayPal doesn't expect that anyone on the planet really believes the claim that this was an "error." There's just no way. Everyone knows that something as legally and institutionally critical as the acceptable use policy would have to go through many layers of compliance bureaucracy and attorneys, especially highlighting the changes.

This change was so obviously approved at the highest levels. It was intended to stick, and PayPal had every intention of preparing the way to confiscate funds from people based on their political loyalties and opinions. This is truly how bad it has gotten.

I'm particularly intrigued by the way in which The Washington Post reported on the story:

"PayPal is facing blowback after proposing rules that would have allowed it to fine users \$2,500 for promoting misinformation—which the online payment service has since called an error.

"Over the weekend, several conservative outlets reported that the tech company updated its terms of agreement, under which PayPal can levy fines against users for violations, to include 'the sending, posting, or publication of any messages, content, or materials' that 'promote[s] misinformation.'

"The update immediately sparked uproar online on the right, marking the latest instance that a major online payment service has faced heat over its moderation practices."

Did you catch that? The Post is careful to note that the protests were from "conservative" outlets and that it "sparked uproar online on the right."

This is a way of signaling their readership: It was a good policy and they would have gotten away with it but for the meddling kids on the right. Just to be clear: The Post never uses the terms conservative or right without meaning wrong, marginalized, dangerous, and cancellable.

What they say about the protests seems empirically correct, though not entirely. The former president of PayPal, David Marcus, [wrote](#) on Twitter: "It's hard for me to openly criticize a company I used to love and gave so much to. But @PayPal's new AUP goes against everything I believe in. A private company now gets to decide to take your money if you say something they disagree with. Insanity."

Elon Musk liked the tweet.

Then, Brendan Carr, a commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission, [weighed in](#): "Orwellian. Paypal reserves the right to take your money if you post a message that Paypal decides is 'misinformation.' This is why it is so vital that state and federal legislatures pass laws that prohibit discrimination by tech companies and protect [free speech](#)."

We know by now exactly what [Big Tech](#) companies mean by "misinformation." They mean information that belies regime priorities. It began with COVID and extended to vaccines. Now it includes climate change. Indeed, every bit of opining or evidence that seems to go against the

The PayPal Fiasco Was No Accident

Continued from Page 18

prevailing agenda of the Gates Foundation, the Biden administration, or the World Economic Forum is being systematically deprecated by Big Tech. That applies to Google, Facebook, Twitter, Amazon, and now PayPal.

The war on information freedom is intensifying by the day. This little victory over PayPal is sweet, but everyone knows it's a temporary concession. They didn't like the bad public relations messaging. Since the release of the policy, the company has likely experienced a record number of account cancellations. They changed the policy to stop the bleeding.

In that sense, we have seen what works. At the very least, these people have to obey market signals because they have a customer base and must deal with the basic demands of bookkeeping. They not only have to please government interests, but also the public insofar as they still depend on willing users.

Still, the trajectory here is very clear. It's the most frightening step in the ongoing rise of tyranny in the world today that your very ability to move money or even to earn an income will be officially declared as contingent upon the opinions you express.

It's next-level despotism that hasn't yet happened in any systematic way in the United States. In China, this has become institutionalized. The past year has shown us many examples of how the Chinese Communist Party uses digital apps to turn on or off people's ability to speak, associate, travel, and move money. Compliance is everything.

To some extent in Canada, this is already happening, as the government invaded the bank accounts of protesting truckers and those who supported them with donations.

How much does it matter that PayPal reversed course? It isn't entirely clear. They showed their hand and revealed a much deeper and scarier plan that relates to the Biden administration's intention to create a new central bank digital currency. This will be programmable money, one that would allow a ruling elite to cut off your means to live if they so choose.

It's all too tragic. PayPal was set up initially as a means of obtaining financial independence from government-controlled banks. It even hoped to become an independent form of money. All these years later, it has been captured by interests that have the very opposite ambition. In truth, many people out there cheer the prospect.

That's how intense the political war has become in this country. We used to debate. We used to talk. We reveled in the freedom that was guaranteed by a constitutional republic. Today, many interest groups—many of them associated, for now, mainly with the left—no longer want to play that game. They want you deplatformed, canceled, and even left bereft of your ability to earn a living or feed your family.

It's a new age of brutality, and the technologies that were supposed to prevent it are now being deployed to usher it in and entrench it.

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

*Jeffrey A. Tucker is the founder and president of the [Brownstone Institute](#), and the author of many thousands of articles in the scholarly and popular press, as well as 10 books in five languages, most recently "Liberty or Lockdown." He is also the editor of *The Best of Mises*. He writes a daily column on economics for *The Epoch Times* and speaks widely on the topics of economics, technology, social philosophy, and culture.*



Connections



Connections is a new way for PRW members to get to know other members, while lending a helping hand. Tasks may vary but the connections will last.

Connections will meet for an hour or so following the monthly General Meetings at Saltgrass; each month come and go as your time will allow.

In November *Connections* may lend a helping hand to send Thank You notes to Border Patrol and Texas Guard members...**more importantly we will get to chat** while spending time together and making connections, so... please join in. Can't wait to have you join in.

After the November election we will continue to gather following the General Meetings. "The tasks may change but the *Connections* will last."



PRW Caring for America, Brown Bag Project is underway!

Bring your donations to the next PRW meetings

(November, December and January).

We will be gifting the supplies to a Title 1, Plano Independent School in late January.

Here is the wish list of needed supply:

- Crayola crayons, 24 Count
- Glue Sticks, Small
- Watercolor Paints with Brushes
- Large pink Erasers
- Crayola Washable Markers (8 or 10 count)
- Package(s) of Construction Paper, Assorted Colors , 12" x 18" (80 sheets)
- Box(es) of Facial Tissues (250 count box)
- #2 Yellow/Wood Pencils Sharpened with Erasers (12 Pack)



Guest GOP Elected Official Article



**SID
MILLER**
TEXAS AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER

History is being made!

Sid Miller

Texas Agriculture Commissioner

You probably already know what happened in 2020, but let me remind you...

As the politicians, "experts," and pundits were setting the country on fire over the COVID pandemic, some jurisdictions, like Harris County, were busy making up new election rules.

As a result, we got the most dubious, controversial, and contested elections in our history, along with lawsuits, recriminations, and a fracturing of trust in American Democracy.

In response to this insanity, many states passed laws clarifying their election rules and closing loopholes used to undermine the integrity of the vote.

Democrats, having benefits from the chaos, called these changes "Jim Crow 2.0" and decried the "racist" Republican's insidious effort to suppress "brown and black" voters.

I don't like to use this language, but BULL HOCKEY!

Nothing could be further from the truth.

**Like the vast majority of Americans, I simply want our elections to fair, secure, and transparent.
Early voting is underway in Texas.**

This is our chance to show the dishonest, radical left that American Democracy isn't dead, their authoritarian ambitions are!

Whether it's rejection of cancel culture online, woke entertainment, hypersexual extremism in our schools, or the hateful and divisive rhetoric from politicians and pundits, The Democrats "reimagining" of America is failing and must fail.

To you, I say, "Show up and vote!"

If we want to put the final nail in the coffin of this whole sad, stupid, "woke" era, we must kill it dead!

That could be the legacy of this election.

If you haven't already, get to the polls and vote Republican down the ENTIRE ballot.

And for goodness' sake, take someone with you!

Find your early voting location [HERE](#) and don't forget early voting ends on November 4. Election Day is November 8.



**SID
MILLER**
TEXAS AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER

The Politicization of the Department of Justice

Harmeet K. Dhillon

The following is adapted from a speech delivered on Sept. 16, 2022, in Washington at Hillsdale College's Constitution Day Celebration.

The seal of the U.S. [Department of Justice \(DOJ\)](#) reads, “Qui Pro Domina Justitia Sequitur”—“Who prosecutes for Lady Justice.” Depictions of Lady Justice are as familiar as they are instructive: she stands blindfolded while holding the scales of justice, representing her unyielding devotion to equal justice under the law.

Contrary to this ideal, the DOJ today appears to be increasingly motivated by partisanship. Compounding the problem, it has access to the powers of the modern surveillance state. As someone passionate about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, I believe there is no higher priority than addressing this danger.

The tragic events of 9/11 marked a turning point in our nation's recent civil rights history. First, the terrorists attacked us—and then, in the name of national security, we began to attack ourselves. It has become almost cliché to say that we live in a surveillance state, but we do. Ever since Congress, on a fully bipartisan basis, enacted the Patriot Act six weeks after the attacks on 9/11, the ever-present eye of the government has been searching for new and creative ways to spy on American citizens. The government has the technology to monitor all of our electronic devices, listen to our phone calls, and read our emails and text messages—all under the auspices of national security.

This special law designed for an emergency has become a permanent addition to the government's investigatory toolbox. The unfortunate reality is that the bulk of the actions taken by law enforcement under the Patriot Act have almost nothing to do with combating terrorism. Once-rare applications for surveillance warrants to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court have multiplied many times in relative peacetime. Most of the spying conducted under the Patriot Act is for run-of-the-mill crimes that we've long expected law enforcement to address without special surveillance authority.

Now, it is bad enough to have a politically-neutral surveillance state controlled by the national security crowd and their DOJ cousins. But take that panopticon and put it in the hands of an executive branch willing to weaponize its reams of information against its perceived political enemies, and we've got a frightening problem on our hands.

Laws such as the Patriot Act were designed to fight the unique problem of terrorism. But they quickly morphed into a mechanism by which the government keeps constant tabs on law-abiding Americans and threatens to disrupt their lives if they dare act contrary to those in power. And it's within this world of omnipotent oversight and control that the U.S. Department of Justice now operates. They have all the tools of the surveillance state at their disposal, and the only thing standing in their way is an independent judiciary willing to enforce our constitutional rights.

But we all saw how easy it is to spy on Americans—with virtually no judicial oversight—from the disgraceful episodes of broad surveillance applications, on flimsy and sometimes falsified pretexts, against citizens such as Carter Page.

* * *

Let me discuss three recent examples that illustrate the threats we face from a politicized DOJ: the DOJ raid on [Project Veritas](#) journalists, the DOJ raid on Mar-a-Lago, and the DOJ's efforts to undermine [election integrity](#) and chill [free speech](#).

Project Veritas Raid

In July 2021, Attorney General [Merrick Garland](#) issued a memo forbidding federal prosecutors from seizing journalists' records. He did this with much fanfare, hauteur, and virtue signaling. But even as Mr. Garland was decrying the seizure of journalists' records as a “wrong” his department would “not let ... happen,” the DOJ was in the midst of a year-long campaign of spying on Project Veritas—a campaign that involved no fewer than 19 clandestine subpoenas, orders, and warrants obtained from nine magistrate judges. The secrecy of this spying campaign was maintained through the use of wide-ranging gag orders, including at least two that were obtained without notice to the judge overseeing the Project Veritas case.

Through this spying campaign, we now know that the DOJ obtained approximately 200,000 Project Veritas emails from Microsoft and countless text messages (and heaven knows what else) from Apple, Google, Uber, and other still unknown companies.

Only six months after Mr. Garland's memo was issued, the DOJ raided the homes of three Project Veritas journalists, seizing 47 electronic devices. And how did the world learn about this? Conveniently, someone leaked information about the raids to The New York Times—which Project Veritas happens to be suing. Indeed, The New York Times called Project Veritas for comment as the raids were still in progress.

What was the pretext for the raids? In the fall of 2020, confidential sources had approached Project Veritas journalists with a diary and other materials supposedly belonging to [Ashley Biden](#), the president's daughter. The sources said that the materials had been in their possession prior to contacting Project Veritas. The Project Veritas journalists proceeded to investigate whether the materials were authentic and whether the allegations they contained against Joe Biden were true. Ultimately, Project Veritas decided it could not sufficiently verify the allegations

The Politicization of the Department of Justice

Continued from Page 12

Harmeet K. Dhillon

and that it would not publish the diary's contents. It then turned the items over to local law enforcement in Florida.

The DOJ claims that Ashley Biden's belongings were stolen. Project Veritas was told they weren't, but even this is legally irrelevant. In the 2001 case *Bartnicki v. Vopper*, the U.S. Supreme Court held unequivocally that as long as journalists did not commit an alleged theft themselves, they were entitled to receive, investigate, and publish (or not publish) supposedly stolen materials. In the more recent case *DNC v. Russian Federation*, a federal court made it clear that the reporter could even ask for the stolen materials. This is not a crime—it's called journalism.

Compare the DOJ's treatment of Project Veritas to the DOJ's inaction earlier this year when a Politico reporter was given a U.S. Supreme Court draft opinion overturning *Roe v. Wade*. The Politico reporter behaved precisely with this purloined document as the Project Veritas reporters had behaved with the diary, except that the Politico reporter did decide to publish the draft opinion.

The different reactions on the part of the DOJ seemed to hinge entirely on whose ox was being gored.

But to repeat, the Garland DOJ was rifling through the emails and phone messages of Project Veritas journalists before Project Veritas even knew of Ashley Biden's diary. These documents contain donor information, source communications—including communications from whistleblowers within the federal government—and attorney-client communications. In its actions, the DOJ was not only ignoring court decisions and its own policies, it was violating the Privacy Protection Act, the common law Reporter's Privilege, and the First and Fourth Amendments to the Constitution.

The Project Veritas matter is ongoing. Thanks to the DOJ's leaks to *The New York Times*, which themselves violate federal law, Judge Analisa Torres overruled the DOJ's objections and ordered the appointment of a special master to review the seized materials for various privileges. It's a hollow victory, because Project Veritas has to pay tens of thousands of dollars for the privilege, so to speak, of being able to protect its own privileged documents.

Mar-a-Lago Raid

Although I have represented and continue to represent President Trump in several matters, I do not represent him on the matter of the DOJ's raid on his Florida home, Mar-a-Lago. But that raid is significant and worth some attention.

Consider first the raid's timing. President Biden's approval ratings have been abysmal, and it is a midterm election year. Bloomberg reports that the DOJ will likely delay "charging" Trump with anything arising from the raid on his home until after the midterms. The effect of this is to create a cloud of perceived guilt running up to Nov. 8 and use that as a political tool to smear pro-Trump voters and candidates.

The DOJ hides behind its longstanding policy of not taking politically portentous actions close to an election—but how could the raid itself be construed as anything but such a portentous action?

President Trump and his lawyers were engaged in a cooperative dialogue with both the DOJ and National Archives representatives on the issue of storing and archiving confidential documents. He went as far as to invite the DOJ to survey the documents he had on his property, and the DOJ seemed to have expressed little urgency in pursuing the matter.

This latest episode of G-men gone wild is not all that different from the FBI strategy before and after Trump's election in 2016, when the FBI was weaponized to investigate claims of Russian collusion that ultimately proved to have been made up by Democrat operatives. But more importantly, the raid raises serious constitutional objections.

The Fourth Amendment provides that the "right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized."

The American Founders were intensely concerned about government intrusion. Breaking into the homes of political opponents and depriving them of their possessions was common practice under the rule of the British king in colonial America. The use of general warrants and writs of assistance by the Crown was the ultimate interference with the colonists' right to political and personal autonomy. Such invasions were so pervasive, and so universally despised, that the Founders saw fit to ensure that the Constitution expressly forbids such practices.

For over 180 years after the Founding, the Supreme Court applied the Fourth Amendment's protections largely to places and things. Unsurprisingly, this meant that dwellings were given a heightened sense of protection against government intrusion. The Supreme Court has reiterated, in the 1980 case *Payton v. New York*, that "the physical entry of the home is the chief evil against which the wording of the Fourth Amendment is directed."

In addition to where and what receives Fourth Amendment protection is the question of how the government can conduct searches and seizures without offending the Constitution. Searches are only permitted if they are "reasonable," and a search is generally considered

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“reasonable” only when the government first obtains a properly issued warrant. “Properly issued” means the warrant must describe with specificity the places to be searched and the things to be seized, must be supported by probable cause, and must be issued by a “neutral and detached magistrate.”

Taken together, this is colloquially known as the “warrant requirement”—and it is central to any honest analysis of the Mar-a-Lago raid.

At its core, the problem with the FBI’s search of President Trump’s home is its inconsistency with the letter and the spirit of the Fourth Amendment. The shroud of secrecy surrounding the probable-cause affidavit used by the FBI to obtain the warrant prevents the public from judging whether the government had a valid reason for this unprecedented search.

Even more, the list of places to be searched and things to be seized contained in the warrant application comprised a blanket sweep of the former president’s entire private residence and offices, targeting “any evidence” supporting a potential violation of a handful of federal statutes that are the usual suspects when it comes to politicized prosecutions.

While this alone doesn’t make the warrant defective, the Justice Department’s “just trust us” approach to support the raid makes it nearly impossible to determine the legitimacy of the government’s unprecedented actions. This leaves us no choice but to speculate. And based on the information publicly available, the DOJ’s actions have all the trappings and appearances of a vindictive and politically-motivated fishing expedition.

As in the Project Veritas case, the judge in the Mar-a-Lago case has issued an order appointing a special master. In doing so, the judge pointedly observed that some of the resultant delay the government complains of is caused by the government’s cutting corners, suggesting implicitly that the government abused the warrant process.

Election Integrity and Free Speech

As has been widely reported, the DOJ is currently issuing subpoenas to individuals who have dared to question the 2020 election results. This is occurring against the backdrop of President Biden’s vendetta against what he calls “ultra MAGA Republicans.” This is the type of behavior you’d expect in a third-world dictatorship.

Included in the DOJ’s crosshairs are those who participated in the political process as alternate electors; those in Congress who voted against certifying the election results; those who organized or peacefully attended a permitted rally on the Ellipse in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 6, 2021, even if they had nothing to do with the activities at the Capitol on that day; and those who have raised funds from donors with a promise to investigate and challenge election fraud.

All of these activities have long historical precedents in our country and are protected by the First Amendment. Indeed, it was Democrats who challenged the presidential election results in 2000, 2004, and 2016. Let’s review the evidence.

In 2000, 15 House Democrats objected to counting Florida’s electoral votes. Several members of Congress called the 2000 election “fraudulent,” and Texas Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson vowed that there would be “no peace” because of the allegedly stolen election.

In 2004, Democrats in Congress forced a vote to recess the joint session of Congress counting electoral votes in order to debate perceived election irregularities in Ohio. Thirty-one House Democrats voted to reject Ohio’s electoral votes and were applauded for doing so by Illinois Sen. Dick Durbin, among others.

In 2016, several Democrats objected to the certification of Trump electors, based on “overwhelming evidence of Russian interference” in the election. Maryland Rep. Jamie Raskin objected to 10 of Florida’s electors based on a Florida statute that prohibits state legislators from being electors. Texas Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee proclaimed, “If in that voting, you have glaring matters that speak to the failure of the electoral system, then it should be challenged.”

No DOJ action was taken in any of these previous years. What has changed, if not the politicization of the Justice Department?

Elections are the engine of our republic. They ensure the peaceful transfer of power and are the primary method for the people to influence their government. And our Constitution’s elections clause—Article I, Section 4, Clause 1—gives states the primary duty of regulating the time, places, and manner of elections for federal office. The DOJ’s role is very limited in this regard. It has the power to administer the Voting Rights Act, a power that was once necessary to push back on Jim Crow laws.

But the era of Jim Crow is long gone, and it shouldn’t be up to a politicized DOJ to dictate what election integrity looks like.

The 2020 election was rampant with reports of irregularities. Some of these reports were more accurate than others. But states were right to take appropriate steps to increase the security of their elections in the wake of such reports. And yet, from its first days, the Biden administration has been bent on waging an intimidation campaign against states attempting to bolster election integrity.

The Politicization of the Department of Justice

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Consider Georgia. The midnight ballot dump that pushed Biden ahead of Trump had all the appearances of manipulative ballot stuffing. That was followed by days of uncertainty about who won. Reports soon surfaced of massive ballot harvesting—illegal in Georgia—as well as deeply concerning evidence that Mark Zuckerberg-funded nonprofits had placed personnel in election operations in blue counties with the effect of decreasing signature-matching efforts.

Given the backdrop in which the 2020 election took place—with new and expansive vote-by-mail procedures—it's not surprising that alarms went off and that many citizens questioned the final vote tally. So rather than allow this scenario to repeat itself in future elections, Georgia's Legislature took action, enacting a package of election-reform legislation designed to bolster ballot security.

President Biden denounced these reforms—which, as many commentators noted, made voting easier than in Biden's home state of Delaware—as “Jim Crow 2.0.” The DOJ sued Georgia to block the new law and issued two new guidance documents intended to put states including Georgia on notice of potential violations of federal election laws. It has used similar tactics in Arizona and Texas.

* * *

It is not just political activists who are subject to DOJ intimidation. Attorney General Garland recently issued a guidance document prohibiting DOJ employees from speaking directly to members of Congress. This was plainly in response to at least 14 FBI whistleblowers reaching out to members of Congress—including Ohio Rep. Jim Jordan and Iowa Sen. Chuck Grassley—about misconduct within the DOJ. Garland's action was highly improper, but it pales in comparison to the intimidation of concerned parents at local school board meetings.

On Oct. 4, 2021, Garland issued a memorandum directing the FBI to address “threats” at local school board meetings. This was in response to a request from the National School Boards Association that the DOJ leverage the Patriot Act and other counterterrorism tools to investigate moms and dads who were voicing their displeasure with school policies at local school board meetings.

Despite Garland's sworn testimony denying the use of counterterrorism tools to investigate concerned parents, whistleblower evidence tells a different story.

On Oct. 20, 2021, Carlton Peeples, the deputy assistant director for the FBI's Criminal Investigation Division, sent an email directing FBI personnel to use the tag “EDUOFFICIALS” for all school board-related investigations. Whistleblowers say that the FBI opened investigations into parents in every region of the country. These included an investigation of a “right-wing mom” based on her participation in a “Moms for Liberty” group and personal ownership of a gun. Another investigation was opened when a dad was deemed to “fit the profile of an insurrectionist” after complaining about school mask mandates.

It is time to wake up to the danger.

On Nov. 11, 1762, King George's men had a warrant when they stormed and raided the home of pamphleteer John Entick. They broke open locked doors, boxes, chests, and drawers and seized his private papers and books—all because the Crown suspected Entick of fomenting political opposition against the king. If the FBI's raid on Project Veritas journalists' homes or President Trump's home at Mar-a-Lago teaches us anything, it's that the political oppression of the 18th century remains a threat today. But today, in addition to brute force, our government has the power of the modern surveillance state.

As a graduate of the University of Virginia Law School, I would be remiss in speaking about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights without quoting Thomas Jefferson, who wrote: “The most sacred of the duties of a government [is] to do equal and impartial justice to all its citizens.”

We must find a way to return our Department of Justice to that central principle of American constitutionalism, as it carries out its duties in the name of Lady Liberty.

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Political Action Hours

By Political Action Chair Jennifer Groysman



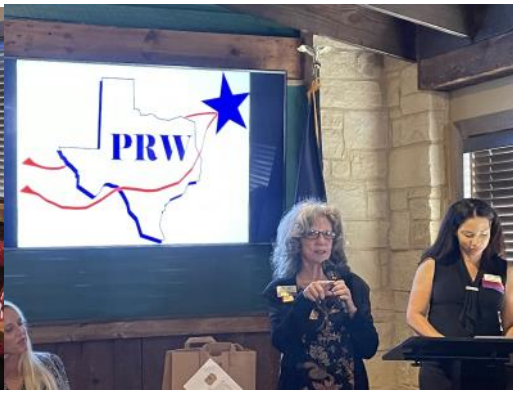
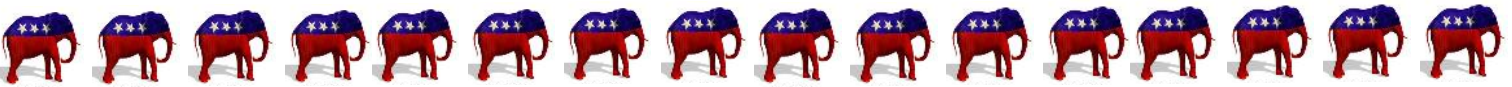
Early voting began on October 20th . If you have not voted yet, please make sure you get to the polls and cast your ballot. Did you know that voting counts as Political Action Hours?

Every Wednesday at HQ you can do phone banking. If you do phone bank, remember to keep track of how many calls you make, and turn them in to me at our general meeting.

Don't forget to turn in your Political Action Hours to me. You can turn in your hours on our website at www.planorepublicanwomen.org

If we work we can keep TX red from the top of the ticket to the bottom. When women work we win!

Keep the challenge going! 10 hours per month!





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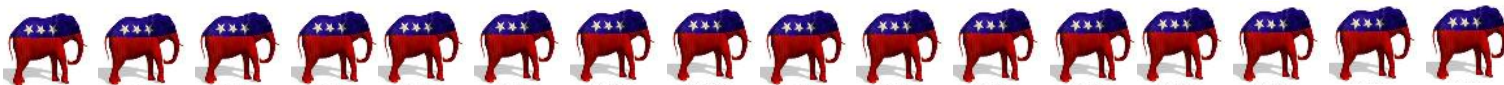
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Membership Update



October kicks off our Annual Membership Drive

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

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

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

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

Memberships:

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

\$45 Full Active Membership with Spouse

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

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

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

\$145 Patron Member with Spouse

Check out the Frequently Asked Questions on our website:

<http://www.planorepublicanwomen.org/frequently-asked-questions.html>

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Jessica Bartnick, 1st. VP Programs

Lisa Babb, 2nd. VP Membership
RSVP@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org

Debby Arrant, 3rd VP Awards

Catherine Gibb, 4th VP, Ways and Means

Semida Voicu, Recording Secretary

Sheila Patterson, Corresponding Secretary

Lynn McCoy, Treasurer



November Birthdays

Member Birthdays:

Gerry Hudman	11/1
Candy Maxey	11/2
Susan Nall	11/6
Valerie Pemberton	11/6
Debby Arrant	11/14
Pam Varney-Terrell	11/15
Ellen Leyrer	11/17
Peggy Gleghorn	11/25
Jennifer Groysman	11/25

Associates & Sponsors Birthdays:

Sophi Rodriguez	11/3
Cathy Knapp	11/8



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_____ \$45 Full Active Membership with Spouse

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

Additional (Optional):

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

TOTAL: _____ Check #: _____

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

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____
Street City Zip code + 4

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

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

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* Email is used for newsletters and other PRW announcements

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P.O. Box 940461
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Plano, TX 75074

11:15 am check-in

11:30 am meeting, lunch and program

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

You do not have to have lunch to attend,

But please RSVP to

rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org

