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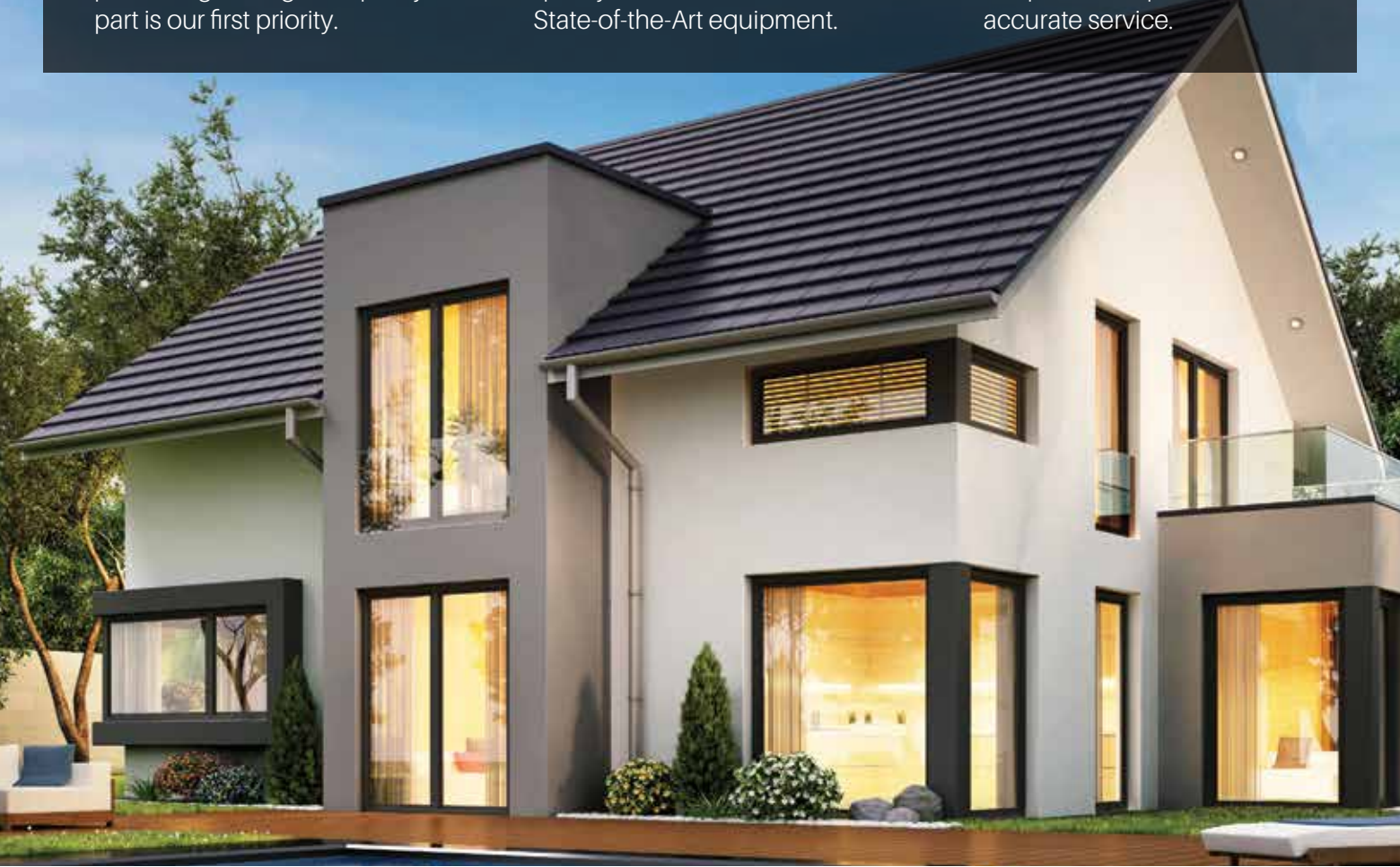
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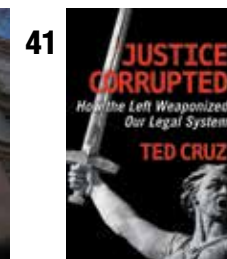
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Was Democracy *Really* on the Ballot?

On November 2, less than a week prior to the midterm elections, President Joe Biden gave a grave speech at Union Station in Washington, D.C., warning that “democracy is on the ballot.”

How so?

To establish the proper tone for his astounding assertion, Biden began by referring to the recent attack on Paul Pelosi, the husband of the speaker of the House. “Where’s Nancy? Where’s Nancy?” the president quoted Pelosi’s assailant saying. He then continued: “Those were the very same words used by the mob when they stormed the United States Capitol on January the 6th.”

According to Biden, this “enraged mob ... had been whipped up into a frenzy by a President repeating over and over again the Big Lie that the election of 2020 had been stolen. It’s a lie that fueled the dangerous rise in political violence and voter intimidation over the past two years.”

Biden also claimed that Trump made this “Big Lie an article of faith in the MAGA Republican Party,” that the MAGA wing of the GOP is the party’s “driving force,” and that MAGA “is trying to succeed where they failed in 2020 to suppress the rights of voters and subvert the electoral system itself.”

He even warned that “it’s estimated that there are more than 300 election deniers on the ballot all across America this year.” “Election deniers,” of course, is the phrase that Biden, other politicians, and the major media are now employing to besmirch anyone who dared question the 2020 election results and who wants to restore election integrity.

Outrageous Remarks

Biden’s remarks were outrageous on several levels.

First of all, Paul Pelosi’s assailant by no means represents MAGA Republicans, and neither do the few miscreants who engaged in violence on January 6, 2021. Second, in his speech the president overlooked left-wing political violence, from the rioting that occurred in hundreds of cities across the country in the wake of George Floyd’s death to the attacks on pro-life pregnancy centers and

churches in the wake of the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*. Third, there is plenty of evidence of voting irregularities in the 2020 presidential election to justify questioning the results of that election, despite Biden’s claim that “there is no election in our history that we can be more certain of its results.” Fourth, it does not make sense to worry (as Biden did in his speech) that MAGA Republicans can “suppress the rights of voters,” or to claim (as many leftists have) that Putin put Trump in the White House to begin with, in 2016, while labeling those who question other election results “election deniers.” Fifth, the notion that voting for certain candidates threatens democracy is ludicrous on its face. Isn’t democracy about majority rule? If the majority votes contrary to how Biden and others of his ilk want them to vote, how is that anti-democracy?

A Republic, Not a Democracy

And sixth, the United States is not, and was never intended to be, a democracy. In fact, the Founding Fathers opposed democracy. To cite just one example, James Madison, the Father of the U.S. Constitution, warned in *The Federalist*, No. 10: “Democracies have ever been spectacles of turbulence and contention; have ever been found incompatible with personal security or the rights of property; and have in general been as short in their lives as they have been violent in their deaths.”

The Founding Fathers established a constitutional republic, and the difference between the republic they gave us and the democracy others falsely claim we have is fundamental. A republic is a government of law that limits governmental powers and protects the rights of the people. A democracy is a government of men where the majority rules, even if that rule means violating basic rights.

Our view of the midterm elections (see page 10) is very different from Biden’s or the major media’s. But this should not surprise, since our analysis is not based on the false claim that democracy was on the ballot nor that America is a democracy.

— Gary Benoit

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Two More Oregon Counties Vote to Study a Move to Idaho

Upset with being ignored by Oregon's population centers whose far-left politics dominate the state, two additional rural Oregon counties have voted to study the possibility of a move to neighboring Idaho. Both Morrow and Wheeler counties have voted to join the Greater Idaho campaign, which posits that Oregon east of the Cascade mountains fits better socially and politically with the Gem State. The measures passed easily, with nearly 60 percent of both counties agreeing to study the move.

Morrow and Wheeler became the 10th and 11th eastern Oregon counties to approve a plan to study a possible move to Idaho. The Greater Idaho movement has targeted 15 Oregon counties to switch states; Crook, Gilliam, and Umatilla counties have not yet agreed to put an advisory question on the ballot.

Greater Idaho organizers claim that they have gained enough signatures for Wallowa County, in the extreme northeast portion of the state, to be the next county to consider the move.

Proponents of a move to Idaho believe that the left-wing population centers in Portland, Salem, Eugene, and other areas of western Oregon have an unfair advantage electorally.

"The voters of western Oregon overwhelmingly passed a ballot measure that will increase the power of the Democrat majority to run roughshod over objections by legislative minorities. This will prevent us from blocking the worst mistakes the Legislature has tried to make in the past, such as a carbon cap that would

hobble eastern Oregon livelihoods," said Greater Idaho leader Mike McCarter on November 9.

Regardless of whether Greater Idaho achieves its goal to have all 15 counties study and approve a request to move to Idaho, the movement still faces two hurdles: The Oregon and Idaho state legislatures would have to approve the move; and they would be required to get the federal government's approval.



Sam Beebe/Wikimedia Commons

Survey: 42 Percent of Gen Z Diagnosed With a Mental-health Condition

Our government's reaction to Covid-19 — with lockdowns, mask mandates, and other draconian policies — appears to be largely responsible for the current mental-health conditions of Generation Z (born 1996-2012). A new survey has revealed that an astonishing 42 percent of these young people have been diagnosed with a mental-health condition.

The September 2022 survey of over 1,000 Gen Zers by Harmony Healthcare IT found that these young adults began dealing with mental-health problems in the months immediately following the start of the global pandemic in the spring of 2020. A staggering percentage of young adults shared that they were

diagnosed with anxiety, depression, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) during the pandemic.

The survey reported, "Almost 3 in 4 Gen Zers say the pandemic has negatively impacted their mental health. On top of day-to-day mental health struggles, many are concerned and unsure about what lies ahead for them."

Close to a third of Gen Zers rated their overall mental health as "bad" in 2022. One out of four reported having more bad days than good each month, with an average of about 10 tough mental-health days in the span of one month.

The survey also revealed, "More than two in five have a diagnosed mental health condition. Of those, more than one out of four (26%) were diagnosed during the pandemic (from March 2020 or later). The biggest mental health issue Gen Z deals with is anxiety. Nine out of ten Gen Z with diagnosed mental health conditions struggle with anxiety, and nearly eight out of ten (78%) are battling depression."

Most concerning was that Gen Z is quite worried about the future. "Nearly 90% of Gen Z does not feel like their generation has been set up for success, and 75% feel they have a disadvantage compared to other generations."

The question now is how Gen Z will move forward in handling their future, as they will one day be leaders with the opportunity to change our world, hopefully for the better.



SDI Productions/Stock/Getty Images Plus

Biden Gets WaPo “Bottomless Pinocchio” Award

President Joe Biden earned his first *Washington Post* “Bottomless Pinocchio” award for repeating a claim the left-wing paper had previously debunked, while other recent Biden “gaffes” were also put under fact-checker Glenn Kessler’s microscope November 7.

Actually, one of Biden’s recent claims, which he has been making for years, had already merited a full fact-check within a month of his inauguration. Specifically, the president said on November 3 that he had spent “more time with [Chinese President] Xi Jinping than any other head of state,” having “traveled 17,000 miles with him.”

In February 2021, however, Kessler had debunked that claim. “There is no evidence Biden traveled that much with Xi ... and even if we added up the miles Biden flew to see Xi, it still did not total 17,000 miles,” he penned November 7. “The White House could not offer an explanation for that number either.”

At the time, Kessler awarded the claim Three Pinocchios. But since Biden has repeated it at least 20 times despite its having been publicly debunked, it has been upgraded to a Bottomless Pinocchio, which Kessler describes as “false or misleading statements repeated so often that they [become] a form of propaganda.”

Kessler next examined Biden’s October 27 assertion that “the most common price of gas in America” was “over \$5 when I took office.” According to the Energy Information Administra-

tion, the average gas price was around \$2.48 per gallon the week of Biden’s inauguration.

In an October 23 appearance, Biden said, “You are probably aware that I just signed a law” forgiving student-loan debt. “I got it passed by a vote or two,” he added. “But,” Kessler pointed out, “he never presented such a proposal for Congress to consider.” Instead, his administration simply invented a new interpretation of an existing law to allow the Secretary of Education to forgive student-loan debt.

Kessler’s analysis merely scratches the surface of Biden’s misstatements. Let’s see how many more Pinocchios, bottomless or otherwise, Biden can rack up before vacating 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.



AP Images

“Ministry of Truth” Still Operating

Constitutionalist Americans cheered the rapid “demise” of the Orwellian “Ministry of Truth,” but it appears the celebration may have come too soon.

According to leaked documents obtained October 31 by journalists Ken Klippenstein and Lee Fang at The Intercept, the Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) supposedly short-lived Disinformation Governance Board (DGB) is not defunct, as the public had come to believe. Rather, it has simply been renamed and reorganized, and will continue to exert a censoring presence on speech in America.



U.S. Department of Homeland Security

The DGB was the subject of widespread public scrutiny from the moment it was announced on April 27. Only three weeks later, the board was shelved and its appointed chief, Nina Jankowicz, resigned.

Once DHS head Alejandro Mayorkas supposedly closed the DGB permanently in August, it appeared the story was over. But leaked documents from DHS’s Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) paint a different picture.

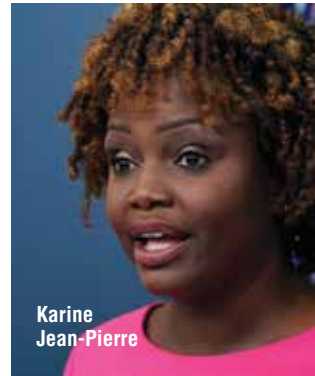
The Intercept reports about CISA’s goals on the disinformation front: “In June, the same DHS advisory committee of CISA — which includes Twitter head of legal policy, trust, and safety Vijaya Gadde and University of Washington professor Kate Starbird — drafted a report to the CISA director calling for an expansive role for the agency in shaping the ‘information ecosystem.’ The report called on the agency to closely monitor ‘social media platforms of all sizes, mainstream media, cable news, hyper partisan media, talk radio and other online resources.’ They argued that the agency needed to take steps to halt the ‘spread of false and misleading information,’ with a focus on information that undermines ‘key democratic institutions, such as the courts, or ... other sectors such as the financial system, or public health measures.’”

It should have been suspected that the administration would preserve the unconstitutional powers of the DGB under the deceptive guise of another agency. When tyrants grab hold of power, they never let it go willingly. ■

Asked to Explain FBI Arresting Pro-life Americans, White House Press Secretary Claimed the Truth Was a Lie

“Clearly that’s not true. It’s false. It’s a lie.”

After White House Press Secretary **Karine Jean-Pierre** issued her response, journalist Steven Ertelt accused her of lying because, in 2022 alone, there have been at least 22 peaceful pro-life activists indicted under the FACE (Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances) Act. The most egregious incident involved armed FBI agents awakening pro-life advocate Mark Houck and his entire family, including crying young children, at their home near Philadelphia. Houck had previously been arrested for violating the FACE law but was released when the charge against him was considered overreach and thrown out of court.

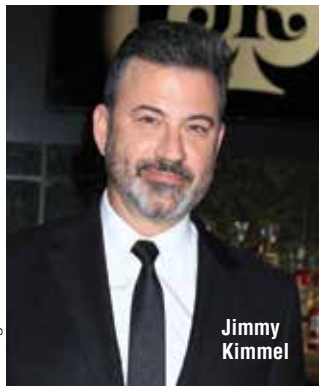


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Comedian Claims He Lost More Than Half His Fans Because of His Anti-Trump “Humor”

“I have lost half of my fans — maybe more than that. Ten years ago among Republicans, I was the most popular talk show host.”

ABC executives suggested years ago that **Jimmy Kimmel** should discard some of his anti-Trump jokes. He ignored their urging even as he acknowledged that doing so would help to maintain his excellent ratings. He admits that abusing Trump’s image and conduct has cost him dearly.



AP Images

He Supplied a Good Example of the Real-life Consequences of Inflation

“In my native New York City, I went for my usual breakfast of eggs, turkey bacon, and a toasted Jewish-style English muffin. It cost \$19.10. The next morning, I had the identical breakfast — and then it cost \$21.10. That’s inflation.”

Journalist **Eric Margolis** explained that the culprit causing what seemed to be a rise in prices was government itself. He hopes that many more Americans will begin to understand that flooding the nation with unbacked paper money is “a form of taxation” that lowers the value of all money and eventually invites government controllers to arrive “wrapped in the stars and stripes and carrying a Bible.”

Federal Judge Rules Student Loan Forgiveness Plan Unlawful

“In this country, we are not ruled by an all-powerful executive with a pen and a phone. Instead, we are ruled by a Constitution that provides for three distinct and independent branches of government.”

Issuing his ruling from his post in Texas, Trump-appointed U.S. District Judge **Mark Pittman** delivered a stunning blow to the Biden plan.

Conservative Economists Claim Average Americans Lost Heavily From Their Retirement Savings During Biden’s Presidency

“A peek into the average 401(k) plan will ruin your whole day, week and month.”

In their report published by the New York Post, economists **Stephen Moore** and **E.J. Antoni** warned readers that the average American who has been saving for the future has lost \$34,000 during the past two years of the Biden presidency.

Liberal Media’s Stressing Joe Biden’s Frequent Gaffs Makes a GOP Congressman Wonder

“I’m suspicious of the *New York Times*’ motivation for printing the truth about Biden. It’s out of character for them. Perhaps blaming him and his gaffes is the beginning of the Left’s effort to replace him with a different nominee in 2024.”

Known for his political conservatism and forthrightness, Representative **Thomas Massie** (R-Ky.) is rightly suspicious of The New York Times and its recent willingness to air some of the numerous Biden deficiencies. ■



AP Images

— COMPILED BY JOHN F. MCMANUS

WHAT **HAPPENED** TO THE **RED WAVE?**



According to both liberal Democrats and neoconservative Republicans, MAGA is to blame for the disappointing midterm election results. But the truth is very different.

by Steve Bonta

A red ripple? Perhaps. A red wave? Definitely not.

Despite two years of appalling leadership by the Biden administration and an ultra-radicalized Democratic Party, election results for what was touted by the likes of Newt Gingrich as possibly the biggest Republican victory in a century were disappointing, to say the least. Not only did the GOP fail to pick up the net one seat required to take control of the Senate, they actually lost an open seat in Pennsylvania, and, as of this writing, may or may not retain 50 seats, pending the runoff election results in Georgia. Meanwhile, the GOP has barely taken control of the House, though by far less than the 20- to 40-vote majority anticipated by most of the polling punditry. As a visibly disappointed Senator Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) told NBC News late at night on Election Day, when the contours of this election were first becoming clear, “definitely not a Republican wave, that is for darn sure.”

Dems’ Bragging Rights

No matter how the final results play out, bragging rights have been claimed by the Democrats. After all, despite two years of rising inflation, extreme radical social-justice policymaking, relentless attacks on the half of America that supported Trump, destructive energy policies, and all-around executive ineptitude, the Democrats not only held onto their razor-thin control of the Senate, they managed to get Pennsylvania’s incoherent John Fetterman elected over Trump-backed Mehmet Oz, flipping that crucial Senate seat, and both defended and flipped a significant number of House seats that they were expected to lose. Meanwhile, GOP darling Mayra Flores, who turned heads last June when she won a special House election in one of Texas’ most blue districts, was promptly unseated by Democratic challenger Vicente Gonzalez, putting an end to a short-lived fairy-tale candidacy and calling into question the widely-circulated narrative that Hispanics are abandoning the radicalized Democratic Party in droves.

Steve Bonta is executive senior editor of The New American.

Despite two years of appalling leadership by the Biden administration and an ultra-radicalized Democratic Party, election results for what was touted by the likes of Newt Gingrich as possibly the biggest Republican victory in a century were disappointing, to say the least.



Hurry up and wait: In many precincts, voters faced long lines and hours-long waits in order to cast ballots in person in the 2022 elections. Under such conditions, in-person voting is seriously disincentivized, creating a pretext for making drop boxes and mail-in ballots permanent.

In a remarkable demographic swing, New England’s electoral map in 2022 has been turned completely blue, that entire region having failed to send a single GOP candidate to Congress. This makes New England by far the most left-leaning region in the country, as other areas, including the Pacific Coast and the Mid-Atlantic states, both left-leaning Democratic strongholds, still sent significant numbers of Republicans to Congress.

As for the notorious “Squad” members led by the likes of AOC, Rashida Tlaib, and Ilhan Omar, they not only cruised to reelection but added significantly to their numbers with the election of at least four more like-minded young Marxists masquerading as progressives and

social-justice warriors. In Texas, Greg Casar won resoundingly in a Democratic district stretching from San Antonio to Austin. The “labor organizer” was endorsed by AOC, who touted his credentials as a supporter of open borders. In Florida, Maxwell Frost, who was born in 1996 and claims to be the first Generation Z member of Congress, has pledged to “end gun violence, win Medicare For All, transform our racist criminal justice system, and end the climate crisis.” Frost’s website touts his anti-gun and pro-abortion activism, including his successful lobbying of President Biden and congressional Democrats to end the Hyde Amendment, which until 2022 prohibited the use of federal funding, such as Medic-

One outcome of the underwhelming GOP performance is the chorus of voices, urged on by a triumphalist media establishment, that are now blaming Trump for the poor showing. Several prominent Trump-endorsed candidates, such as GOP Senate candidate Mehmet Oz and gubernatorial candidate Doug Mastriano in Pennsylvania, lost embarrassingly.

aid, to pay for abortions. Summer Lee, a self-proclaimed “dedicated organizer, activist, and advocate for social justice” and Pennsylvania state legislator, successfully flipped one of 11 GOP-held seats. And in Illinois, Delia Ramirez, the daughter of Guatemalan immigrants, has pledged “to fight for the rights of all working families struggling to survive, whether it be housing justice, fully funding public schools, women’s reproductive rights, or Medicare for all.”

At the state level, too, Democrats ap-

pear to have made significant gains in some key regions. In the Pennsylvania Legislature, for example, the GOP has lost at least 12 House seats, with one district, which did not even bother to run a Republican candidate, overwhelmingly electing a Democrat who passed away in early October. The composition of the Pennsylvania House could result in a tie and trigger a crisis over the selection of speaker.

Meanwhile, well-funded Democrat Robert Shapiro easily defeated Doug

Mastriano for the Pennsylvania governor’s seat. As a state senator, Mastriano worked hard to expose widespread voting irregularities in the 2020 presidential election in his state and for his effort was branded an “election denier” by the major media. In other gubernatorial races, MAGA favorite Kari Lake, who also was besmirched as an election denier, was defeated by lackluster Democratic candidate Katie Hobbs in Arizona after a week of vote tallying. In Kansas, a state won handily by Trump and where the governorship was regarded as a top Republican pickup opportunity, Democratic incumbent Laura Kelley defeated Republican challenger Derek Schmidt in a closely contested race that, like many other cliffhangers this election, ultimately broke the Democrats’ way.

Some GOP Gains

On the other hand, the GOP made gains in some unexpected places, picking up seats in New York State, including a district on Long Island won by Democrat Tom Suozzi by 17 points in 2020. The winner, openly homosexual Republican George Santos, triumphed over openly homosexual Democrat Robert Zimmerman, marking the first-ever congressional race pitting two openly homosexual candidates against one another. Also in New York, Republican Michael Lawler won a historic upset victory over incumbent Sean Patrick Maloney, a prominent Democrat who led the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.

In Florida, the GOP now controls every state executive office, and voters reelected both Governor Ron DeSantis and Senator Marco Rubio by resounding majorities.

Utah’s Senator Mike Lee, one of the Senate’s most reliable constitutionalists, was reelected for a third term despite strong opposition from some in Utah’s RINO (Republican in Name Only) establishment and a non-endorsement from fellow Utah GOP Senator Mitt Romney.

In Wisconsin, incumbent GOP Senator Ron Johnson, a staunch opponent of Covid vaccine mandates, survived a strong challenge by Democrat Mandela Barnes, while former Navy SEAL Derrick Van Orden flipped Wisconsin’s 3rd Congressional District red for the first time in 26 years.



AP Images

The man in black: Pennsylvania’s Senator-elect John Fetterman is just one of a host of grotesquely radical candidates elected by the Democrats this year.

And in Iowa, Republican Zach Nunn ousted Democrat Cindy Axne, the only Democrat-held seat in Iowa, which Axne won by a narrow margin in 2018.

In historically Democratic south Texas, Monica de la Cruz became the first-ever Republican to win District 15, an improbably serpentine district stretching from the east side of San Antonio all the way to the Mexican border.

In general, though, it appears that, with the exception of DeSantis' Florida, the Latino vote is still overwhelmingly Democratic from Texas to California, although the GOP has made some inroads, mostly among socially conservative Hispanics.

Media Chorus: Blame Trump!

One outcome of the underwhelming GOP performance is the chorus of voices, urged on by a triumphalist media establishment, that are now blaming Trump for the poor showing. Several prominent Trump-endorsed candidates, such as GOP Senate candidate Mehmet Oz and gubernatorial candidate Doug Mastriano in Pennsylvania, lost embarrassingly, while the only candidate that Trump badmouthed immediately prior to the election, Florida's Ron DeSantis, posted an overwhelming win and is now being touted as the favorite for the GOP nomination in 2024. Meanwhile, Georgia's Republican establishment governor Brian Kemp, with whom Trump feuded over the 2020 election results, defeated perennial radical Democratic candidate and all-around malcontent Stacey Abrams for the second time.

While we hate to give the mainstream news media too much credit, it is undeniably true that Trump's proclivity for bad-mouthing fellow conservative Republicans has alienated some on the Right, not all of them RINOs and neocons.

So what is going on across the fruited plain? Part of the problem, where the Senate was concerned, was the simple electoral math. This year, the GOP had to defend 20 seats, as opposed to only 14 for the Democrats, meaning that, in addition to keeping those 20 seats red, the Republicans would have had to flip at least one Democratic seat — not an impossibility, given the current mood across the country, but mathematically far less likely than what actually happened.



AP Images

Mitch-management: Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell is being accused of deliberately withholding funds from needy GOP senatorial candidates in Arizona, Nevada, and New Hampshire, while squandering millions to support RINO candidates in Alaska and Colorado.

GOP Party Leaders Backed RINOS, not MAGA

Moreover, as Fox News commentator Mark Levin pointed out, the Senate Leadership Fund under Mitch McConnell made some very poor decisions, opting, for example, to pour millions into RINO Lisa Murkowski's race in Alaska against a much-more-conservative GOP candidate, in a race the GOP was guaranteed to win one way or the other — while withholding funding from Arizona's GOP senatorial candidate Blake Masters. Money was poured into the RINO candidate in Colorado — who lost resoundingly — while being withdrawn from much-less-establishmentarian candidates in both New Hampshire and Nevada.

From a fund that held well in excess of \$100 million, not a single cent was given to Masters, while \$6 million was unexpectedly withdrawn from New Hampshire candidate Don Bolduc, a retired brigadier general, in the crucial final week of the campaign. Millions of dollars from the fund were poured into the ill-fated campaign of Colorado's Joe O'Dea. As for the Alaska misadventure, nearly \$9 million of the fund was spent

attacking the more conservative of the two GOP candidates on the ballot for senator — “because McConnell wanted Lisa Murkowski to win. She's a sure vote for him in the majority,” Levin observed tartly. “They interfered in the decision-making process of the people of Alaska, the Republican Party of Alaska, and blew nine million dollars.” Levin went on to point out that the McConnell-led GOP establishment did exactly the same thing in 2010 against the Tea Party movement.

None of this is surprising to longtime RINO-watchers. The hostility of the GOP establishment toward any stirring of popular discontent — be it a Reagan Revolution, a Tea Party, a Ron Paul candidacy, or a MAGA movement — is a long-established fact. They have long shown a preference for sabotaging their own party's chances for a governing majority in Congress rather than lose their own tenuous control over GOP affairs. That said, the electoral math in 2024, when the Democrats will have to defend 23 seats as against only 10 for the GOP, bodes much more in favor of a possible “red wave.” But even then, no one should

underestimate the ability of GOP “leadership” to deep-six their own party.

House and state electoral results are much harder to explain in such terms, however. As of this writing, the GOP appears to lead in enough districts to put them barely past 218. Regardless, Democrats will see these unexpectedly favorable midterm results as a referendum on their radical and ruinous socioeconomic policies.

Indeed, the Democrats may not be entirely mistaken. The 2022 elections have yielded the most favorable results for the party in power in many decades. Typically, the party controlling the White House loses a significant number of seats in a midterm election, and a party controlling the White House and both houses of Congress even more so. But in defiance of expectations and recent precedent, the Democrats have succeeded in flipping many GOP seats (something they were unable to do in 2010 and 2020, for example), and also elected an unusual number of extreme radical candidates, such as Pennsylvania’s John Fetterman and many soon-to-be Democratic House freshmen.

The GOP’s Milquetoast Message

It is impossible not to conclude from this election that a significant portion of the voting public is either indifferent to or outright supportive of the economic, cultural, political, and moral lunacy of the Biden administration and its Marxist myrmidons dominating Democratic Party policymaking at the federal and state level. Confident predictions of a “red wave” were predicated at least in part on the commonsense assumption that most people are appalled by the chaos on our southern border, by the willful destruction of our energy sector, by our disorganized and utterly callous withdrawal from Afghanistan, by vertiginous levels of consumer price inflation not seen in more than 40 years, and by all of the extremist social agenda items, from drag-queen culture to “trans” activism.

As an instructive contrast, the elections of 2010, midway through President Obama’s first term, yielded very different results. At that time, the “Tea Party” movement, inspired in large measure by then-Congressman Ron Paul’s 2008 presidential campaign, took on the Democrats and the GOP party establishment alike in leading the charge for genuine

reform in the direction of smaller, constitutional federal government. The Tea Partiers were reviled across the mainstream media by the bipartisan punditry, Beltway insiders who viewed the movement as a dangerous threat to the political status quo.

The result? Republicans took control of the House, winning 63 House seats, and made huge gains in the Senate, picking up six seats. The message of the Ron Paul movement at that time was, as Ron Paul has recently reminded us, “restoring constitutional government in all areas, ending our interventionist foreign policy, and changing our monetary policy by auditing and ending the Federal Reserve,” while the Tea Party focused its message on opposition to the 2008 bank bailouts. The two movements became largely harmonized by shared opposition on a range of issues.

“Many members of both groups,” Paul wrote recently, “fought for auditing and ending the Fed, ending bailouts, and preventing Congress from passing Obamacare.” This convergence of interests, in combination, perhaps, with an avoidance of touchy social issues, produced the 2010 Republican victories, a bona-fide “red wave” if there ever was one. “Many Republican candidates in 2010 appealed to Tea Party voters by not just promising to repeal Obamacare,” Dr. Paul observed. “They also promised to work to restore limited, constitutional, fiscally responsible government in all areas. In contrast, in 2022 the average Republican candidate offered little in the way of a substantive agenda. In fact, few Republicans called for reversing President Biden’s massive spending increases, much less for restoring the federal government to its constitutional limitations.”

Unfortunately, the story of the 2010 elections did not end happily. Once in Congress, many newly elected Republicans began compromising with the Big Government agenda of both the Democrats and RINOs who still controlled policymaking on Capitol Hill. Debt and spending continued to soar, in spite of GOP controls over House spending, and did not slow down under the Trump administration. Small wonder that Americans genuinely sick of Big Government have come to regard the promises of the GOP with narrow suspicion!



Falling short: Firebrand Trump supporter Kari Lake fell just short of victory in Arizona’s gubernatorial race — although the ballots will likely be recounted.

AP Images

Bipartisan Formula for Control

Many grassroots conservatives are slowly coming to the realization that partisan wrangling is not the road to national redemption. While the GOP at the grassroots has increasingly become the default home for Americanists and conservatives alike, along with the occasional Rand Paul or Thomas Massie they manage to send to Congress, procedural control over the GOP at the national level — the ability to determine how discretionary funds such as the Senate Leadership Fund are spent, as well as the power to determine who gets to chair committees and which bills are allowed to advance — still rests firmly with a handful of establishment Republicans, such as Senate GOP leader Mitch McConnell. These RINOs are joined at the hip not only with Big Business and its legions of lobbyists, but also with establishment Democrats. While AOC and “the Squad” may differ radically from the GOP Liberty Caucus, the differences between a Chuck Schumer and a Mitch McConnell are negligible.

All this is in keeping with the bipartisan formula for elite control articulated by establishment historian Carroll Quigley:

The argument that the two parties should represent opposed ideals and policies, one, perhaps, of the Right and the other of the Left, is a foolish idea acceptable only to the doctrinaire and academic thinkers. Instead, the two parties should be almost identical, so that the American people can “throw the rascals out” at any election without leading to any profound or extreme shifts in policy.... Either party in office becomes in time corrupt, tired, unenterprising, and vigorless. Then it should be possible to replace it, every four years if necessary, by the other party, which will be none of these things but will still pursue, with new vigor, approximately the same basic policies.

Because of this control at the apex of both major political parties, the solution is not, and never has been, about electing Republicans (or, for that matter, Democrats). It is about creating a more informed electorate so that constitutional-

Americans are now at a critical crossroads, and the choice they face could not be starker. The road to ruin being urged on us by the radical Left is not only the proverbial road to serfdom, but also to economic, social, and political collapse, with violence and tyranny following in its wake.



AP Images

Doin' the wave: Despite disappointing national results, red waves showed up in several states, most notably Ron DeSantis' Florida, where various blue areas turned red and where both DeSantis and Senator Marco Rubio were reelected by commanding margins.

ists and Americanists, of whatever party, can be elected.

Election Irregularities

That said, electing constitutionalists will become an ever-steeper hill to climb unless the current electoral system is reformed. Since the current system was put in place in 2020 using Covid as a convenient pretext, Election Day has become election season, with voting carried out days and even weeks before Election Day, conveniently anonymized by the postal service and drop boxes, while the

tabulation of votes takes days and even weeks subsequent to the closing of the polls. Public skepticism in many precincts continues to be fanned by suspicious patterns of voting that consistently appear to favor Democrats over “extremist” Republican candidates, as with, for example, the ongoing charade in Maricopa County, Arizona, where massive problems with voting machines on Election Day appear to have discouraged many voters from standing in line for hours, and the counting was still ongoing a week after the election.



Siphotography/iStock/Getty Images Plus

Adding to the widespread distrust are many curious electoral statistics, such as the fact that, although Democrats only made up 17 percent of voters in Maricopa County on Election Day, as against 52 percent Republicans, Democratic gubernatorial candidate Katie Hobbs managed to win every ballot drop in Maricopa County except two, finally defeating Republican Kari Lake after a week of counting. While such anomalies may not constitute proof positive of electoral fraud, neither do they inspire the voting public with confidence in the system. Voting by mail and any other type of balloting other than in person have always been recognized as open invitations for fraud, while voting by machine instead of paper ballot is fraught with risks, as the Maricopa County fiasco showed yet again.

The Way Forward

To remedy such problems, state legislatures need to reassert their constitution-

ally protected responsibility to set proper election standards and resist the movement to establish statutory federal election standards. As John Birch Society CEO Bill Hahn observed, "There has been a push for a while to try to nationalize elections, so there are certain laws [setting national election standards] that have already been passed, that have to be reversed. And we need to work through the states to get the electoral system shored up so that we don't have these problems associated with voting by machine, by drop box, and by mail. Everything is local and has to be worked on at a state level."

What is the way forward for America? Even though the electoral math is much more favorable for the Re-

Crossroads: America must soon choose a course between the road to renewal and the road to serfdom.

publicans in 2024, when the Democrats will have to defend 23 seats in the Senate, the fact remains that the ultra-radical Left has been the real winner for the last three elections. Each electoral cycle seems to yield more and more support for the leftist counterculture and its civilization-destroying agenda. In the long run, America cannot survive the ongoing corrosion of her culture and moral values — which is precisely what the radical Left has always aimed at. Nor can she long survive the systematic degradation of electoral integrity and checks on federal power. The 2022 elections have been a wake-up call for action at the state level to return to verifiable voting procedures, for principled focus on limiting government power and reining in government spending, and for national moral renewal.

Americans are now at a critical crossroads, and the choice they face could not be starker. The road to national renewal leads to greater freedom, prosperity, and civic virtue. That road is the road also to peace, order, and progress. On the other hand, the road to ruin being urged on us by the radical Left is not only the proverbial road to serfdom, but also to economic, social, and political collapse, with violence and tyranny following in its wake. It is a road whose early rutted passages we have already begun to explore, egged on by the frenetic rhetoric of the Left. We must recognize where this road will lead, and summon the national will to choose the better path, the path chosen by our noble Founders and our pioneer ancestors. If we do, events such as this year's elections will end up being a mere bump in the road to a better national future. ■



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Beaten for Being CONSERVATIVE

It is becoming increasingly dangerous in America today
to engage in conservative political activism.



@marcorubio/Instagram

by Annalisa Pesek

The much-anticipated red wave that swept through Florida during the November 8 midterm elections may not have been replicated in other areas of the country, but in the Sunshine State it was huge. The historically Democratic stronghold Miami-Dade County, for example, the most populous in the state, flipped red with Republican incumbent Marco Rubio defeating Democrat Val Demings by a whopping 9.5 points in the U.S. Senate race.

Yes, voters turned out for leaders who delivered on their promises, and the overwhelming victory was in large part owing to the

Annalisa Pesek is a writer, editor, and librarian. She joins The New American after spending nearly a decade in New York publishing.

Raw politics: GOP canvasser Chris Monzon was attacked by two suspects who said Republicans weren't welcome in their neighborhood.

hard work of canvassers for the Republican Party. Unfortunately for one of those dedicated workers, a type of Orwellian horror story is unfolding.

Twenty-seven-year-old Christopher Monzon, of Hialeah, Florida, was brutally beaten by street thugs in the early evening hours of October 23 while canvassing for Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and Senator Marco Rubio, and is now being called a “white supremacist” and “Neo-Nazi” by the mainstream media.

Headlines that followed the attack include “Florida GOP Paid Thousands To Far-Right Charlottesville Attendee”; “Democrats Call on Marco Rubio to Fire Christopher Monzon”; “Rubio Canvasser Who Was Beaten Reportedly Linked to White Supremacists”; and “‘My son has never voted’: Mom rejects Rubio’s claim that politics motivated Hialeah attack.”

Clearly the attack was not a robbery, and Monzon did not know his attackers. It was politically motivated, he explained in a phone interview with *The New American*. He added that, as a paid field organizer for the Republican Party of Florida, handing out flyers at homes of non-registered Republicans was not his job, and that the neighborhood where he was attacked was a “safe suburb” of east Hialeah, a Republican stronghold just northwest of Miami.

“The only reason they attacked me was because I was a Republican. They attacked me because I was a Republican canvasser. Those are the facts, and that is what we have to focus on,” said Monzon. “I am a man who loves this country. I am a Hialeah Republican. All I want is for the truth to get out! All I want is for justice to be done. All I want is for people to be able to speak freely and express their views freely.”

In a sworn statement to police, Monzon said that while wrapping up his shift, he was blocked on the public sidewalk by Javier Jesus Lopez, age 22, and Jonathan Alexander Casanova, age 26, who told him, “Hey, you can’t pass through here. We don’t want you Republicans in my neighborhood.... We don’t want you Republicans anywhere around here. You gotta go.”

Hialeah Police Department Sergeant Jose Torres confirmed to the *Miami Herald* that “He [Monzon] was wearing a political shirt and passing out political items,” but “from the initial find-

ings, we haven't been able to determine if it's politically motivated or not."

Monzon claims when he refused to leave, the men threatened to "pump him full of lead" and sic their German shepherds on him. The altercation allegedly escalated from a verbal argument to a physical brawl, with Lopez's father, who has not been arrested, muscling Monzon to the ground, while Casanova and Lopez landed heavy blows to his head and body.

"It was unreal to me that after all that, after I'm already basically beaten pretty badly, that they weren't done yet, that they actually wanted to finish me off and wanted to kill me," said Monzon. "At that point, I was convinced that was it." Good Samaritan neighbors then called the police and broke up the fight.

Lopez and Casanova, both with criminal pasts, were arrested, with Lopez taken into custody at the scene and Casanova being apprehended two days later. They face multiple felony charges, including aggravated battery, aggravated assault, and inflicting great bodily harm. Both pleaded not guilty and were released from jail on bond pending a trial date set for January 23.

Monzon suffered multiple facial and jaw fractures that landed him in the hospital for several days. The attack drew na-

tional attention after Senator Rubio tweeted about the incident, calling the suspects "animals" and blasting the media for its biased treatment of Monzon.

"When a Republican volunteer is savagely beaten, the traditional media treats the victim as the criminal and the criminal as a nice young man who likes fishing & just made a mistake," he wrote on Twitter.

Fighting the Media Mob

Raised by a Cuban mother and an American father, Monzon was proud of his country from an early age. He was taught to be grateful for our uniquely American freedoms. Among his heroes is Jose Marti, a 19th-century Cuban nationalist, poet, and soldier who was a prominent figure in the liberation of Cuba and who died fighting in the final war for Cuban independence from Spain in 1895.

Today Monzon is making headlines not for being the victim of a senseless and barbaric attack, but as an accused "white supremacist" and "Neo-Nazi," as the legacy media has obsessively and relentlessly pursued the details of his past, particularly his former participation in the white nationalist League of the South.

But glossed over is that in 2018, Monzon publicly denounced the beliefs of the League of the South, admitting his affiliation was

"wrong" and something he "regrets deeply."

Fighting the media mob to expose the truth, Monzon faces intense scrutiny, while his attackers, who allegedly kicked him "around like a soccer ball" before siccing dogs on him, remain largely unknown to the public.

During a November 7 court hearing, for example, which sprung Lopez from jail on a \$15,000 bond, the mainstream media skimmed over Lopez while zeroing in on Monzon's testimony and comment of "appreciation" for an event hosted by the Proud Boys in his support.

At the hearing, Miami-Dade County Court Judge Zachary James ruled as a true progressive, stating the facts of the crime did not warrant pre-trial detention for Lopez and Casanova. "Aggravated battery and aggravated assault are not uncommon crimes in Miami," said James, "and irrespective of the state's reasons of seeking pre-trial detention here ... it is imperative that this court treat similarly situated defendants equally."

Monzon cautioned in a brief interview with reporters that more than likely these "very dangerous individuals" would commit "further crimes."

According to Miami-Dade County police records, Javier Jesus Lopez boasts a lengthy rap sheet of outstanding warrants and previous arrests for armed burglary, burglary of an unoccupied dwelling, second- and third-degree grand theft, and criminal mischief.

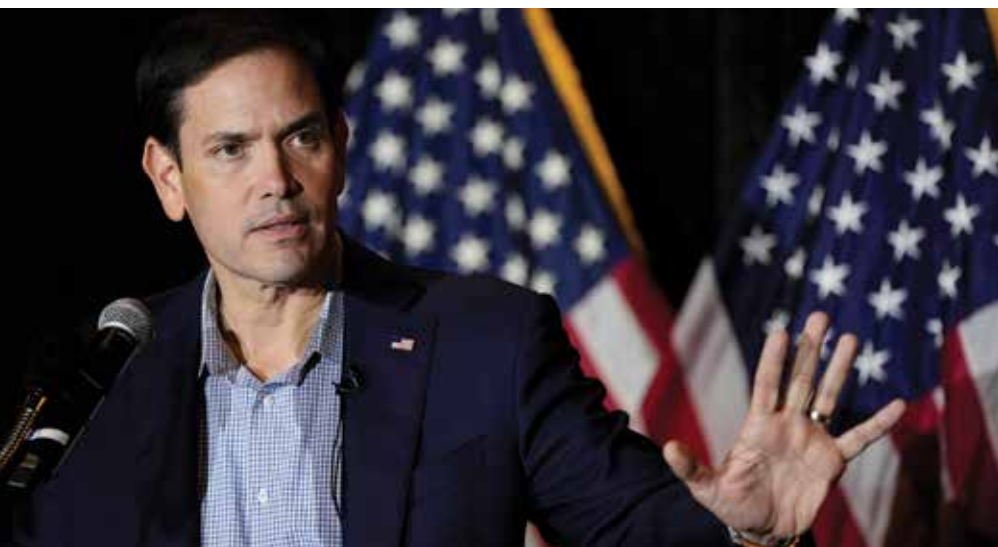
Yet amid reports of a politically motivated attack, Lopez's mother, Diana Lopez, told the *Miami Herald* that her son likes fishing and has never voted. "My son doesn't know anything about politics. He likes fishing.... My son has never voted," she said.

"He says he regrets what happened. He wishes that he could have controlled himself," she continued. "And he says he doesn't understand why they are saying what they are saying [about political motivations]." "I hope that kid is OK," those are his words," she recounted her son saying.

Strangely, the media has done scant investigation into Lopez's and Casanova's histories, while providing an in-depth look into Monzon's past.

"It's Disgusting, It's Grotesque"

Senator Rubio (R-Fla.) has strongly defended Monzon and accused reporters



AP Images

Media lies: Senator Marco Rubio has strongly defended Monzon and accused reporters of smearing the victim and not asking a single question about his attackers. "I think it's shameful ... disgusting ... grotesque," he said at a press conference.



Courtesy of Chris Monzon

Focus on the facts: Chris Monzon canvassed for Florida's Governor Ron DeSantis and Senator Marco Rubio and was beaten while knocking on doors, yet is now labeled a "white supremacist" and "Neo-Nazi" by the mainstream media.

of smearing the victim and not asking a single question about his attackers. "I think it's shameful that you're focused on the victim and not on the aggressor," he exclaimed at a press conference. "Do you know anything about the attackers? Do you have any questions about the attackers who are career criminals?"

Rubio continued, "I don't know what this young man did in his past. He's rejected it. But what I can say is that it's a crime, and we should be focused on it, and these two thugs who attacked him in a felonious attack, and that's what you should be asking me about. That is what the press should be focused on and not shaming a victim of a crime. It's a shame what has happened to the media. It's okay to smear and attack a victim if he's a conservative. It's disgusting. It's grotesque."

Pressed by a reporter claiming Hialeah police said the attack wasn't political until Rubio got involved, the senator shot back, "the Hialeah police did not say that. His father was on the radio saying it was politically motivated before I ever spoke to him."

Monzon is certainly a victim being portrayed as a criminal, and finding ac-

countability for the media and the true criminals in this case has become increasingly difficult.

Truth vs. Fiction

Monzon openly admits that as an 18-year-old he was swept up in the ideals of the League of the South, a group billed as a "Southern nationalist organization" dedicated to "a free and independent Southern republic."

On its face, the organization looks rather harmless, but a deeper dive into its rhetoric and teachings reveals its embracing of the superiority of the white/European "bloodline" with the goal of preserving the white culture as the *dominant* culture. Monzon said he was radicalized by the group, but he officially resigned in 2018.

"Deradicalized, I resigned in 2018 and joined the Republican Party in 2019," he said. "In my fight against the new world order elite, this is how I distanced myself from these fringe groups. In that time, I served for committee members at the Miami Springs Republican Party. I ran for city council. I learned a lot. It's been a real journey. I wouldn't have it any other way."

Monzon says he's seen "the hate from

both sides" and now he wants to combat the anger and resentment and put an end to political violence.

"I was seeing my country torn apart," he said of his time with the League of the South. "I thought, what am I going to do to defend my state against the federal government?"

He further explained that in 2017, his involvement with the group came to a head at an event that was supposed to be peaceful and organized but turned ugly and violent. In Hollywood, Florida, Monzon was arrested for inciting violence during a protest over the renaming of three streets originally named after Confederate generals. He explained it was a turning point in his life, and that out of the experience he achieved a greater understanding of the history of the Confederacy and its ties to bigotry and racism in some of its aspects.

Monzon has since joined The John Birch Society, the parent organization of *The New American*, and was mentored by Frank de Varona, the assistant leader of the Miami JBS chapter. De Varona stands by Monzon, hoping one day Monzon will take over his position as a JBS leader. "Chris apologized several years ago for his involvement with the League of the South. The social media attacks are very unfair," said de Varona.

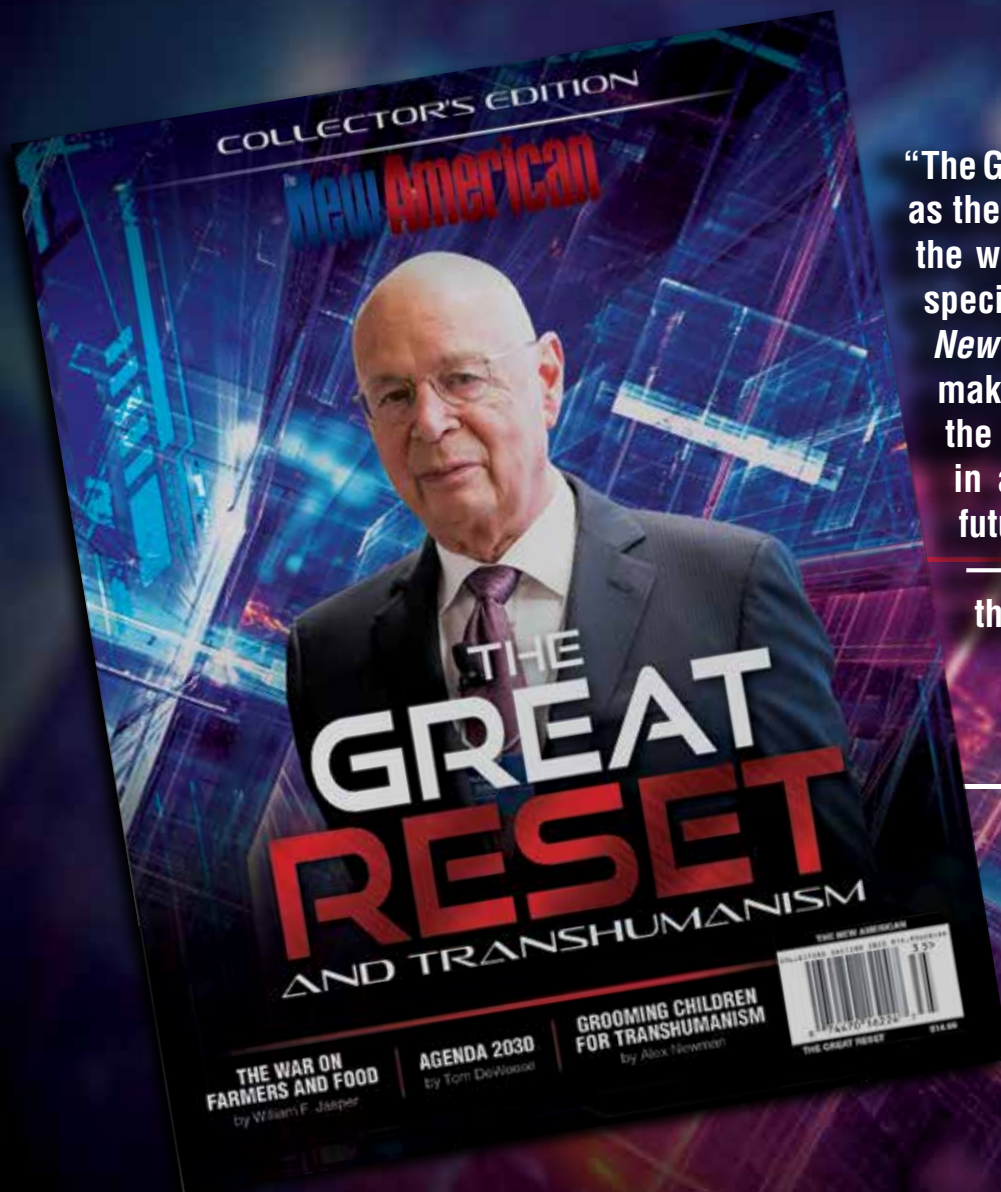
Venezuelan-born Mike Sabga, a JBS coordinator in Jacksonville, Florida, also knows Monzon well, telling *The New American*, "it's hard for me to believe he would have any bias."

Sabga described Monzon as a "kind individual" who would "engage people on the Left." Of the assault, Sabga said it was "an attack on a kid who did nothing wrong. This assault is on Biden! He's brought in the radicals and criminals with the wide, open borders." Sabga went on to speak of the horrors of communism, having watched it take hold of his country and devastate the people through food shortages and tyrannical government control.

Both de Varona and Sabga think highly of Monzon, and are excited to see what's next for the proud patriot. Monzon believes the truth will come out at trial. Until then, beware, all you *Republican* victims of savage crimes, for a hungry media will greedily feed off your past to distract from the atrocious crimes committed against you in the present. ■

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PINOCCHIO PRESIDENT

As Americans struggle to make ends meet and keep their middle-class standard of living, Joe Biden brags that the economy is strong.



AP Images

by William P. Hoar

Joe Biden was supposed to be the new FDR, but his pitch was *juuuuust* a bit outside: Roosevelt produced the New Deal; Biden gave us the Ordeal.

It is instructive, however, to look at how we got pitched. A straight account in the fall of 2020 would acknowledge that Joe Biden was able to win the Democratic nomination by pretending to be a moderate. Then, when that nomination was in hand, his team came up with a platform (largely overlooked by the public) that would push longtime spending by Washington to the highest levels in decades.

We sure got plenty of spending. None-

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theless, the mainstream media tried to keep up the pretense of Bidenesque restraint.

For instance, *Time's* gushing cover story ("A Time to Heal") in November of 2020 still threw junk, with post-election rhetorical curves and knucklers to keep us off balance. It's hard to stomach the serving of the supposed "promise of decency, unity and national unity"; the "steadfast deliberation of a man who knows who he is and what America needs"; and assurances "to govern with compassion, to provide experience in a time of crisis, to 'restore the soul of the nation.'"

By the end of 2022, Biden — and his economy in particular — is not hitting homers. Indeed (to mix metaphors), Americans are seeing that no one is his equal in hitting a nail squarely on the thumb.

And it hurts.

Inflation is crippling; spending and taxation are out of control; the nation's

borders are effectively open; onerous government regulations are rampant; deficits and debt are soaring; and our energy is spluttering.

As the midterm voting approached, even the left-wing *New York Times* was acknowledging the president had been making a number of claims about the economy that are not true — albeit, with a major understatement, putting this down to his regular habit of "embellishing the truth."

Shortly after the voting, Biden acknowledged that he planned to do "nothing" differently during the second half of his term.

What Happens When You Increase the Money Supply?

Readers don't need experts to confirm the pain being imposed on them and the economy in general. You can feel it every day. After all, as Heritage Foundation economist E.J. Antoni has put it, "There's no way you can get away with printing trillions and trillions of dollars and not expect severe consequences." You get inflation, with too many dollars chasing too few goods.

Indeed, Antoni has calculated that the average American has lost the equivalent of \$4,200 in annual income under the Biden administration because of inflation and higher interest rates. It only took President Biden 18 months to manage, says Antoni, "to push inflation to over 9% and prices were rising nearly as fast in a single month as they did in the entire year before Biden took office." When Biden came into office, as Antoni notes, the economy was growing at a \$1.5 trillion annualized rate. In just a year, the policies of the Biden administration caused the economy to shrink, contracting in the first six months of 2022 (the traditional definition of a recession).



Intentional: The administration has been assaulting fossil fuels as well as depleting the nation's reserves for political reasons. Meanwhile, the so-called Inflation Reduction Act served as a Trojan horse for "clean energy" subsidies. Such policies have cost the economy an estimated \$100 billion a year. Elevated gasoline prices are shown in June 2022 in Los Angeles.

While the president has claimed, duplicitously, that he is "rebuilding the economy in a responsible way" where "everyone does well," he is doing more than "embellishing." Try telling that, writes Kelly Sadler of the *Washington Times*, to the bottom 90 percent of households "who had their debt increase by \$300 billion over the last year, the largest annual gain on record. Or those workers saving for retirement, whose average 401(k) plan lost \$34,000 — or more than 25% — in one year."

She rightfully observes that the economy is

not doing "well" for homeowners who have seen monthly home price declines already matching the pace during the worst of the subprime crisis of 2008. Or for potential new homeowners who now have to pay 7.2% interest rates on a 30-year mortgage, a 22-year high.

The average family has lost \$6,000 in annual wages due to soaring inflation on Mr. Biden's watch, and 61% are living paycheck to paycheck. Twenty million U.S. households have

fallen behind on their utility bills, and this winter's heating oil prices are expected to spike 19% from last winter.

Yet Joe insists that the economy is "strong as hell." An accurate fact-checker might call that assertion "partly true" — the latter part.

Self-defeating Assault on Domestic Energy

Biden, both before and after he entered the White House, made no bones about his opposition to fossil fuels. More recently, as *The Wall Street Journal* has noted, the White House has been blaming the industry for high gasoline prices while it does everything it can to make drilling more difficult. The complaint is that profits are being prioritized over people. Yet, as the editors explain, "companies must consider their long-term return on investment. The Biden policies have created substantial regulatory uncertainty, raised production costs, and directed capital to green energy."

A new study by the Committee to Unleash Prosperity, by economists Stephen

Moore and Casey Mulligan, has concluded that the United States would be producing between two and three million more barrels of oil a day and between 20 and 25 billion more cubic feet of natural gas under the previous Trump policies. This translates, says the study, "into an economic loss — or tax on the American economy — of roughly \$100 billion a year."

As their study emphasizes:

Biden has promised to set the U.S. on a course of eliminating U.S. oil and gas over the next two decades. He has said that his long-term goal would be to "shut down" oil and gas production as part of his climate change strategy. He has also canceled pipelines, reduced drilling on public lands, and instituted tough new environmental standards that raise the cost of drilling. His new climate change legislation imposes new taxes on the oil and gas industry.

As Robert Louis Stevenson once put it, "Everybody, sooner or later, sits down to a banquet of consequences." In this case, to our sorrow, we are in line to get a high-priced starvation diet of unreliable energy.

There is, of course, a way out. We could stop the war against our resources and produce more domestic oil — but that would hurt the feelings of the progressives helping to pull Biden's strings. The president, meanwhile, has been blaming high gas prices on a succession of scapegoats — from the Saudis to the war in Ukraine. But our energy ills are not, largely, the fault of Putin — rather of putrid energy policies.

Back in September of 2019, recounts Mohammed Alyahya (a fellow at the Harvard Belfer Center's Middle East Initiative), the United States became

a net exporter of crude oil and petroleum products for the first time since such records have been kept. In 2020 America exported still more oil, with investment in domestic pipelines, refineries and extraction technologies and resulting employment all reaching new highs. But in 2021 America began importing much larger amounts of crude oil than it produced. In 2022 the U.S. will again

be a net oil importer. In less than two years, investment in the domestic American oil industry has collapsed, U.S. refining capacity has atrophied, and the jobs that investment produced have largely vanished.

According to Alyahya, who is also a senior fellow at the Hudson Institute, the causes of this reversal, “which left the U.S. dependent on imported oil at a dangerous geopolitical moment,”

aren’t a mystery. In the 2020 election, American politicians, from Joe Biden down, ran and won on a set of policies intended to wean the American economy off fossil fuels in favor of so-called clean energy. These policies included bans on fracking, bans on drilling, closing down the Keystone Pipeline and other infrastructure built to serve future energy needs, and subsidizing alternative energy, such as solar, and electric cars.

“Clean” or “green” energy, one discovers, has a big undeclared price tag. We are just starting to recognize that.

The progressive/Biden goal is to generate an incredible 80 percent of electricity in this country from wind, solar, and other renewables, “reduce economy-wide

carbon emissions by 50%, and boost EV sales to half of all cars sold by 2030,” as summarized by Peter Morici, an economist and business professor emeritus at the University of Maryland.

Biden, digging himself a deeper political hole less than a week before the midterm elections, charged that coal plants in this country are too expensive and too unreliable and will be replaced with renewable energy. We are, emphasized the president, “going to be shutting these [coal] plants down all across America and having wind and solar power.” Yelps of protest ensued, and the White House tried to put up a smokescreen over what the president clearly said.

For the record, according to the most recent data from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), as measured in quadrillions of British thermal units, these are the leading sources of U.S. energy: natural gas (35.4); crude oil (23.2); coal (11.6); nuclear (8.1); natural gas plant liquids (7.1); biomass (5.0); wind (3.3); hydro (conventional hydroelectric) (2.3); other (geothermal and solar) (1.7). The president is dismissive of about 577 million short tons of coal that were (as of 2021) produced in 21 U.S. states.

Exploding Spending, Borrowing

When you are spending like a deranged creature, how do you cover up the tracks?

Lying helps. Or you can just brag about what you are doing and hope that nobody understands what’s going on. Which brings us to the Biden administration’s policies on federal spending and deficits.

Brian Riedl, a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute, has summarized the major “accomplishments” of the Biden gang. At inauguration, he noted, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) forecast “a \$14.5 trillion in deficits between 2021 and 2031. Now Washington is projected to borrow \$19 trillion over that period.” Biden has added, writes Riedl in the *New York Post*,

\$4.8 trillion in 10-year deficits through policies such as the American Rescue Plan (\$1.9 trillion), student-loan moratoria and bailouts (\$750 billion), a large omnibus appropriations bill (\$625 billion), infrastructure law (\$370 billion), health and welfare expansions (\$360 billion) and a veterans’ bill (\$280 billion). The only law providing net savings was the Inflation Reduction Act (\$240 billion), and that figure is inflated with gimmicks like fake expiration dates for spending intended to be permanent.

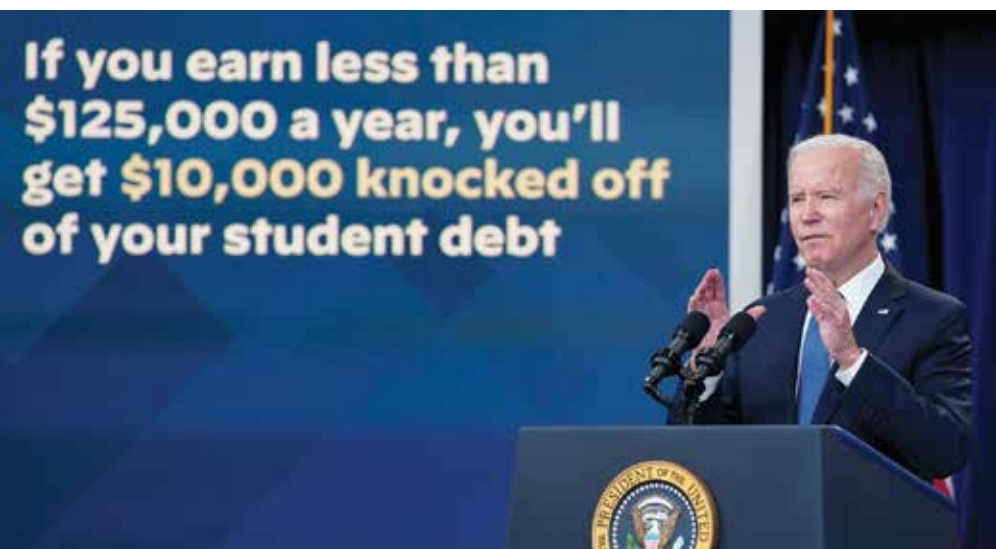
That was just part of the legerdemain.

Implausibly, Biden boasted about the size of the deficit drop. However, as Riedl commented acerbically, you really “don’t win firefighting awards for putting out your own fire.” As he explained,

Taking credit for 2022’s “largest one-year drop” in the deficit is especially galling when Biden himself drastically expanded the 2021 deficit with the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan, which is worsening inflation. He personally drove up the 2021 budget deficit and then bragged about his fiscal responsibility when that spending expired on schedule.

Moreover, Biden did not stress, as *The Wall Street Journal* put it (likening him to “Rumpelstiltskin”), the “savings” came not from exercising spending restraint, but from “the expiration of pandemic emergency programs — some of which he wants to extend forever.”

Adding more context to the presi-



False promises: Canceling federal student loans would cost taxpayers hundreds of billions of dollars. Fortunately, the unilateral executive order of the debt write-off was declared unlawful (at least temporarily) by a federal judge shortly after midterm voting.

dent's dissembling is Jeffrey Anderson of the American Main Street Initiative, who has noted that the deficit in 2022 is the sixth-highest on record (in inflation-adjusted dollars). Apparently, there is a steep premium to "restore the soul of the nation."

Opening Borders for Illegals; Regulating Citizens

You get the point: If you give the president a free hand, he'll stick it right into your pocket. This government overreach costs all of us in manifold ways. It adds up. In just the first quarter of 2022, according to the CBO, the wealth of American households plummeted an astounding \$2.4 trillion.

Adding to our economic woes, the Biden administration has thrown open our sovereign borders for millions of illegal immigrants — some bringing in drugs, many coming for welfare-state goodies, and unknown scores infiltrating with terrorist intentions — even as the regulatory bureaucracy has targeted American businesses and the nation at large.

As to the latter, perhaps the best source is Clyde Wayne Crews, Jr., vice president for policy at the Competitive Enterprise Institute (CEI) and the author of the annual "Ten Thousand Commandment"

reports. According to Crews, there has been "a radical shift in the nation's regulatory agencies," which he documents in his reports on Washington's "hidden tax" burden. Biden scrapped Trump's reforms, notes Crews, "and replaced that with 'whole-of-government' progressive goals in 'competition policy' and antitrust, climate policy, Environmental Social Governance (ESG) and 'equity,' digital currency, and other issues."

Crews says it has been difficult to uncover the extent of Biden's regulatory plans. Reports Crews, it "turns out" that the new rules "are on the newer white-paper compilation charts. While the online database shows 3,257 rules, the document count in the newer roundup is 4,429, a 45.8 percent increase."

All of this will increase the cost of doing business. At the same time, millions are streaming across the border. Many claim to be asylum-seekers, but others are violent criminals, drug-smugglers, and terrorists. Adding insult to this injury, the president (and Vice President Harris, the supposed border "czar") insists that our southern border is "secure" — while it clearly isn't.

"No, the border is not secure," as Representative Henry Cuellar (D-Texas) recently told *Fox News Sunday*. "When you

had 1.7 million individuals last year, and now another 2.7 [million], that's over 4.5 million individuals encountered at the border. Plus, if you add the getaways, that's going to be over 5 million individuals in just two years."

That's not an exaggeration. The Biden administration in mid-October released illegal immigration data for fiscal year 2022. The Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR) has summarized some of the official numbers. Reports FAIR:

Some 2.7 million migrants — those who illegally entered or were otherwise inadmissible at a port of entry — were encountered at our borders in FY 2022.

2.2 million of them were apprehended along the southwest border, setting a new record and eclipsing all four years of the Trump administration combined.

Since President Biden took office, around 5.5 million illegal aliens have crossed our borders — a crisis of epic proportions.

Agents from the Border Patrol reported that they encountered, reports FAIR, "98 known or suspected terrorists in FY 2022. In FY 2021, that number was 15. In FY 2020, it was three and in FY 2019, zero." The performance of the current administration is — purposely — getting worse. Even *The Wall Street Journal* (generally dovish on immigration issues) has acknowledged,

About 19% of migrants apprehended in September were repeat offenders, meaning they had been encountered at least once in the previous 12 months. This reflects that the border is so porous that migrants will keep coming even if they are arrested once or more. They know they'll get through sooner or later.

This is another new Biden record. As usual, it's not a good one.

When you add up the overall Biden economic record to date, you see that he is right in one regard. Thanks to him and his team, when the president claims that nation's economy is looking up, it is only because it is flat on its back. ■



Biden's "secure" border: A record 5.5 million illegal aliens have crossed U.S. borders since Biden took office. The administration, nonetheless, insists that "the border is secure." Migrants are seen above (in May 2022) crossing the Rio Grande in Eagle Pass, Texas.

AP Images

FIGHTING THE GREAT RESET WITH THE “GRAND REFUSAL”

A former Marxist, Dr. Michael Rectenwald has long warned against the leftist revolution sweeping across the globe and threatening the very foundations of the American Republic.



Dr. Rectenwald: I have a whole table of these people in my book. They are people who are members of the World Economic Forum, but also have served in different roles at the UN, and many of them have also been members of different globalist organizations like the Bilderberg Group, the Club of Rome, the Council on Foreign Relations, the Chatham House group, and the Trilateral Commission. So there's a lot of overlap between these globalist organizations, the UN, and these subversive elites. They are people that have been trained, for example, at the World Economic Forum's young global leaders, people like Pete Buttigieg. You know, he has definitely been trained as a young global leader. Let's take a look at some of the world's leaders. For example, you have [Justin] Trudeau in Canada, you have [Jacinda] Ardern in New Zealand. You have the Netherlands, which is undergoing a great reset of its agricultural industry thanks to the participation of the WEF of the Netherlands with the WEF's Food Initiative.

So I mean, they're all over the world. They're stationed in high places. There's a study that I'm citing in my book that studied the responses of governments to the Covid pandemic, and the most draconian responses were undertaken in countries where there was a high concentration of young global leaders. So, they call them NPIs, or non-pharmaceutical interventions. The non-pharmaceutical interventions [in these countries] were the most draconian and strict. That includes, of course, lockdowns, masking and social distancing, and all that. They were the most restrictive in those young global leaders' countries and regions.

It has been quite some time since one would be called a conspiracy theorist for talking about the Great Reset. In June of 2020, the World Economic Forum (WEF) launched the Great Reset initiative, and the WEF website has a whole section about it. Klaus Schwab, the WEF founder and executive chairman, co-authored a book by that name. According to its proponents, the Great Reset is not only real, it is the most viable way to guarantee global peace and prosperity in a post-Covid world. In this interview with *The New American's* Veronika Kyrylenko, former New York University professor and former Marxist Dr. Michael Rectenwald said that that could not be further from the truth. Implementation of the Great Reset, he says, would bring nothing but a dystopian nightmare for everyday people.

The New American: Recently, you tweeted an excerpt of the final interview of Larry MacDonald, the late United States congressman and chairman of The John

Birch Society, in which he outlined the agenda of subversive American elites to dissolve national sovereignty and move to one-world government. You posted, "I explore this in depth in my forthcoming book, *The Great Reset and the Struggle for Liberty: Unraveling the Global Agenda*." Please tell us what made you choose this particular video clip to promote your book.

Dr. Michael Rectenwald: Well, I really appreciated that what he was talking about was the subversive elites, because that's what I think we're dealing with. We're dealing with elites who have us as their objects of subversion. And they not only want to subvert national sovereignty; they want to subvert the economy, they want to subvert basically our entire way of life, and they want to utterly control it. So I thought that tweet was very, very interesting and quite apropos to what I've been working with.

TNA: Who are the subversive American elites today, and what do they believe in?

TNA: You would expect of the Western

“The world is under the grip of leftist totalitarianism. There has been a global revolution of leftist totalitarianism. It’s happened all through Europe, and it’s happened in the United States. That’s what we’re dealing with now. This kind of subversion has been underway at least since the 1930s.”



Embrace your future: “The future is built by us,” said Klaus Schwab at the annual WEF Summit in Davos, Switzerland, in May 2022. Left untold was that the future envisioned by the globalists would be a totalitarian nightmare for ordinary people.

leaders, such as those in New Zealand and Western Europe, here in the United States and in Canada, to be more liberal in their responses, but yet, indeed, they were very authoritarian. How do you explain that?

Dr. Rectenwald: Well, how I explain it is that the world is under the grip of leftist totalitarianism. There has been a global revolution of leftist totalitarianism. It’s happened all through Europe, and it’s happened in the United States. That’s what we’re dealing with now. This kind of subversion has been underway at least since the 1930s, as The John Birch Society so well researched and documented. They’ve been attempting it in the United States to try to make us into a collectivist society modeled on the USSR. And now that there’s no USSR — isn’t it interesting? — the Left has a problem with Russia. So, it’s interesting.

As I see it, this is a global elite that has infiltrated states, corporations, NGOs, and, of course, most of the major parties. But what’s most surprising, I guess, is the corporate subversion that’s going on. And this is due in no small part to the World Economic Forum’s corporate public-private partnership strategy.

TNA: Why is it surprising to you?

Dr. Rectenwald: Well, because it’s often thought, at least on the Left, that corporations are going to embrace a free-market ideology, but nothing is further from the truth. They’re actually embracing leftist, monopolistic ideology, and that really works to their benefit. As I’ve been pointing out in numerous books and essays, leftist totalitarianism is actually more amenable to monopolist

capitalism than free markets. They are not heroes or free-market promoters, but rather monopolists who want, in effect, to have complete control over the economy. They share this monopoly with others in their industries. But there’s really a woke cartel that’s running the business world today, and that’s being driven through stakeholder capitalism, of course.

TNA: Please explain how this cabal of public-private partnerships benefited during the Covid pandemic. French philosopher Voltaire once said that if God didn’t exist, we would have invented him. And if Covid didn’t exist, they probably would have invented Covid. And it looks like they did. And you know that Klaus Schwab often described it as a window of opportunity, an opportunity that needs to be seized. So, the Covid pandemic definitely played a huge role in the Great Reset.

Dr. Rectenwald: Yes. I mean, if they didn’t plan it, surely, they seized the opportunity, as they suggested, to bring about this worldwide change of economic and social order. So the way it’s worked [is that] the stakeholder capitalism model is about creating a cartel, a woke cartel that effectively drives other businesses out of business. If you’re not a member of the woke cartel, you won’t survive. This is being driven through stakeholder capitalism and the mechanism of stakeholder capitalism, which is the ESG score — Environmental, Social and Governance index.

[The object] is not a fairer, greener future, but a future in which you have elite control over industry, government, culture, and everything else, a kind of monopoly, as under socialism. Because socialism is nothing if not a monopoly. That’s it. That’s really what it boils down to. It’s a monopoly over everything. And that’s exactly what they want. It’s just a different contingent rather than the state itself alone. Now we have a corporate hybrid. A corporate-state hybrid is effectively what’s going on. So, what they want is these monopolies. So Covid actually accelerated this drive. They managed to eliminate midsize and small businesses by the millions, driving more capital toward the monopolistic corporations on top, like Amazon, Walmart, Facebook, Apple, and so forth. While

AP Images

Covid crushed these small and midsize businesses, it actually benefited to a great extent these huge corporate monopolists, and it increased their revenues, their profit shares, everything. So Covid effectively drove home what the Great Reset project attempts to undertake.

TNA: Naturally, it's in full swing right now, the Great Reset. But what happens if the globalist forces succeed? What would the life of an average American be like?

Dr. Rectenwald: It would be, well, I'd call it corporate socialism. You have these corporate monopolies and monoliths on top with the state, and then you have everybody else living in actually existing socialism. That is a kind of static hierarchy. You have these controllers on top, and everybody else is basically living under socialism. In effect, they have fairness and equity, but that is merely equality at the bottom, and without any real prospects for upward mobility, for private enterprise, for anything other than, effectively, living on universal basic income or a static income of some sort. And also, what would be in effect, that is the technologies of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Now that these people are in place, you need to control them. So, they propose to use digital identities, a central bank, digital currencies, the Internet of Bodies, invasive technologies, and even ingestible and insertable technologies into the body that would not only control and monitor everything about a person, but would also possibly even control their thoughts if they have these brain-cloud interfaces effectively implemented. So, it would be a nightmare.

And to put it further, there is also the great die-off that would take place because they're destroying the agricultural industry with the environmental or sustainability goals — you know, the United Nations' 2030 sustainability goals. This is gutting the agricultural industry and will definitely result in reduced crops and, likewise, increased food prices and possibly famines in some parts of the world. I mean, you have the Netherlands, which is going to be losing output by who knows how much. But they're saying that at least 30 percent of farmers will go out of business because they won't be able to abide by these ESG indexes. And so, you'll have a reduction in consumption — less meat, of course. Maybe none. They even want to feed us

insects. This is very real. It's all over the World Economic Forum's website. And we see that they're trying to make this glamorous with Nicole Kidman doing an ad for *Vanity Fair*. I mean, this is just a dystopian nightmare, frankly.

TNA: Why do you think the JBS and intellectuals like yourself are called conspiracy theorists for just exposing the dangers associated with this agenda?

Dr. Rectenwald: They've been using "conspiracy theory" rhetoric since the 1950s. But this is one of the tools in their toolbox in order to counter real, valid criticism of what they're doing. As a matter of fact, I think they try to generate what they call conspiracy theories on purpose in order to discredit critics of this agenda. So you had Klaus Schwab at the last annual meeting in May saying things like, we must deal with the Covid crisis, but there are other viruses that we may have on the agenda, and suggesting that they have it on the agenda. And also he said something to the effect that the future does not just happen in the future. We make the future. We make you here in this room, he said. We make the future.

So they make these kinds of statements almost, it seems, purposefully, in order to discredit anybody that's going to speak up against this conspiracy theory. Rhetoric has been used since the 1950s, was marshaled by the CIA, but it started with Karl Popper and his book *The Open Society and Its Enemies* and where they started to pooh-pooh and discredit anybody that makes any kind of statement that suggests there's any kind of planned, coordinated efforts on the part of elites to control society. But everything has the earmarks of this all over the place. So, you're right. It's almost impossible for them to deny that this is taking place when they're, in fact, executing it as we speak.

TNA: How do you explain that so many people actually buy this claim that we all will benefit from the Great Reset, and every single person on Earth will be, for example, happy for owning nothing, or for taking an mRNA vaccine every six months or injecting some kind of technology that tracks your every single move and, as you said, even your thoughts? How can people not see that it's just simply evil and that it



Transhumanist technologies: Covid facilitated a fusion of people's physical, digital, and biological identities, which is creating the possibility of unlimited control over virtually all aspects of human life.

Evgeniy/Shkolenko/Stock/Getty Images Plus

is about control? It's not about their well-being.

Dr. Rectenwald: Yeah, exactly. What they do with the foot soldiers on the Left is they do several things. One of the things they do is flatter them by telling them that they're in the know and that anybody that thinks differently is nuts, and they're also lesser, they're deplorables or they are other types of downgraded specimens that need to be treated with derision and contempt.

So they manage to keep the Left as their kind of foot soldiers that are actually helping to perpetrate this very Great Reset. They are actually instruments of this, because they use them as kind of like in *The Matrix*. They use them as kind of like those squids that go around looking for the Nebuchadnezzar, and they attack everything. They're programmed to do this, and they're programmed to think that they're in the right, and they're also more knowledgeable, more sophisticated, smarter, and better than those that they

attack. This is how the elite treats them. They flatter them and they brainwash them, frankly, and get them to act as these kinds of sentinels of surveillance.

TNA: The most important question is, which remedies do you propose to counter this well-coordinated, well-funded effort that spans national and international political elites and wealthy corporations?

Dr. Rectenwald: Well, I have in my upcoming book *The Great Reset and the Struggle for Liberty* a nine-point plan for countering the Great Reset. It's not like this is all we can do, but these are definite practical steps.

Well, first of all, you must refuse to use the central bank digital currency. And then you must reject the technologies that they have in mind for our use, for our control, the Internet of Bodies, the installation of devices in your body, the metaverse and transhuman technologies, which are really about turning you into a remote-con-

trol subject, refusing this digital identity, which they're going to be trying to issue soon, which is a way of tracking you from cradle to grave.

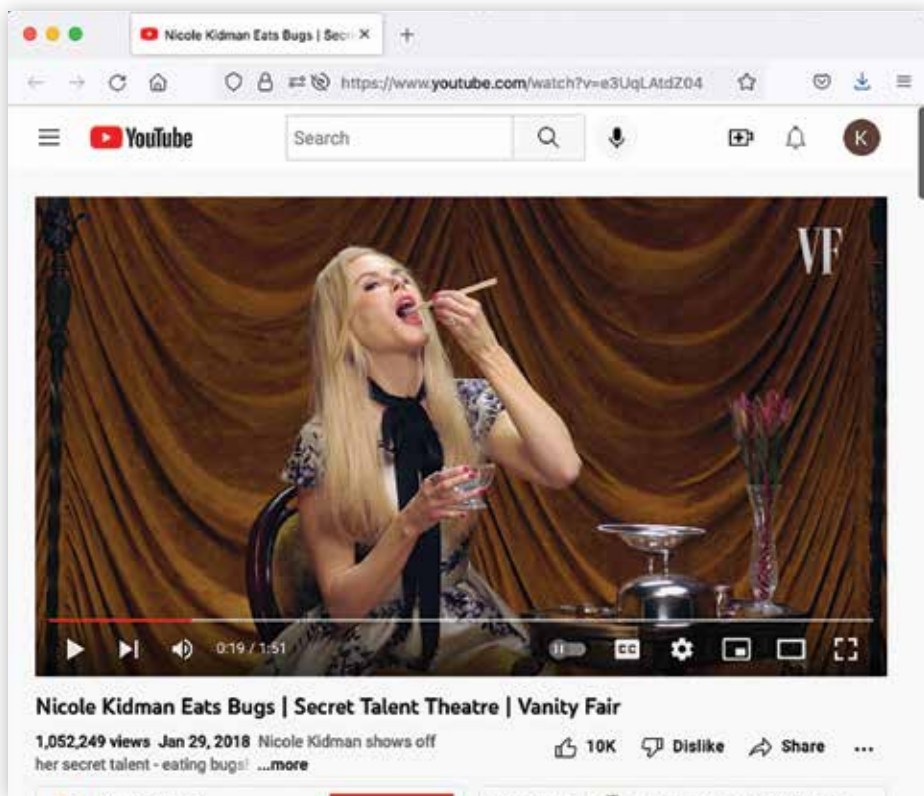
Keep the free market alive, practice the free market, disengage from these establishment institutions, eliminate your dependence on the state, certainly divest from ESG stocks and electronically traded funds that include ESG index stocks, then get out of ESG reporting, including banks like Bank of America and many others. Almost all of the major banks are on board with stakeholder capitalism and the ESG. Then, put pressure on government representatives to protect national sovereignty and individual rights, to divest from the World Economic Forum so that no money is going to this organization.

[We need to pressure] congressmen and senators to withdraw from the UN and the World Health Organization. Pressure state governors to withdraw their pensions from ESG stocks, including those invested by BlackRock Inc., State Street, and the Vanguard Group, and all these other asset managers that are on board with this Great Reset, with stakeholder capitalism, which amounts to the Great Reset. Encourage the defection of the elites. You know, there have to be some elites who don't go along with this program entirely. Maybe they oppose it for moral, ethical, or economic reasons. Pressure them to oppose this.

There are some elites that are on the fence, like Elon Musk and Peter Thiel. It's hard to say where they're really coming from or whether they are enemies like the others. But we can find some, and hopefully get them to defect publicly.

And then, of course, network with like-minded individuals to spread this or related plans and get a body of people to refuse this project. I call it the "Grand Refusal," and I use as the character for this Howard Beale from the movie *Network*. And the slogan was, "We're mad as hell, and we're not going to take this anymore." We need people to refuse this and to demand that it be stopped. ■

Dr. Michael Rectenwald was interviewed for The New American by senior editor Veronika Kyrilenko on October 17, 2022. The above text has been edited for clarity. The full video interview can be found at [TheNewAmerican.com](https://www.thenewamerican.com).



Glamorizing bug-eating: Replacing meat with bugs in a diet is advertised not only as "sustainable" and "ecological," but also as a fashionable trend.

Faith FAMILY FREEDOM

DEFENDING FARMERS AGAINST THE AGENDA 2030 LAND STEAL

by Rebecca Terrell

A brother that is helped by his brother, is like a strong city: and judgments are like the bars of cities. — Proverbs 18:19

“The John Birch Society is so far on the right that it often is shunned by other conservative groups,” reported local news outlet NWestIowa.com about a JBS-sponsored speech in Sheldon, Iowa, last summer.

Yet despite its far-right-fringe, tin-foil-hat depiction, the article admits that the event drew a crowd of 100. In fact, it was part of a well-received multi-county tour in defense of private property rights against government-subsidized carbon-capture pipelines that promise to destroy valuable farmland throughout America’s corn belt.

The speaker, Tom DeWeese, president of the American Policy Center, is a member of the National Council of The John Birch Society (JBS), an educational organization built on local grassroots activism with the goal of restoring America’s constitutional freedoms. He described his tour as “barn-storming” to “rally the citizens and warn them that their property rights are in jeopardy.”

Your Tax Dollars at Work

The danger comes from several private companies that plan to bury thousands of miles of pipeline designed to transport hazardous liquid carbon dioxide (CO₂) from ethanol plants throughout the Midwest to underground storage near oil and gas fields.

The piped CO₂ emanates from carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) technologies, which trap the gas from industrial exhaust, concentrate it into liquid form, and inject it in underground cavities. The supposed goal is to save Mother Earth from man-made eco-catastrophe, but environmentalists despise CCS. They call it a greenwashing scheme since the captured emissions promote enhanced oil

recovery, a process that pumps the liquefied CO₂ into depleted oil wells to extract more petroleum.

Nevertheless, Congress is subsidizing this CO₂ harvesting in promotion of President Biden’s net-zero fallacies. Last year’s \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill included around \$12 billion for CCS; \$2.1 billion of that will fund low-interest loans for CO₂ pipeline expansion. Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary Jennifer Granholm has made CCS an integral part of her agency’s reckless Earthshots Initiative, which even *Time* magazine concedes is a “costly boondoggle.”

It’s a well-earned critique. Chronic problems and missed carbon-capture targets have forced investors to abandon many CCS projects, such as the reputed poster-child ventures at Texas’ Petra Nova coal plant and the Kemper power plant in Mississippi. Naturally, developers pulled out only after receiving hundreds of millions in federal subsidies for their flops.

One of many follies of the money pits still in operation is the



Rebecca Terrell is a senior editor of The New American.

fact that they are “net CO₂ additive: CO₂ emissions exceed removals,” according to research published by admitted cheerleaders of greenhouse-gas reduction in the October 2020 issue of *Biophysical Economics and Sustainability*. Even former vice president and eco-radical Al Gore called CCS “nonsense” and “an extremely improbable solution” at the 2018 United Nations COP24 Climate Change Conference in Poland.

Pipelines are also extremely unsafe, as evidenced by a 2020 leak in Mississippi. Midwinter flooding broke a pipeline and sent a dense cloud of the compressed, industrial CO₂ descending onto the nearby town of Sartoria. Many still live with residual lung, stomach, and neurological problems caused by the accident, and authorities say that, had it occurred at night while people were sleeping, most would have died.

But concerns over safety and sanity never stopped a determined bureaucracy. The Department of Transportation already oversees around 5,000 miles of taxpayer-

funded CO₂ pipelines that snake their way through the country. Experts estimate that between 30,000 and 65,000 miles must be added to achieve Biden’s “Build Back Better” goals.

The Culprits

Private companies riding the backs of taxpayers to claim pipeline largess include Navigator CO₂, a corporation affiliated with Larry Fink’s leftist financial behemoth BlackRock. The company’s Heartland Greenway System is an intended 1,300-mile network to transport CO₂ from facilities in South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa, and Illinois.

Summit Carbon Solutions is planning the 2,100-mile Midwest Carbon Express to span five states — Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, and the Dakotas. The company is headed by ag magnate and GOP bankroller Bruce Rastetter, and former Iowa Republican Governor Terry Branstad serves as senior policy advisor. Summit’s general counsel is attorney Jess Vilsack,

son of former Iowa Democratic Governor Tom Vilsack, who currently serves as Biden’s agriculture secretary.

Wolf Carbon Solutions plans a more modest, 280-mile Mt. Simon Hub from Archer Daniels Midland facilities in Iowa to underground storage in Illinois. However, that pipeline will soon grow exponentially, as Wolf plans to sweep north toward Chicago and east into Indiana and the Ohio River valley.

Farmers across these states have been receiving letters from such companies — letters informing (not asking) them about pipeline plans for their private property. Backed by huge investments and bureaucratic edict, the companies threaten to use eminent domain against landowners who refuse voluntary permanent easements.

Mark Lapka is one of many South Dakota farmers in Summit’s crosshairs. He told *The New American* that the proposals entail more than simply laying pipe, covering it, and then returning the land to productive use. The 100-foot-wide easements will demolish underground tile irrigation and drainage systems, affecting all properties downstream as well. They will also strip the fragile topsoil of both farms and grazing land for cattle. “You destroy that,” he said, “you never get it back. And it’s not just the damage to productivity. You’re not allowed to construct or plant anything in the easement area. You are handcuffed with your own private property.”

“Eminent domain, as an extraordinary governmental power that condemns your private property for someone else’s use, can be used ONLY for ‘public convenience and necessity,’” wrote Democratic candidate for Iowa’s State Senate Jessica Wiskus in an objection filed with the Iowa Utilities Board in October. She quoted a 2019 Iowa Supreme Court ruling, which found that “trickledown benefits of economic development are not enough to constitute a public use.”

However, the mainstream narrative decrees that carbon capture is in everyone’s best interest — an essential step to combat



Carbon-capture boondoggle: The carbon-capture plant in DeKalb, Mississippi, aimed to prove the technology’s feasibility, but when expenses more than tripled over original estimates, the project was canceled, sticking ratepayers with more than \$1 billion in costs.

AP Images

the supposed man-made climate crisis and save a planet teetering on the brink of eco-catastrophe. This is the same hackneyed argument that bleeding-heart globalists and their bureaucratic lackeys have been repeating since the 1992 United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Their solution is “sustainable development,” and their action plan for achieving it is now known as Agenda 2030, the modern update to Rio’s Agenda 21 document.

Adopted unanimously in 2015 by UN member states, Agenda 2030 contains 17 sustainable development goals that embody a “universal ... supremely ambitious and transformational vision” of “unprecedented scope and significance,” according to the document itself.

The goals are intended to be implemented by governments at the local level, but they encompass far more than environmental regulation. Their aim is control over every area of life: economics, education, employment, housing, property, technology, transportation, energy, law enforcement, military, natural resources, industry, agriculture, healthcare, consumption patterns, and social interactions.

Agenda 2030 invokes “all major UN conferences and summits which have laid a solid foundation for sustainable development and have helped to shape the new Agenda.”

One of those is the 1976 UN Conference on Human Settlements held in Vancouver. Its *Action Plan* states, “Land, because of its unique nature and the crucial role it plays in human settlement, cannot be treated as an ordinary asset, controlled by individuals and subject to the pressures and inefficiencies of the market. Private land ownership ... contributes to social injustice; if unchecked, it may become a major obstacle in the planning and implementation of development schemes.... Public control of land use is therefore indispensable to its protection as an asset and the achievement of the long-term objectives of human settlement policies and strategies.”



Carbon capture opponent:

Former Vice President Al Gore called carbon capture “nonsense” during the UN COP24 climate conference in 2018. Environmentalists note that the technology is so energy intensive that it adds carbon dioxide to the atmosphere.

AP Images

If that’s not unsettling enough, consider that Goal 11 of Agenda 2030 is to “make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable,” code words for dictatorial control and abolishment of private-property rights. Does that sound outlandish? Remember that the World Economic Forum’s video, “8 Predictions for the World in 2030,” promises that we modern feudal serfs will “own nothing” and “be happy.”

In the Trenches

“Every time you hear the words ‘sustainable’ or ‘carbon footprint,’ someone is pushing for more government power,” DeWeese warned Iowa’s farmers during his tour. It’s a message the JBS has been repeating for years.

“In a certain sense, we can be thankful for this pipeline,” remarked Tammy Kobza, the JBS field coordinator who arranged DeWeese’s speaking tour in her state. She reminded *The New American* that “in years past when we tried to warn people about Agenda 21, they thought we were crazy. Now they see it playing out.”

Laura Janssen is one such Iowa farm-

er whose eyes have been opened by the pipeline property grab. She joined the JBS after hearing DeWeese. “At first I thought, ‘This guy has to be wrong.’” On the contrary, “not only was he correct, but it was even bigger than he shared with us.”

Janssen said what triggered her involvement was the underhandedness of the pipeline scheme. No one in her area learned of it unless they got a letter from one of the developers, but by then “our leaders had already sold us out. Both Republicans and Democrats — all of their hands are dirty. Even the Farm Bureau is backing” the pipelines. “The people we entrusted to have our best interests at heart are selling out farmers, who are the best caretakers of the land and have made Iowa agriculture great.”

The situation is just as dire in South Dakota, where the state Legislature passed a law allowing any company with an active application from the Public Utilities Commission to survey private property without owner consent. “None of us knew anything about that before this,” Lapka said. “Now, landowners throughout the state are

challenging the constitutionality of that law.”

Similarly in Iowa, hazardous-liquid pipeline developers claim that state law lets them survey private property without owners’ permission, provided they give 10 days’ advance notice and hold informational meetings. Janssen says the companies have held those gatherings in the middle of the week during busy harvest season, so it is no surprise that farmers cannot attend.

She was present for two of them and asked Navigator representatives fundamental questions such as whether they honestly think CO₂ is dangerous, or how depleting this vital plant food from the air could possibly promote crop yield. “No answer,” she recalls. “They just sat there with poker faces.”

Ted and Kim Junker, who’ve been farming in Iowa for 30 years, told *The New American* of similar experiences with Navigator’s “informational” sessions. “Some people in the meetings ask them outright, ‘Would you be building [the pipeline] if it weren’t for these federal subsidies?’” Ted recalled, “They give a long answer, but the short answer is ‘no.’”

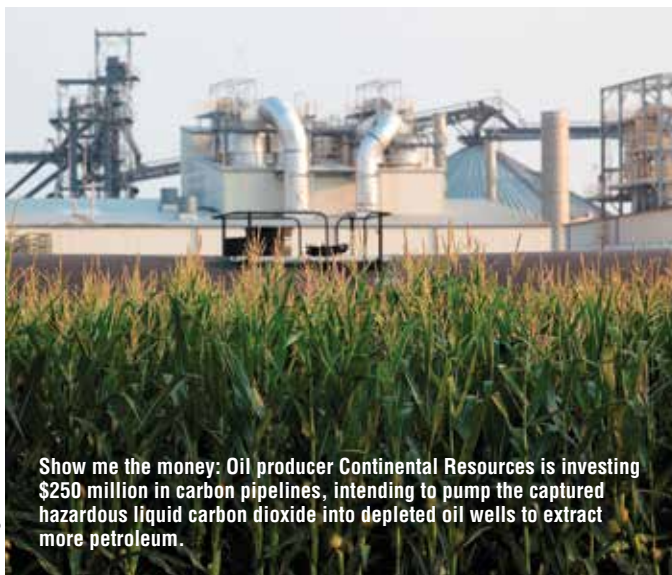
People such as Janssen and the Junkers are beginning to realize that the pipelines are merely a ruse to implement Agenda 2030’s land grab. From the trenches of the battle they recognize that carbon capture has nothing to do with environmental goodwill. “Navigator and Summit cross each other at least 12 times in northwest Iowa and southern Minnesota alone,” Ted pointed out, acknowledging that the pipeline network would be constructed more efficiently if its purpose were not gobbling up farmland.

“It’ll improve our carbon footprint so the people in California can buy more ethanol?” he asked. Janssen also noted the hypocrisy, pointing out, “Why invest all this money in ethanol plants when we’re being pushed toward electric cars?”

Birchers to the Rescue

Landowner opposition to the pipelines is indeed strong, as DeWeese told *The New American*. But he, too, blames political leadership for failure in their duty to defend their own constituents, especially admonishing county boards.

“One county had written to the Iowa Utilities Board, pleading with them not to invoke eminent domain,” he recalled. In a public meeting he rebuked those commissioners: “This is how



you represent your people? By pleading? Shameful! You are the body directly elected by the people to protect their rights. You must take action to do that!”

DeWeese instructed them about how to enact ordinances that protect property rights from pipeline incursion, and also called on sheriffs to enforce property-rights laws, as is their right and duty.

Farmer and JBS member Linda Schauer reports that this local approach is working in her area of South Dakota. “County commissioners are on the side of the

farmers and are starting to realize that they have more power than they originally thought,” she told *The New American*.

However, Janssen says she is shocked at how many farmers look the other way when their property does not lie directly in the path of the pipeline. “Don’t they realize that they could be next on the chopping block?” she wonders. “Don’t they know that this isn’t going to stop? This is just round one. If you don’t get involved now, what are you waiting for?”

Meanwhile, many landowners directly affected by the pipeline are left to fend for themselves, facing lawsuits for refusing to allow surveys of their farms. Representing dozens of them across the Midwest is Brian Jorde of Domina Law Group in Omaha, Nebraska. He warns against the attitude of those who consider themselves safely out of the line of fire. “It’s easy to ignore things that don’t directly affect us, but in the meantime, lobbyists and power brokers keep writing new laws and regulations,” he told *The New American*. “When it ends up on their doorsteps, landowners wonder how it got this bad.” He cautioned that those unwilling to defend rights are at the greatest risk of losing them.

That is exactly why Birchers are stepping up — both to defend farmers against the pipeline and to warn the rest of America about Agenda 2030. “This is a globalist attempt to take over our private property, to destroy wealth and to violate our Constitution,” Kobza told *The New American*, “and it is based on the biggest lie in history: man-made climate change.”

To counter green propaganda, “The John Birch Society fights on the basis of truth, not lies,” avows Kobza. She sees victory through JBS educational efforts. “I think people are waking up to the fact that this is part of a larger scheme. They don’t think we’re peddling crazy conspiracy theories anymore. They see it playing out.” ■



THE GOODNESS OF AMERICA

Bus Drivers Help Rescue Toddler

Two Michigan bus drivers played a significant role in rescuing a kidnapped toddler. The child was in his parents' vehicle when it was stolen, and area cameras captured the rescue.

The two-year-old's parents had stepped out of their car to wait with their older child for the school bus. Someone jumped into their running vehicle and drove off with the toddler still inside.

Video footage released by Kelloggsville Public Schools shows the terrified father approaching a school bus and begging the driver to contact the police.

The Grand Rapids bus driver, Dave Skinner, immediately called 911 and also alerted his team of bus drivers in the area of the incident. Minutes later, another bus driver, Sue Figueroa, saw the toddler sitting alone in a driveway.

Video footage shows Figueroa taking the child onto the bus and saying, "I'll bring you to your mama." When the bus driver arrived at the child's home, she handed the baby back to her mother and assured her that the toddler was okay.

The stolen car was later found abandoned in Grand Rapids, WRAL reported.

The entire ordeal was emotional, not just for the parents, but for the bus drivers as well.

"I was crying all day. It was very emotional. I was very relieved," Figueroa told NBC.

Jim Alston, superintendent of Kelloggsville Public Schools, praised the two drivers for helping to reunite the child with his parents.

"It was probably the longest four to six minutes [of the mom's] life," said Kristin Nickelson, the district's director of transportation. "That mom was so scared, and I just can't imagine what it would have been like not knowing where your baby was."

Nickelson called Skinner and Figueroa heroes, but Skinner humbly declined the title.

"I don't know if we're heroes," Skinner said, according to Today.com. "Drivers are very attentive to all the kids in the neighborhoods while we're picking them up.

And if they see something odd or strange, they're real quick to get on the radio and holler back."

Church Members Respond to Deadly Car Crash

Local church members responded immediately after a deadly car crash in Harrah, Oklahoma, claimed the lives of the driver and one of the passengers.

Stephen Stewart and his three daughters spent the day at the annual fall festival in Harrah on October 8. After leaving the parking lot, the family of four hit a tree before landing on the retention road, KOCO 5 reported, just 100 yards from the Faith Baptist Church.

Stephen and his seven-year-old daughter, Maddie, a first grader at Virginia Smith Elementary School, were killed in the crash.

Upon hearing the crash, members of the church immediately ran to the vehicle to help without giving any thought to their own safety.

"When that accident happened, the response of our guys was to run toward it, not run away from it. They ran there and they helped and that's what Christ would've done," said Dan Campbell, the pastor of Faith Baptist Church.

Two other children, 11-year-old twins, were injured in the incident, but were rescued from the car by members of the church. Church members stayed with the twins until first responders arrived; later the same parishioners prayed in the field for the family.

Stewart's sister released a statement to KOCO 5 explaining that the loss is tremendous for everyone. The kids lost their mother three years ago, and now the twins have lost their loving father and sister.

Piecing together the details of what led to the tragic accident, police believe Stephen suffered a medical episode that led to the accident.

A GoFundMe page was set up to assist the family with funeral expenses, and within days, the \$10,000 goal was surpassed.

Campbell said that while the family

did not belong to the church, their names would never be forgotten.

"It was just on everybody's mind. It's a terrible thing to have happened this close to our church and it just broke everybody's heart. We have a couple of extended members of the family in our church and so we pray for them and pray for the family," Campbell said.

Healing Music

Musician Ryan Carney of Geneva, Illinois, has taken his musical talents to area nursing homes in the hopes of lifting spirits and expediting recovery.

Carney, who recently lost his father to brain cancer, has been bringing his cello to perform at senior-care facilities to entertain the residents. Through his experience with his father, Carney saw firsthand the power of music for individuals struggling with a variety of conditions.

WGN 9 reported on October 6 that Carney's father, Seamus, had lost his ability to speak because of his cancer, but suddenly broke out in song when the song *Stand by Me* came on at a family party.

"It's something that's hardly explainable," Carney said. "I'm not a doctor, but I know that music is known to be the universal language. And when language is barricaded by a disease, sometimes music can penetrate that like nothing else can."

According to Bruce Morton, son of 100-year-old nursing-home resident Mary Morton, he has seen his mother positively stimulated by Carney's cello performances at Bickford Senior Living in St. Charles.

"It is unbelievable how hearing music stimulates her mind," Bruce told WGN 9. "It's the trigger to all those long-term memories. The music comes in her head and right out her fingers."

Susan Frances told Carney that she has seen a great deal of progress in her friend Patricia, who is recovering from a stroke at a facility at which Carney plays.

"Since my friend Patricia's stroke, she has not been able to speak but through music, she has begun to understand words!" she said. "She remembers your cello playing. It is a gift to hear you." ■

— RAVEN CLABOUGH



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THE IRS IN YOUR POCKET: INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING

Should employers be forced to be tax collectors for the feds?
If you are a big-government liberal, the answer is yes.



AP Images

Funding the FedGov labyrinth: Americans revolted against King George III over “taxation without representation.” Today the IRS processes millions of tax returns of Americans whose employers withhold their income by law, assisting in stealing citizens’ wealth.

by David Kelly

For nearly 80 years now, most Americans have had federal income tax withheld from their wages through a system that has been in effect continuously since 1943. The current withholding legislation was enacted during World War II and was sold as the patriotic choice to help the United States win the war. The war ended with victory in 1945, yet the tax

David Kelly is a self-taught, life-long learner who enjoys research and writing on politics, history, and economics.

withholding conveniently remains, funding our federal government labyrinth.

Today, American workers know that their gross and take-home wages are two different things. They have accepted payroll withholding as a fact of life in our complex world of government taxation, and hope to avoid possible tax penalties — or worse — when taxes are due each year.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS), which collects these taxes, has recently been making headlines with the passage of the so-called Inflation Reduction Act and the hiring of 87,000 new agents. Those agents are going to be looking to

ensure the federal government gets its “fair share” of your hard-earned income, as some Americans have found ways to avoid paying their taxes in full.

By design, withholding of federal taxes reduces tax evasion by seizing the people’s earnings before they can possess them. The system of mandatory federal tax withholding at the source of income is a brilliant way for our government to gain its operating funds. It is nothing short of legalized thievery, as involuntary taxation is a form of theft. More than that, a federal income tax with mandatory withholding essentially enlists employers as unwitting agents of the U.S. government. As Dan Smoot, a former FBI agent and author of *The Dan Smoot Report*, wrote in the May 7, 1962 issue of his report,

The role of unpaid tax-collector, which the withholding law thrusts on employers, is a heavy burden, and has destroyed many small and struggling enterprises. Businesses with enough operating capital can survive the additional burden, by passing it on to consumers in higher prices; but this is one of many governmental harassments which have so inflated the cost of doing business in the United States that American-made goods are being priced out of world markets.

This was written in 1962; consider how much worse the situation has become since then.

But how did we get to where we are now, with the mandatory withholding of federal income taxes?

Before federal income taxes were ever collected, the federal government’s largest



Whiskey Rebellion: The federal government's tax on distilled spirits to help pay off war debt was met with defiance and threats of violence by protesters in 1794.

source of revenue came from tariffs that were collected at major ports. This was a simple way to fund the federal government early on, as the U.S. government's responsibilities were limited to basic operational matters and did not include such modern expenses as social-insurance programs, welfare programs, agricultural subsidies, and more.

Another source of revenue was (and still is) federal excise taxes applied to specific items such as motor fuels, tires, telephone usage, tobacco products, and alcoholic beverages.

In 1791, during the presidency of George Washington, Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton proposed a tax on distilled spirits as a way to pay off some of the debt from the War for Independence. After heated debate, the House decided by a vote of 35–21 to approve legislation imposing a seven-cent-per-gallon excise tax on whiskey. This became the first time in American history that Congress voted to

tax an American product, and it led to the Whiskey Rebellion. Washington quelled the “tax rebellion” in 1794, suppressing the insurgency with 13,000 militiamen provided by the governors of Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. Thereafter, the whiskey excise tax remained difficult to collect, and was repealed in 1802 during Thomas Jefferson's presidency, as he, along with many other Americans, opposed Hamilton's Federalist tax policies.

Later, during the War Between the States, the Union government needed money to fund the war effort. A federal income tax, along with withholding, was instituted and collected with the passage of the Revenue Act of 1861. The U.S. Treasury withheld taxes owed by federal employees under this income-tax law until an 1864 amendment exempted federal salaries from taxation. Although withholding taxes ceased, the federal government continued to collect a progressive tax from cit-

izens at three percent on incomes between \$600 and \$10,000 and five percent on incomes over \$10,000. The war-spawned income-tax law was repealed in 1872.

No income tax was collected from 1873 to 1893. In late 1894, the Revenue Act, or Wilson-Gorman Tariff Act, was passed. This slightly reduced the U.S. tariff rates from the numbers set in the 1890 McKinley tariff and imposed a two-percent tax on income over \$4,000, and no withholding of earnings was implemented. That income tax affected only the rich, and it was estimated that less than one percent of Americans households would pay any tax.

In 1895, the U.S. Supreme Court declared the federal income tax unconstitutional and struck down portions of the Wilson-Gorman Tariff Act of 1894, as it imposed a direct tax on the incomes of American citizens and corporations. Any direct tax must be subject to the rules articulated in Article I, Section 2, of the U.S. Constitution: “Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers.” There were no federal income taxes from 1895 to 1912.

With a direct federal income tax deemed unconstitutional, Congress sought simply to amend the Constitution. By adding the language, “from whatever source derived,” the “direct tax dilemma” related to Article I, Section 2 was solved, and

Before federal income taxes were ever collected, the federal government's largest source of revenue came from tariffs that were collected at major ports. This was a simple way to fund the federal government early on, as the U.S. government's responsibilities were limited to basic operational matters.

Congress could be authorized to lay and collect income taxes without regard to the rules of Article I, Section 9 regarding census and enumeration. The 16th Amendment was ratified in 1913.

The full text of the 16th Amendment is: “The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration.”

With the Tariff Act of 1913 enacted after the ratification of the 16th Amendment, tax rates on Americans ranged from one percent to seven percent based on income in 1914, and grew to a progressive rate of up to 77 percent of income by 1917. The tax was withheld at the source, or by the employer. This system provoked so much complaint from employers that even the secretary of the treasury, William Gibbs McAdoo, recommended its elimination, and in 1917 Congress withdrew its authorization for withholding taxes.

It wasn't until the passage of the Social Security Act in 1935 that payroll taxes were once again withheld by employers,

but that didn't include income taxes. Individuals still paid federal income taxes owed during a given year over the following year in quarterly installments. And back then, relatively few people paid income taxes. As late as 1939, fewer than seven million individual returns were filed, and the filers' total tax bill came to less than \$1 billion, or less than four percent of their net taxable income. Since so few people paid income tax, and the amounts due in most cases were so small, paying them once a year or every quarter imposed no great burden and gave rise to few taxpayer complaints.

With the Great Depression dragging on, and as the government began to mobilize for participation in a world war, its revenue demands started to grow swiftly in 1940. Federal spending burgeoned from \$9 billion in fiscal year 1940 to more than \$92 billion in fiscal year 1945. Most of this spending was financed by borrowing, but huge increases in tax collections also took place. In 1945, nearly 50 million individual income-tax returns were filed, and the filers owed more than \$19 billion, or

almost 20 times the amount that Americans had paid just five years earlier.

In the dark days of World War II, the nation was basically bankrupt and needed money to fund the war effort, and income taxes were still only collected quarterly. The government needed money *now*. It was free-market economist Milton Friedman who came up with a solution while he worked in the early years of World War II at the Department of the Treasury in the Division of Tax Research.

“It was clear to all of us at the Treasury, as we set out to multiply the amount of revenue to be collected from the personal income tax, that it would be impossible to do so unless we could develop a system to collect the taxes as the income was earned, not a year later,” Friedman said, according to his 1998 memoirs *Two Lucky People*, written with his wife, Rose.

Thus, the current pay-as-you-go withholding system was the solution. The problem then was how to switch to “pay-as-you-go” so that when the switch was made, the taxpayers would pay two years' taxes in a single year — the amount due under the old system on the previous year's earnings, as well as the amount due under the new system on the current year's earnings. Outside of the complaints that this double taxation was sure to elicit, many people could not make all the tax payments, especially when tax rates were also being increased.

Transitioning from the old tax payment plan to the pay-as-you-go withholding plan caused quite a bit of debate in the government and among taxpayers. In 1942, Beardsley Ruml, the treasurer of R.H. Macy & Co. and chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, proposed to “forgive” the previous year's tax liability completely when the switch to the pay-as-you-go system was made. But the Treasury objected to allowing the “forgiveness” and proposed an alternative plan.

In 1943, a Senate hearing was held on a new tax payment act. During the hearing, senators and representatives spoke candidly of the revenues that needed “to be fried out of the taxpayers.” The wartime Congress passed the Current Tax Payment Act into law on June 9, 1943. The act provided for a complicated partial-forgiveness transition. As Friedman de-



Government's grabbing hands: Biden's signing of the Inflation Reduction Act approved the hiring of 87,000 new IRS agents, who will ensure the federal government gets its “fair share” of your hard-earned income.

What would it take to repeal the current withholding law? Only a majority of both Houses of Congress and the signature of the president. Abolishing withholding taxes would be an act of liberty and resistance. It would amount to a peaceful tax revolution, and hopefully improve honesty and openness in government.

scribed it, the law basically “canceled ... one year’s tax obligations of \$50 or less and 75 percent of the required tax on the lower of 1942 or 1943 income, requiring the remaining 25 percent to be paid in two equal annual installments.” When the system became fully operational, employers withheld almost \$8 billion for income taxes in 1944, and more than \$10 billion in 1945.

It’s been 77 years since World War II ended, but instead of revising the Tax Payment Act of 1943 to fit the needs of postwar America, the government has kept it in force. This has given the federal government too much power and more than its fair share of the taxpayers’ income.

Charlotte Twight, in her article “Evolution of Federal Income Tax Withholding: The Machinery of Institutional Change,” said it best: “Withholding is the paramount administrative mechanism that since 1943 has enabled the federal government to collect, without significant protest, sufficient private resources to fund a vastly expanded welfare state.”

Friedman, who admitted being “one of the architects” of the Treasury’s proposal for a withholding system, noted in his memoirs that the system “would have been introduced had I been involved or not.” Withholding was an essential element of the govern-

ment’s wartime revenue grab. “At the time,” concluded Friedman, “we concentrated single-mindedly on promoting the war effort. We gave next to no consideration to any longer-run consequences. It never occurred to me at the time that I was helping to develop machinery that would make possible a government that I would come to criticize severely as too

large, too intrusive, too destructive of freedom. Yet, that was precisely what I was doing.”

In 2021, Americans filed more than 261 million income-tax returns. The vast majority had their income withheld by their employers.

Now imagine that the withholding of federal taxes, or, for that matter, of all taxes from wages, was abolished, and the taxpayer could keep all his earnings. Then each taxpayer would choose to file an annual or quarterly tax payment to cover that year’s vast array of taxes due, including federal, state, Social Security, and Medicare. Would that not be the biggest eye-opener as to the extent of government spending for all Americans to see and understand as they write huge checks to the government?

What would it take to repeal the current withholding law? Only a majority of both Houses of Congress and the signature of the president. Abolishing the withholding of taxes would be an act of liberty and resistance. It would amount to a peaceful tax revolution, and hopefully improve honesty and openness in government. But why stop there? The 16th Amendment should also be repealed, completely eliminating the federal income tax — which for much of our nation’s history was unconstitutional. Of course, this would require a massive reduction in the size of the federal government, bringing it back to its constitutional moors, which would lead to a commensurate increase in individual liberty.

After all (and somewhat ironically), it was none other than Woodrow Wilson — under whose watch the Federal Reserve and federal income tax were enacted — who said on May 9, 1912, “Liberty has never come from government. Liberty has always come from the subjects of government. The history of liberty is the history of resistance.” ■



Revenue grab: Free-market economist Milton Friedman assisted the Treasury Department with implementing tax withholding during WWII, later admitting that it created a government “too large, too intrusive, too destructive of freedom.”

wikipedia/RobertHannah89



"... the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

EXERCISING THE RIGHT

Mother Protects Her Children

Fox News reported on October 30 about a terrifying burglary in rural Hidalgo County, Texas, that involved small children. Police investigators say a man broke in to a house occupied by a mother who was home alone with her children in the early evening. Fortunately, the mother reacted quickly, rushed her kids into a bedroom, and locked the door. The suspect had gained entry to the house through the garage and tried breaking in to the locked room. The mother yelled to the intruder that she was armed and had called the police, but the man continued to try to break through the locked door. The mother was left with no other options, so she fired her gun through the bedroom door, hitting the suspect, who then fled from the house.

Police soon arrived and discovered the wounded suspect near the house suffering from a gunshot wound to his left arm. He was later identified as 36-year-old Carlos Garcia and, after receiving medical treatment, was charged with burglary of habitation with intent.

Hidalgo County Sheriff Eddie Guerra talked to KRGV about what occurred and praised the mother for her actions: "You have the right to defend yourself in your own home against an intruder.... I imagine she was in fear of her life ... so she did what she had to do, and we support her." Guerra also said that the mother's actions were lawful and that she won't face any charges. "You don't have to give notice, if someone's breaking into your home you have the right to protect yourself and use deadly force, and you're not going to have any problem with the sheriff of Hidalgo County."

Guns on the Ballot

The 2022 midterm elections featured gun-law related ballot measures that went before voters in two states. Iowa had a proposed state amendment, titled the "Right to Keep and Bear Arms Amendment," that would amend the state constitution to include wording similar

to the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. The amendment also specified that "any and all restrictions" on gun ownership would be "subject to strict scrutiny" by the state courts. Iowa's current state constitution does not contain its own gun-rights protection, and the amendment's sponsor wants to remedy that. Opponents of the law worry that the proposed amendment might prevent future attempts at gun control, and might even overturn previous gun-control legislation already approved by the courts. Hopefully their fears are well-founded, because the measure was approved by a wide margin on election night.

On the other side of the spectrum, the state of Oregon had an anti-Second Amendment measure on the ballot that was popularly referred to as the "Reduction of Gun Violence Act." The law requires new gun owners to obtain a permit prior to purchasing a firearm. It also prohibits any magazines that can hold more than 10 rounds. Most alarmingly, the measure requires law enforcement to maintain a database of all the permits and firearms.

Interestingly, this measure did not originate with the state Legislature, but was drafted and proposed by a leftist anti-gun group, the "interfaith" organization "Lift Every Voice Oregon," which collected more than 112,000 signatures to get it on the ballot. Unfortunately, the initiative was narrowly approved by voters. This might be demoralizing for gun-rights supporters, but perhaps they can get creative and replicate the actions of the anti-gun organization and collect enough signatures to get a pro-gun act on the ballot for 2024.

See No Evil

WKRC reported on November 2 about a burglary attempt in Franklin, Ohio, that ended when the homeowner shot the suspect. This story is particularly unusual because the homeowner who fired at the suspect was reported to be partially blind, and actually had a close relationship with the suspect.

The homeowner had just returned

home after a stay in the hospital when he discovered an intruder in his house. The homeowner fired at the suspect, who fled the house, and then quickly called 911. The partially blind homeowner was recorded telling the 911 dispatcher, "I got a shot off him. He was coming right towards me.... I don't know if it hit him or not." Law enforcement arrived at the scene and began searching the house, and followed a trail of blood to a shed around the corner, where they found 36-year-old Jeffrey Carl. The man who owned the shed later told the news that the suspect was shot in the rear end.

Carl told police that the homeowner was practically an uncle to him, and that he thought the homeowner was still in the hospital when he tried robbing him. Neighbors said that he has his own personal issues, which include criminal charges for drugs and weapons. Police believe that Carl stole some music equipment and guns from the victim before he was shot. He was taken to a nearby medical facility and is facing charges for burglary. According to court records, he had a warrant out for his arrest related to domestic violence.

Knife vs. Gun

WHTM reported on October 21 about a burglary in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, where a burglar broke in to a house by kicking in the back door. The suspect, Keon Washington, was confronted by an armed resident, who warned him to stop and leave the house. Washington allegedly ignored the verbal commands of the homeowner, causing the homeowner to fire at him.

The wounded suspect fled from the house and was later apprehended by police, who said he was carrying a butcher knife. Thankfully Washington complied with the police officer's lawful commands, and was taken to a nearby medical facility for treatment of his gunshot wounds. He was later charged with felony trespassing, attempted burglary, terroristic threats, and recklessly endangering another person. ■

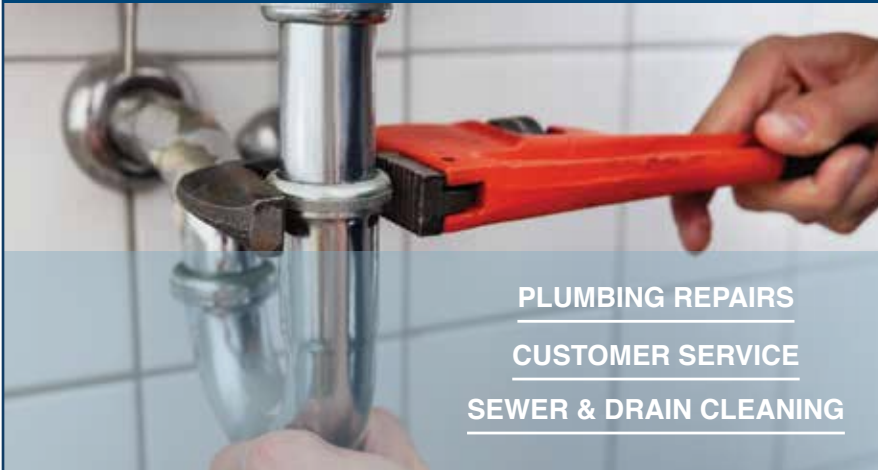
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What Happened to the Red Wave?

According to both liberal Democrats and neoconservative Republicans, MAGA is to blame for the disappointing midterm election results. But the truth is very different.

(December 12, 2022) TNA221212

Not Spread



Vax Propaganda Plan Exposed

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Great Reset: Happening Now

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Biden's Crime Wave

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In an age when activist judges make law rather than abide by it, Justice Clarence Thomas stands out as a jewel on the Supreme Court. (October 17, 2022) TNA221017



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THE REVIEW

Politicized “Justice”

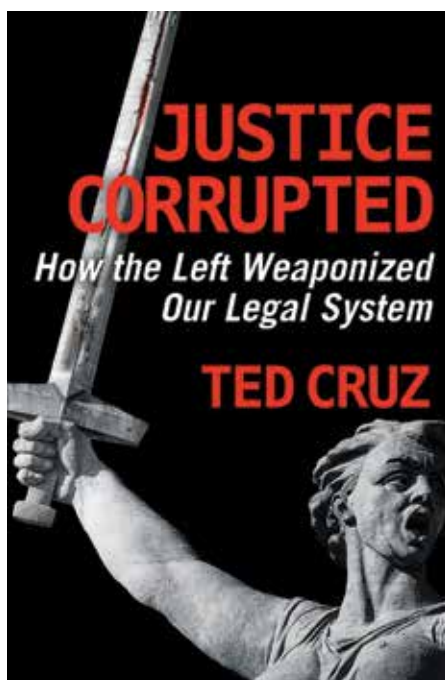
by Steve Byas

Justice Corrupted: How the Left Weaponized Our Legal System, by Ted Cruz, Washington, D.C.: Regnery Publishing, 2022, 233 pages, hardcover.

One of the most memorable passages in George Orwell’s *Animal Farm* is when the ruling pigs change the “commandment” of “All animals are equal” by adding “but some animals are more equal than others.”

That sums up the situation we face in America today, as chronicled by Senator Ted Cruz (R-Texas) in his new book *Justice Corrupted: How the Left Weaponized Our Legal System*. Senator Cruz is on the short list of the most conservative members of the U.S. Senate, and he has had a front-row seat to multiple examples of the basic thesis of his book — that the Left has largely captured our legal system, and is using it to advance its agenda.

One of my favorite parts of the book was Cruz’s firsthand account of the effort by him and a handful of other members of the Senate not to “overturn” the results of the 2020 presidential election on January 6, 2021, but simply to have a 10-day investigation by an Electoral Commission



— with full investigatory and fact-finding authority — into potential election fraud in Arizona and Pennsylvania. After that investigation, the results would be turned over to those disputed states, which would then evaluate the commission’s findings. Then, if they felt there were sufficient evidence, those states could convene a special legislative session to certify a change in their electoral vote, if needed.

Of course, once some of the January 6 protesters began to pour into the Capitol, many of Cruz’s fellow senators who had agreed to participate in the effort to get

Congress to authorize such a commission lost their nerve, and Biden was certified the winner of the presidential election.

Readers who believe that there were significant irregularities surrounding the 2020 presidential election will have those suspicions confirmed by Cruz’s book. He doesn’t make wild and unsupported charges, but rather offers specific examples of ways in which the Democrats abused the election process to produce a Trump defeat. Cruz went to bed on election night assuming that Trump had been reelected, but woke up the next morning with the media declaring a victory for Joe Biden instead.

Cruz details the problems in Pennsylvania, where the state’s constitution prohibits mail-in voting, but mail-in voting was done anyway. He gives behind-the-scenes details about the lawsuit that his state of Texas, along with four other states, filed in a vain effort to expose ways in which the election was manipulated in Biden’s favor.

But Cruz gives a much broader picture of how the Left is corrupting American justice to advance their agenda than simply writing about the controversial 2020 election.

He opens the book with a story of how a 14-year-old girl was sexually assaulted in the girls’ bathroom by a boy wearing a skirt, and how a “woke” school board attempted to cover up the incident in an effort to protect support for the transgender cause. This was followed by the National School Boards Association persuading Attorney General Merrick Garland to issue a

formal memo to the FBI and the criminal division of the Department of Justice labeling protests at school-board meetings examples of domestic terrorism, and stating that the DOJ would “use its authority and resources to discourage these threats.”

Cruz opines that the DOJ — rather than being an arm of the Democratic Party, as it is now — should be “apolitical.” He explains how the DOJ was begun by President Ulysses S. Grant to combat the post-Civil War Ku Klux Klan, but in 1933 its role was expanded by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. When Richard Nixon became president, he tried to use the FBI to punish his enemies, but then-Director J. Edgar Hoover resisted these efforts.

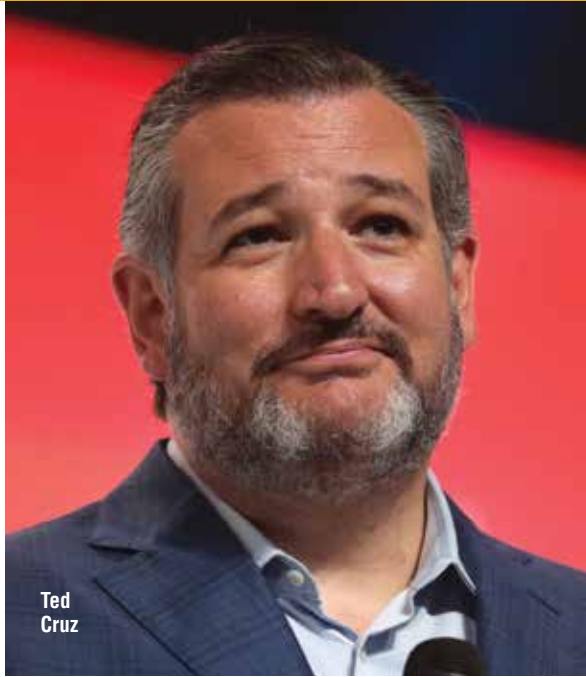
Since that time, other presidents may have pushed the FBI and the DOJ to operate in a manner to help them against political opponents, but, as Cruz notes, “no president flouted the norms of judicial independence quite so brazenly as Barack Obama.” Rather than viewing the DOJ as an entity that should be strictly nonpartisan, Eric Holder, who was Obama’s attorney general, bragged, “I’m still the president’s wing man.”

The scandals of the Nixon presidency, including Nixon’s attempt to use the FBI and the Internal Revenue Service to his advantage, are documented by Cruz, who explained how Nixon’s efforts were largely rebuffed by the two agencies. But that all changed under Obama, as his administration made frequent use of both the IRS and the FBI to advance its agenda by harassing conservative organizations.

The Obama IRS frequently denied the nonprofit tax-exempt status of organizations such as True the Vote, which simply advocated for the implementation of some suggested reforms designed to protect the integrity of American elections.

As Cruz put it, “Anyone who raised concerns about voter fraud [was] quickly labeled a conspiracy theorist,” and all such persons were “deemed enemies in the eyes of the Obama administration.”

True the Vote was one of the targets of Obama’s politicization of the IRS.



Gage Skidmore

When its leader, Catherine Engelbrecht, applied for 501(c)(3) status to operate as a nonprofit, the IRS made hundreds of demands, including copies of every Facebook post and every Twitter post she had ever made. They also demanded a detailed list of any speaking engagements she had done since the group’s founding. “The FBI opened multiple lines of inquiry into their activities,” Cruz wrote, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives opened an investigation concerning her husband’s gun sales. OSHA also investigated the couple’s small manufacturing firm.

As it turns out, this attack on True the Vote was part of a concerted effort by the Obama IRS to shut down conservative organizations. Cruz also documents abuse of the IRS by other presidents, including FDR and John F. Kennedy.

In 2012, IRS agents were instructed to single out “political action type organizations involved in limiting government” and “education on the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.” Cruz summarizes it all: “The Obama administration was able to do what even the Nixon administration could not — successfully use the IRS to harass, intimidate, and silence its enemies.”

Part of the problem is the length of the Internal Revenue Code, which is now 2.4 million words and 70,000 pages long.

“The tax code,” Cruz explains, “is so complicated that it can be weaponized against virtually anyone at any time.” Because of this, Cruz advocates abolishing the IRS.

While presidents from Roosevelt to Obama have been able to abuse their position as chief of the executive branch, agencies such as the IRS and FBI have now been filled with so many radical leftists that, if the American people elect a president who is not favorable to the progressive platform, these agencies can be weaponized against the president himself. This was quite evident when the FBI and America’s intelligence apparatus conspired to bring down President Trump in what was dubbed “Operation Crossfire.”

It was then-Vice President Joe Biden who suggested in January 2017, in the last days of the Obama presidency, going after Trump’s incoming National Security Advisor Lt. General Michael Flynn because he had spoken with the Russian ambassador, Sergey Kislyak.

But there are many efforts of the Left that have not received the same level of notoriety as the attempt to destroy the Trump presidency. In other chapters, Cruz addresses critical race theory; lawlessness; individual targets of the Left such as Dinesh D’Souza, Scooter Libby, and Senator Ted Stevens; and affirmative action.

Cruz explains that critical race theory is simply a branch of Marxist ideology. He notes that when he was at Harvard, there had been efforts to advance Critical Legal Studies, which argued that the law served no purpose other than to perpetuate the interests of the ruling class.

CRT is another example of this ideology. Today, it is being transmitted to young children in the education system, coming out of the college departments where teachers, including kindergarten teachers, are produced.

And then there are what Cruz dubs the “Soros prosecutors,” leftists who won their positions with contributions from Soros organizations. When these prosecutors take office, they refuse to prosecute multitudes of crimes.

Justice Corrupted is a good summary of these issues and more. ■

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— Ron Paul, former congressman and presidential candidate

by Dennis Behreandt



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BY WILLIAM S. HAHN, CEO OF THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

A “Red Wave” **Won’t Save This Country**

“We believe ... that trying to achieve changes in national policy and direction, simply by the organization of political forces and without a sufficiently thorough educational program as the underlying base, is to act like the ancient Egyptians in trying to make bricks without any straw to hold the clay together.”

— John Birch Society founder Robert Welch, December 1966



smartboy10/Getty Images Plus

In other words, a “red wave,” even if it had occurred, would not have been, by itself, enough to save the country. Just voting for Republicans and hoping that they’ll solve this nation’s problems is an exercise in futility. No one political party holds a monopoly on freedom or on tyranny.

For instance, look up how many congressional Republicans are supportive of legislation to battle supposed “climate change.” According to *Deseret News*, “Earlier this month [June 2022], leading Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives began to unveil a vision for climate action.”

This tells me, a dedicated and informed member of The John Birch Society, that either Republican leaders just don’t understand the battle they’re in, they’re ignoring the real battle, or they’re complicit. The real battle concerns liberty vs. tyranny. Tyranny is what will be ushered in if the United Nations gets its way.

For instance, the breathless headlines of the recent coverage of the COP27 Climate Change Conference in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, gave dire warnings of humanity either cooperating or perishing. The UN solution, as longtime readers of this magazine know, is a complete reorientation of societal priorities in which climate change and sustainability would factor into *every* decision. It’s one thing for a “free” society to “reorient” itself voluntarily on an individual basis, but it’s entirely different when that reorientation is forced upon that society, especially by an eventual world government that would ensure everyone’s compliance. Ask farmers in Sri Lanka and the Netherlands how this is working out.

Cooperate or perish? No thanks. I’ll take my chances with the American patriots who see through this ruse to enslave mankind. I’ll continue working through JBS toward preserving and restoring God-given rights and the limited government that’s supposed to protect those rights.

Congressional Republican leaders such as House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (whose voting has earned him a 60-per-

cent lifetime score on *The New American’s* Freedom Index, which rates congressmen on their faithfulness to the Constitution) have already capitulated. Where in Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution is Congress granted any power to legislate on environmental issues? This should be left to the states, according to the 10th Amendment.

As was pointed out during the 2022 JBS Leadership Conference in Florence, Kentucky, elected officials suddenly don’t become experts when they get into office. There’s no training session

that outlines constitutional limitations. To paraphrase Thomas Jefferson, their discretion needs to be informed — by those who elected them.

Knowing that congressional freshmen can quickly be corrupted by Big Government Republican leadership, the House Freedom Caucus assembled a 52-page guide to give them some good advice. Representative Scott Perry (R-Pa.) wrote in the guide,

Some will urge you to be “a team player” by falling in line with leadership and doing what you’re told. You’ll be warned not to ‘rock the boat’ by raising questions or concerns with leadership’s agenda.

Before you make any decisions, however, you should be aware of the realities here in Washington and the opportunities we have to change them. Republicans ran to fix Washington. We cannot continue to govern in the same way that broke it.

Any election brings a certain level of responsibility on the part of those who send the new politicians to Washington. Replacing Democrats with Republicans does not necessarily mean that we’ll get better (i.e., more constitutional) government. Informed constituents must continue to hold their congressmen’s feet to the fire and insist that they follow their oaths of office, while also awakening other constituents and encouraging them to become involved in the freedom movement as well. As Robert Welch said in 1966, “Our job is simply to create sufficient understanding, in the confidence that all else, including the correct and necessary political action, will automatically follow.”

Join The John Birch Society today at [JBS.org](https://jbs.org) to help create this sufficient understanding. ■

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The shortest and surest way to understand basic economics. (1979ed, 218pp, pb, 1/\$16.95ea; 2-4/\$15.95ea; 5+/\$13.95ea) **BKEIOL**

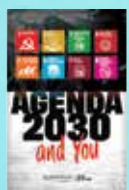


End Game — Book

Dennis Behreandt examines the terrifying ideas of the Deep State's internationalist-elite oligarchs and the disquieting technological trends that, combined, threaten the fabric of our reality and the very future of mankind. (1-4/\$14.95ea, 5-11/\$12.95ea, 12-23/\$10.00ea, 24+/\$9.00ea) **BKEG**

No Farmers, No Food — Reprint

This reprint was adapted from the "No Farmers, No Food" articles that appeared in the September 12, 2022 issue of *The New American*. (2022, 12pp, 1-24/\$0.60ea; 25-99/\$0.50ea; 100+/\$0.45ea) **RPWOFAP**



Agenda 2030 and You — Booklet

Building on the original *Agenda 21 and You* booklet, this new booklet covers its progression as "Agenda 2030." (2022, 30pp, pb, 1-9/\$3.95ea; 10-24/\$3.00ea; 25-49/\$2.50ea; 50-99/\$2.00ea; 100+/\$1.95ea) **BKLT2030**

The UN's Agenda 2030: Marxist Stealth Plan for World Government

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Fighting Carbon-capture Pipelines: Stopping Environmental Idiocracy — Reprint

Carbon capture means property theft. Private companies are threatening to use eminent domain, courtesy of state utility boards, to seize private farmland and install thousands of miles of dangerous and destructive carbon-capture pipeline. (2022, 4pp, 1-24/\$0.35ea; 25-99/\$0.30ea; 100+/\$0.25ea) **RPFCPP**

Animal Farm — Book

A group of farm animals overthrow their master to run the farm themselves. They set out to create a paradise of progress, justice, and equality, only to have it devolve into tyranny. (1996ed, 128pp, pb, 1/\$8.95ea; 2+/\$7.95ea) **BKAF**



Sustainable: The War on Free Enterprise, Private Property and Individuals

Sustainable: The War on Free Enterprise, Private Property and Individuals describes in detail the process being used at every level of government to reorganize our society under the excuse of environmental protection. (2018, 206pp, pb, 1/\$19.95; 2-9/\$18.95ea; 10+/\$18.45ea) **BKSWFE**

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COS Endorses JBS — Reprint

Despite describing JBS as a "stalwart conservative organization" in a response to an article about an Article V Convention, Convention of States continues to get Article V wrong. (2022, 12pp, 1-24/\$0.60ea; 25-99/\$0.50ea; 100+/\$0.45ea) **RPCOSE**

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