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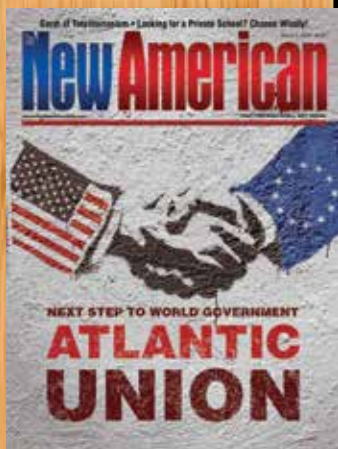
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NEXT STEP TO WORLD GOVERNMENT

ATLANTIC UNION



Next Step to World Government: Atlantic Union

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"This is a republic, not a democracy — Let's keep it that way!"

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Medicare Monstrosity

As a physician who worked in Canada's government healthcare system for 13 years prior to my last 18 years working in the United States, I concur with Rebecca Terrell's excellent article "Is Medicare for All the Cure-all?" (January 6 issue), answering with a resounding, "No!"

When I was medical director for diagnostic imaging for Thunder Bay Regional Hospital in Thunder Bay, Canada, the wait time for an MRI was 13 months, and for a CT it was seven months.

Healthcare in Canada is covertly rationed by limiting the availability of equipment and services, such as CT and MRI scanners. A part of my job was to triage patients, based on limited clinical history, and decide how long they would have to wait for their scans. At times, I would triage patients to the end of the line, only to read their scan months later and realize that they had an out-of-control tumor or rampant infection that should have been addressed months earlier. I could not sleep at night working in such a system.

As a Canadian who had been fully indoctrinated into believing the supposed moral virtue of government healthcare, I woke up from my socialist trance and disagreed with the state having a monopoly on healthcare.

Advocates of government healthcare will deny that rationing would occur in the United States under a "Medicare for All" scheme, but that is not plausible.

In a system that is budget-run rather than profit-driven, finite resources must be rationed. Healthcare is nothing more than a set of goods and services. In a truly free market system for any goods or services, vendors work long and hard to provide accessible, high-quality, reasonably priced wares to willing consumers — for instance, the modern communications industry. It was not so long ago that mobile phones were only available to the uber rich, but they are now ubiquitous across classes.

The United States should do something that it has not done since before World War II, and let the free market reign in healthcare, just as it mostly has for electronics and telecommunications. The United States doesn't now have a free market for healthcare. The U.S. system has third-party payments, crushing regulations, a lack of

meaningful competition, and no price transparency; it is quasi-socialist healthcare.

Strangely, my dog, a 10-year-old St. Bernard mixed breed, has the best healthcare plan in the family. Despite the fact that she is an older, large-breed dog prone to illness, I renewed her health insurance a few months ago for a mere \$398.20 for the year. The health insurance functions as true insurance should. Her plan does not cover routine predicted costs such as immunizations and checkups — only catastrophic events.

Absent a third-party payer, her healthcare costs are reasonable. In her life, she has only had one claimed expense, when she was disabled with a torn knee ligament. The required surgery cost \$2,850. The equivalent surgery for humans, *with a system of third-party payment*, would have been many tens of thousands of dollars. The dog's plan had a one thousand dollar deductible. For the surgery, the insurance company gave me a check for \$1,800, which I could spend where I wanted, making me a price-sensitive consumer.

A neglected strategy for meaningful human health reform is charity, which used to be a part of physician ethics. Rather than having mega-bureaucracies such as Medicaid inefficiently caring for the indigent, charity should be encouraged with strategies such as tax deductions or tax credits for charity care.

Restated, meaningful health reform involves the three C's: cash transactions, catastrophic insurance, and charity care. Unfortunately, such rational healthcare financing would face the opposition of the oligopoly of insurance companies and government that would lose power with such sensible changes.

The skyrocketing costs of healthcare in the United States are fixable, but more government is not the answer — less is.

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Hungarian Foreign Minister: Mass Migration Is a “Serious Threat”

During a United Nations conference on counterterrorism held February 11-12 in Vienna, Hungarian Foreign Minister Péter Szijjártó branded the mass-migration plan championed by the UN a “serious threat” to humanity. The foreign minister observed that the UN should spend more of its resources on fighting global terrorism and shift resources from its mass-migration schemes to do so.

“We are calling on the UN to include the fight against terrorism in its budget, to spend more on the global fight against terrorism and less on migration, for the benefit of all the world’s citizens,” Szijjártó said.

Szjijártó makes a good point. With its current migration scheme, the UN Global Compact for Migration, the UN is exacerbating the problem that its counterterrorism conference professes to address by attempting to, essentially, legalize illegal immigration, albeit in non-binding form.

Szjijártó pointed this out himself in 2018: “The goal of the UN Global Compact for Migration is to legalize illegal immigration, which is totally unacceptable and violates the sovereignty of member states, including that of Hungary.”

Szjijártó went on to point out the link between mass migration and at least 30 separate terror attacks since the 2015 migrant crisis in Europe. Well over a thousand European citizens have been killed by so-called asylum seekers since 2014.

The minister rightly said that the UN’s funding and encourage-

ment of mass migration posed “a very serious threat to the whole of humanity.”

Szjijártó has also been highly critical of EU policy on migration. In September of last year, he claimed that the EU was trying to “cram mandatory migrant quotas down the throats of European countries.”

The EU has been threatening to impose punitive sanctions on Hungary over its strict immigration policies since 2015, when the migrant crisis began.

But, thus far, Hungary has held strong, even constructing border fencing on its southern border in contravention of stated EU policy. And it worked, with the flow of illegal immigrants dropping from nearly 140,000 in 2015 to approximately 5,000 a year currently.



Péter Szijjártó

AP Images

Violence Against India’s Christians Reaches Record Levels



AP Images

Christians in India suffered “a record number of violent attacks” last year, with much of the blame being placed on the Hindu nationalist government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, reported the *Sunday Telegraph* on February 16.

Before Modi came to power in 2013, India didn’t even make Open Doors International’s top 30 nations for Christian persecution. Since then, violent attacks on Christians have increased 220 percent, according to the Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF). Today, India is the 10th most dangerous country for Christians and is considered less safe than Syria and Iraq.

ADF says 2019 saw “a record 328 violent attacks against Christians,” but “only 36 resulted in police filing a case,” and

none “has yet resulted in prosecution,” wrote the *Telegraph*. In addition, “more than 300 Christians were detained without trial for their faith and countless businesses, homes and schools were looted, burnt down and vandalized,” and “churches have been torched.” Worse still, “the police will commonly arrest the victim and charge them with trying to convert Hindus — a charge which can be punishable by seven years[’] imprisonment.”

“Meting out much of the violence is an all-male paramilitary youth wing linked to Mr. Modi’s Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP),” said the *Telegraph*. Members of this group “have been accused of fueling religious conflict with mob attacks using heavy iron-bound bamboo sticks known as lathi.”

“The increase in violence can mostly be explained by the cycle of incitement and impunity often perpetrated by members of the BJP and other Hindu nationalist organizations operating in India,” William Stark, International Christian Concern’s regional manager for South Asia, told the *Telegraph*.

Physical attacks aren’t the only type of persecution Christ-followers are facing. Christians have reported being excluded from Hindu-owned shops, forced out of their communities or hit with illegal taxes to remain, denied access to village wells, deprived of their crops, and refused burial plots for their relatives.

“Essentially, to be Indian is to be Hindu. Those who are not Hindu are thus viewed as foreigners and with suspicion,” said Stark.

Violence Against Republicans Again Increasing



AP Images

There are indications that, as during the 2016 presidential campaign, violence against conservatives is increasing in the run-up to the November election.

As Fox News reported on February 16, “The incidents began earlier this month when a Florida man, Gregory Timm, 27, allegedly rammed his van into a Republican Party voter registration tent (shown above). According to reports, Timm ran over chairs and tables, and witnesses said he recorded the scene moments after the incident, made an obscene gesture and sped off.”

There have been other recent cases, too. On February 11, 34-year-old Patrick Bradley of Windham, New Hampshire,

slapped a 15-year-old boy across the face and then assaulted two other adults who intervened. The victims were manning a Trump campaign tent.

“Bradley is also accused of throwing Trump campaign signs and attempting to knock over the campaign tent,” Fox added.

Protesters at the University of California at Santa Cruz “smashed a College Republicans information table, according to reports,” Fox tells us. “A video posted on social media shows two protesters tearing up placards and ripping down signage — with one of them appearing to spit on a 13-star ‘Betsy Ross’ American flag that is seen lying on the ground.”

Meanwhile, “Police at ASU are investigating after a video began circulating on social media showing a man screaming, ‘slash Republican throats,’” reports *Campus Reform*. Video of the incident was posted online by Students for Trump at Arizona State University on February 5.

Retired NYPD officer Daniel Sprague of Staten Island “says he got punched in the face at a Tennessee bar, all because he was wearing a birthday hat and shirt with Trump-like slogans,” Fox informs.

In January, “a Florida man was sentenced to 90 days in jail and one year of supervised probation after slapping the bill of a man’s ‘Make America Great Again’ hat before telling the man to ‘go back to Russia you f--- communist’ and spitting on him,” Fox also relates.

Again, though frequent attacks on conservatives are nothing new, they have become more common with President Trump’s rise.

United States Leads the World in Cutting CO₂ Emissions

In yet another blow to the climate-hysteria narrative, a report from the International Energy Agency released February 11 shows that the United States is leading the entire world in cutting carbon-dioxide emissions. The findings shatter the myth that the United States is holding the world back in attempts to reduce carbon-dioxide emissions, which climate alarmists say are the main reason that the Earth is in danger from “global warming.”

“The United States saw the largest decline in energy-related CO₂ emissions in 2019 on a country basis — a fall of 140 Mt, or 2.9%, to 4.8 Gt,” the report said. “U.S. emissions are now down

almost 1 Gt from their peak in the year 2000, the largest absolute decline by any country over that period.”

In the United States, a reduction in the use of coal-fired energy plants along with increased use of natural gas is largely credited for the decrease in emissions. “A 15% reduction in the use of coal for power generation underpinned the decline in overall US emissions in 2019. Coal-fired power plants faced even stronger competition from natural gas-fired generation, with benchmark gas prices an average of 45% lower than 2018 levels. As a result, gas increased its share in electricity generation to a record high of 37%.”

Wealthy, developed Western countries are leading the way in emissions reductions. The European Union, which for this report includes the United Kingdom, saw a five-percent decrease in emissions. Germany led the way, with its emissions dropping some eight percent to “a level not seen since the 1950s.”

However, “emissions outside advanced economies grew by close to 400 Mt in 2019, with almost 80% of the increase coming from Asia. In this region, coal demand continued to expand, accounting for over 50% of energy use, and is responsible for around 10 Gt of emissions,” according to the report.

So despite electing Donald Trump and leaving the Paris climate accords, the United States is the country with the best record in reducing greenhouse gases since the year 2000. ■



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Academy Award Winner Considers John Bolton a Hero, Trump a Loser

"They told me I have only 45 seconds up here, which is 45 seconds more than the Senate gave John Bolton this week."

After being presented his Oscar statuette, actor Brad Pitt insulted the 51 senators who voted against calling witnesses during the political attempt by Democrats to oust president Donald Trump. Pitt either doesn't know or covers up the past refusal of Democratic senators to have others give testimony in an impeachment trial, such as happened during the Senate trial of President Bill Clinton in 1998.



Al-Qaeda Claims Blame for Urging the Killing of Three at a U.S. Base in Florida

"I am against evil and America as a whole has turned into a nation of evil."

A guest of the United States and a trainee expected to become a Saudi Arabian fighter pilot, 21-year-old Saeed Alshamrani killed three American sailors and wounded eight others. He was slain by a sheriff's deputy during his rampage at the U.S. Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Florida. His reason for the killings appeared on his Twitter account. Several days after the tragic event, an al-Qaeda official based in Yemen said that organization sent Alshamrani on his murderous escapade.



Economics Professor/Columnist Insists Bernie Sanders Isn't a Socialist

"The thing is, Bernie Sanders isn't a socialist in any normal sense of the term."

In an excellent example of what's wrong with most colleges and universities, Professor Paul Krugman, who is a teacher of economics at Princeton University, has denied that a die-hard socialist is a socialist at all.

Romney's Vote to Remove Trump From Office Seen as a Blatant Self-promoting Gesture

"Was this the same man who denounced Donald Trump as a con man in March of 2016 and then auditioned to be his Secretary of State that November? Who, as governor of Massachusetts, pioneered a version of Obamacare in 2006 only to denounce Obamacare when he ran for president in 2012? Who by turns has called himself a progressive and moderate Republican, as well as a severely conservative one?"

As the first member of the Senate ever to vote to convict a member of his own political party in any impeachment/trial proceeding, Senator Mitt Romney's (R-Utah) action convinced onlookers that his performance was an example of dishonorable and self-promoting hubris, as suggested by New York Times columnist Bret Stephens.

Amazing Tunnel Dug by Criminal Organizations Discovered Under U.S.-Mexico Border

"The sophistication and length of this particular tunnel demonstrates the time-consuming efforts transnational criminal organizations will undertake to facilitate cross-border smuggling."

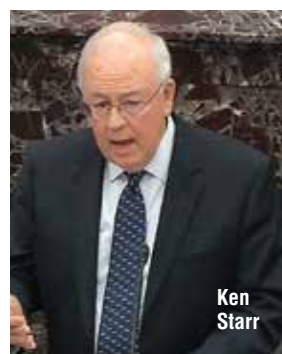
As the acting special agent in charge of San Diego-based Homeland Security Investigations, Cardell Morant showed photos taken of the recently discovered 4,309-foot-long (eight-tenths of a mile) tunnel 70 feet below the surface of the land, stretching from Tijuana, Mexico, to a portion of San Diego. The photos and video recordings also depicted the tunnel's underground rail line, electricity cables, and roughly hewn walls almost six feet high.

The Author of the Report Leading to the Clinton Impeachment Now Condemns the Current Use of the Process

"Instead of a once-in-a-century phenomenon, which it had been, presidential impeachment has become a weapon to be wielded against one's political opponent."

Independent counsel Ken Starr had a key role in the 1998 impeachment trial of then-President Bill Clinton. He is well-equipped to render criticism of the obvious political use of the process. ■

— COMPILED BY JOHN F. MCMANUS





NEXT STEP TO WORLD GOVERNMENT

ATLANTIC

UNION

Globalists have been eroding U.S. national sovereignty to make us subservient to a global EU-like governing entity. The Atlantic Union is yet another effort.

by Larry Greenley

It all sounds innocuous enough. President Trump and newly elevated European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen met for the first time on January 21 at the globalist World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, where they announced their intention to conclude a limited U.S.-EU trade deal this spring and a full U.S.-EU trade deal in November. What could go wrong?

The problem is that there is a hidden agenda for world government lurking within the explosion of alphabet soup trading blocs/regional governments in recent years. In this article we'll provide some historical context for this phenomenon, then segue into the present-day potential for the creation of a new regional government over North America and Europe that is often referred to as the "Atlantic Union."

A First Try at World Government

In 1911, Colonel Edward Mandell House was a political kingmaker in Texas politics who was looking for a coachable progressive Democrat to support in the 1912 presidential campaign. He met Woodrow Wilson for the first time in 1911 in New York City. Five years later House remembered this meeting vividly: "The first hour we spent together proved to each of us that there was a sound basis for a fast friendship. We found ourselves in such complete sympathy, in so many ways, that we soon learned to know what each was thinking without either having expressed himself." (*The Intimate Papers of Colonel House*, 1926.)

House went on to become Woodrow Wilson's closest and most trusted advisor during the presidential campaign of 1912 and during Wilson's presidency. In 1917 and 1918, House helped Wilson formulate and advocate for a League of Nations, which became part of the Treaty of Versailles that ended World War I. Indeed, House was a bona fide leader of the American foreign-policy elites who had gathered in Paris in 1919 to negotiate the final treaty with delegations from other nations.

On May 30, 1919, after it appeared

Larry Greenley, an MIT graduate and history buff, has transitioned his career from science to business to constitutionalist grassroots advocacy. He is currently director of missions for The John Birch Society.



Fast friends? President Trump and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen met for the first time on January 21 at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. They plan to negotiate two U.S.-EU trade deals this year.

So why does it appear that our nation still retains its national sovereignty? The answer is that public opinion would not permit the federal government to begin playing the role of a nation completely subservient to the United Nations.

likely that the U.S. Senate would not be ratifying the Treaty of Versailles and its League of Nations, Colonel House helped organize a meeting at the Hotel Majestic in Paris that eventually led to the establishment of the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) in New York City in 1921. The CFR quickly established itself as the leading organization of the American foreign-policy establishment, and has remained so for a century now. Not surprisingly, without America the League of Nations fizzled out by World War II. However, members of the globalist CFR have continued to pursue this dream of a world government ever since its founding in 1921.*

Colonel House had a very revealing quote in *The Intimate Papers of Colonel House*:

Had the Versailles Treaty gone through the United States Senate as written and without question, Wood-

row Wilson would have been but one of many to share in the imperishable glory of the League of Nations.

When House wistfully stated that Wilson would have shared in the "imperishable glory of the League of Nations," he was surely thinking of how he would also have shared in the "imperishable glory." This is just another piece of evidence for just how much the CFR crowd desires to create a world government.

The United Nations: a Top-down Approach to World Government

Not leaving anything to chance the second time around at creating a world government, the CFR proposed to the

*Arthur R. Thompson, *In the Shadows of the Deep-State: A Century of Council on Foreign Relations Scheming for World Government* (Appleton, Wisconsin: 2018).

In short, by the early 1970s, the CFR crowd's top-down attempt at world government was noticeably losing traction. However, they had a plan B.

U.S. State Department in September 1939 (over two years before the United States entered the war) to conduct on behalf of the State Department “a program of independent analysis and study that would guide American foreign policy in the coming years of war and the challenging new world that would emerge.” This project became known as the War and Peace Studies, and involved almost 100 CFR members over a period of five years. Many of these CFR members were active in the 1944 Dumbarton Oaks conference on world economic planning and in organizing for the 1945 conference in San Francisco to establish the United Nations.*

In April 1945, the United Nations Conference on International Organization was convened in San Francisco to launch the second major attempt at world government of the 20th century. After two months the 50 nations in attendance signed the Charter of the United Nations. When the U.S. Senate ratified the UN Charter on July 28, 1945, the United States signed away its national sovereignty to the United Nations. For example, Article 25 of the UN Charter states:

The Members of the United Nations agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council in accordance with the present Charter.

There it is in black and white. The Declaration of Independence was already canceled way back in 1945. So why does it appear that our nation

still retains its national sovereignty? The answer is that public opinion would not permit the federal government to begin playing the role of a nation completely subservient to the United Nations.

And how, you might ask, do we know that public opinion was contrary to allowing the United Nations to “rule the roost” internationally? The answer is that according to “Seventy Years of U.S. Public Opinion on the United Nations,” even in the first couple years after the UN was launched in 1945, only 54 percent of Americans thought “the UN should be strengthened to make it a world govern-

ment with power to control the armed forces of all nations, including the US.”

At the same time, 24 percent of Americans opposed this idea of making the UN into a world government. Only 10 years later, Americans had an even dimmer view of strengthening the UN into a world government. Polls taken in 1956 showed that the number of Americans supporting a UN world government had dropped to 40 percent, and the number who opposed a UN world government had increased to 42 percent.

Gallup Poll data on a closely related measure of American public opinion regarding the UN is available from 1965 to 2016 (<https://news.gallup.com/poll/116347/United-Nations.aspx>, 2016).

This poll asked the question: “Do you think the United Nations is doing a good job or a poor job in trying to solve the problems it has had to face?” This poll records a fairly rapid decline in the percent answering “yes” for the years from 1955 to 1975, with 55 percent answering “yes” in 1955 and only 32 percent answering “yes” in 1975. Although poll results fluctuated a little for the next 10 years, those answering “yes” continued to sink to only 28 percent. Then, from 1985 to 2019, the “yes” percent has remained in the upper 20s to the mid-30s, except for the two peaks of American support for the UN associated with the Desert Storm war in Kuwait and Iraq and the 9/11 attack on the World Trade Center/Pentagon.

Can we identify what led to the large declines in confidence in the UN after 1945? A major factor in Americans’ sinking confidence in the United Nations was the emergence of a grassroots conservative campaign in the early 1960s led by The John Birch Society (JBS) to warn Americans about the UN. At the two-day founding meeting of the JBS in December 1958, founder Robert Welch issued a very farsighted warning about the UN:

There are three possible methods by which the Com-



Library of Congress

Globalist birds of a feather: Colonel Edward Mandell House (left) was Woodrow Wilson's closest and most trusted advisor during the presidential campaign of 1912 and during Wilson's presidency. In 1917 and 1918, they worked together on their plan for a League of Nations.

*Peter Grose, *Continuing the Inquiry: The Council on Foreign Relations From 1921 to 1996* (New York City: 1996).

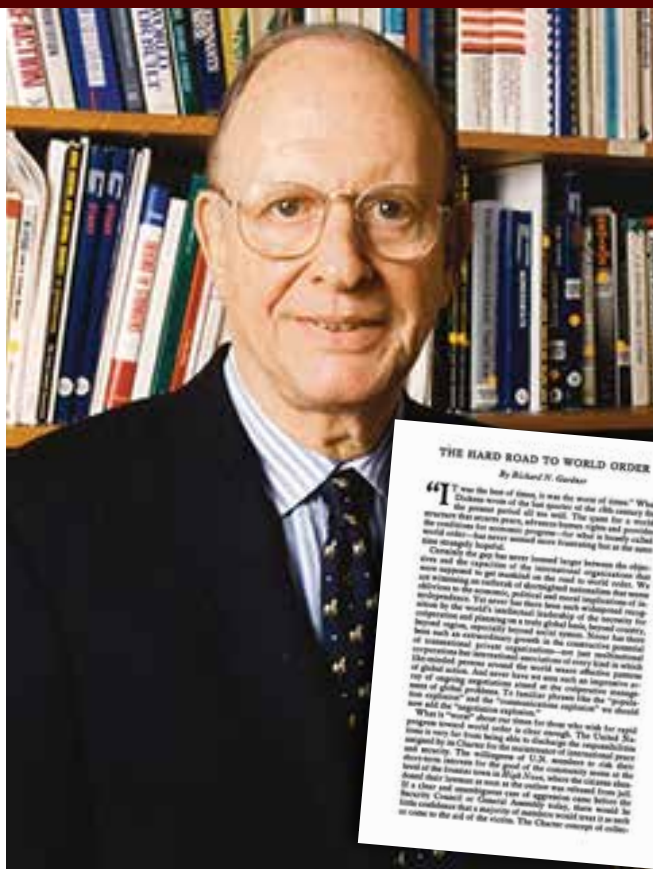
munists might take us over.... [The] third method ... is one which they are clearly relying on most heavily.... A part of that plan, of course, is to induce the gradual surrender of American sovereignty, piece by piece and step by step, to various international organizations — of which the United Nations is the outstanding but far from the only example.

The JBS grew rapidly during its early years. And by 1962, it had established its signature campaign, “*Get US Out!* of the United Nations.” The JBS campaign to *Get US Out!* was especially vigorous in the 1960s and 1970s, the very same years that Americans’ confidence in the UN was rapidly declining. Literally millions of pieces of *Get US Out!* flyers, reprints, books, bumper stickers, and envelope stickers were distributed. In addition, during these pre-Internet days, thousands of speeches, filmstrip showings, and film showings were held, not to mention the iconic *Get US Out!* billboards and roadside signs dotting the American countryside.

In short, by the early 1970s, the CFR crowd’s top-down attempt at world government was noticeably losing traction. However, they had a plan B.

The Globalists’ Trade Agenda: a Bottom-up Approach to World Government

In light of the steady erosion of the American public’s confidence in the UN during the 1950s, ’60s, and ’70s, a very significant article by longtime CFR member Richard N. Gardner, “The Hard Road to World Order,” was published in the CFR house organ, *Foreign Affairs*, in April 1974. In the first paragraph of his article, Gardner states: “The quest for a world structure that secures peace, advances human rights and provides the conditions for economic progress — for what is loosely called world order — has never seemed more



Confessor: Richard N. Gardner was a Rhodes Scholar, professor, diplomat, and longtime CFR member. He is infamous among conservatives for promoting an “end run around national sovereignty” in his 1974 article “The Hard Road to World Order.”

frustrating.” Translation: The quest for a real, functioning world government has never seemed more frustrating.

After surveying the various problems facing the globalists’ world government initiative in 1974, Gardner provided an alternate route to world government:

In short, the “house of world order” will have to be built from the bottom up rather than from the top down. It will look like a great “booming, buzzing confusion,” to use William James’ famous description of reality, but an end run around national sovereignty, eroding it piece by piece, will accomplish much more than the old-fashioned frontal assault.

Gardner is saying that a world government will have to be built from the “bottom up” rather than the top down, and that this will amount to an “end run around national sovereignty” that is more effective

in building a world government than the traditional top-down approach.

In his article Gardner lists 10 examples of international issues that lend themselves to the bottom-up approach he is recommending. Among them are (1) reform of the international monetary system, (2) rewriting the ground rules for the conduct of international trade, (3) strengthening the new global and regional agencies charged with protecting the world’s environment, and (4) the Law of the Sea negotiations for a new international regime governing the world’s oceans.

For the purposes of this article, we’re interested, of course, in Gardner’s recommendation that negotiating trade agreements would be a fruitful way to pursue world government. By 1974, the free trade-agreement ploy was already being used to transform the six-nation European Coal and Steel Community into what eventually became the European Union, a regional government powerhouse that gradually took control of 28 formerly

independent European nations. That same year North America was lagging well behind Europe in applying the free trade-agreement tool for establishing a regional government; however, by 1994 the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) between the United States, Canada, and Mexico amounted to a very large stepping-stone toward a North American Union.

Fast forwarding to 2020, take a look at the world map on the next page showing the various regional governments being formed around the world that have resulted from the globalists’ bottom-up trade agenda for world government. In 1995, former National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski, a longtime CFR member, revealed just how closely globalists were pursuing a bottom-up strategy for building a world government: “We cannot leap into world government in one quick step,” he said. “In brief, the precondition for eventual globalization — genuine globalization — is progressive regionalization,

“An end run around national sovereignty, eroding it piece by piece, will accomplish much more than the old-fashioned frontal assault.”

because thereby we move toward larger, more stable, more cooperative units.”

The North American Union (NAU) shown in the map below is, of course, not yet completed. The NAFTA agreement between the United States, Mexico, and Canada that went into force in 1994 represented a very important first step toward the establishment of the NAU as a regional government for North America. Next, the new United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), approved by Congress and signed into law by President Trump on January 29, 2020, represents a very big second step toward an EU-style North American Union. The details of these two steps have been provided in numerous articles in this magazine over the past couple decades.

**Next on the Globalists’
Trade Agenda: Atlantic Union**

In 2020, the Trump administration is expected to pursue new trade agreements

with the EU and the U.K., and to continue its efforts to reform the WTO (World Trade Organization). However, in the rest of this article, we’ll focus solely on the upcoming U.S.-EU trade negotiations due to the great, long-range threat to the national sovereignty and personal freedoms of Americans posed by such negotiations.

These U.S.-EU trade negotiations will be between the United States, representing the North American trading bloc (the North American Union in formation) and the EU (a European trading bloc that has already transitioned to be a full-fledged supranational government over 28 formerly independent European nations). The formation of a U.S.-EU trading bloc would be a steppingstone toward a new U.S.-EU regional government, often referred to as an Atlantic Union.

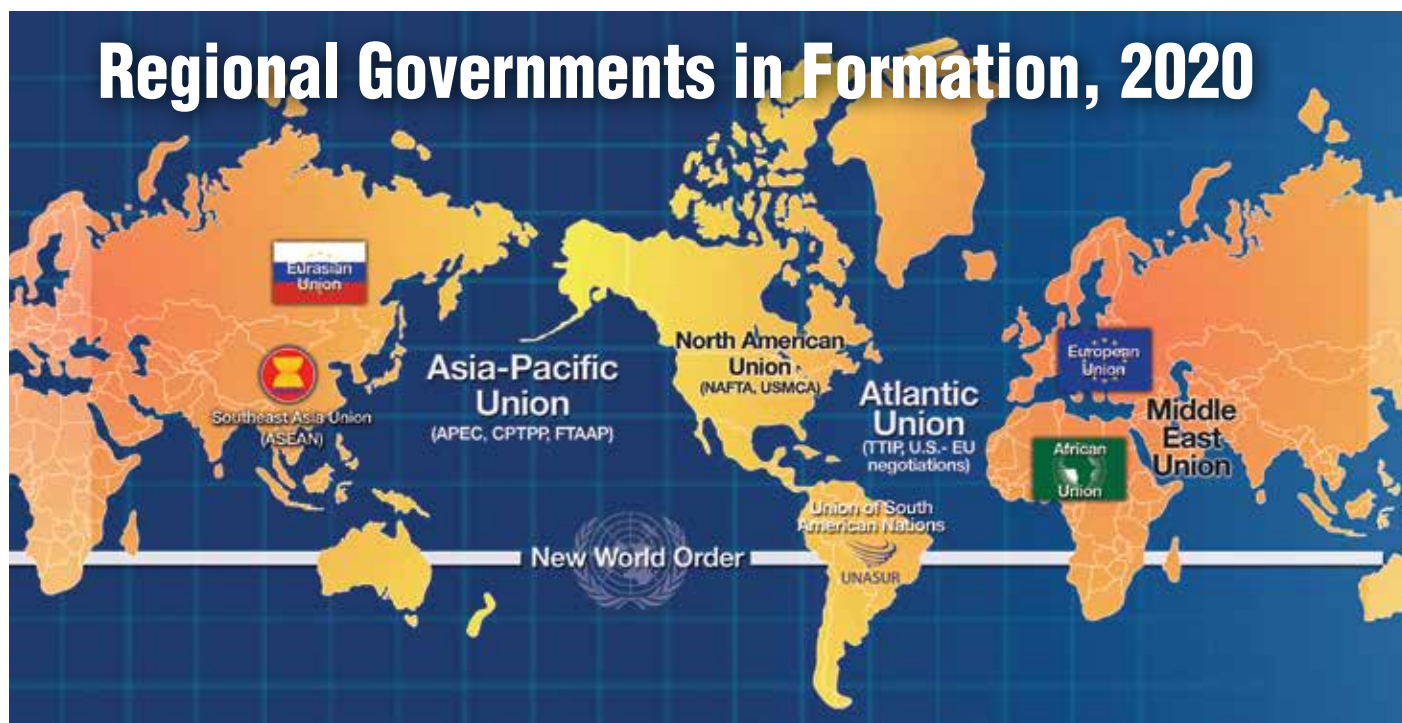
Proposals for an Atlantic Union regional government were popularized by Clarence Streit, beginning with his 1939 book

Union Now. Streit’s idea, which preceded Gardner’s 1974 bottom-up strategy for building world government by 35 years, was to create a union of the United States, Canada, and a dozen or so European nations. Streit explicitly declared that the purpose of creating an Atlantic Union was to lead to a world government. For many decades an Atlantic Union Resolution was introduced in every Congress, but never led to anything of substance.

Over the years many organizations have been created to promote the Atlantic Union concept. Many of them are still very much advocating for creating an Atlantic Union regional government as a path to world government. Two such organizations are the Atlantic Council and the Transatlantic Policy Network (TPN). The TPN’s behind-the-scenes role in sup-

**Regarding the below map and the various
“unions” that are shown around the world:**

Of course, the European Union is already well-established and the name is in common use. Most of the other “unions” shown are globalist works in progress, but we have based their names on the current names of various free-trade blocs, cooperation zones, etc., that are precursors of the building block “unions” that the globalists plan to assemble into a UN world government, aka the New World Order.





AP Images

Fox in the henhouse: U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, a longtime CFR member, is shown speaking at the USMCA signing on January 29 at the White House. He will be the chief U.S. negotiator of trade deals with the EU in 2020.

port of the Obama administration's now-defunct Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), which would have served as a steppingstone toward an Atlantic Union, was exposed in "Transatlantic Two-Step" by Dennis Behreandt in the May 12, 2008 issue of *THE NEW AMERICAN*, and in "Trading Away Their Oaths" by William F. Jasper in the February 16, 2015 issue of *THE NEW AMERICAN*.

On his first day in office, President Trump signed an executive order removing the United States from another Obama-era trade deal, the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). Although Trump didn't explicitly take the same type of action with regard to the TTIP, there were no further negotiations and the TTIP faded from public consciousness. Then, a little over a year later, Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross surprised many administration watchers when he stated during an interview with Bloomberg Television, "[Trump] terminated the Trans-Pacific deal; he didn't terminate TTIP. That was meant quite deliberately and quite overtly as a message that we're open to discussions with the European Commission."

That meant that the Atlantic Union concept was still alive, but very much disguised as simply trade talks. Sure enough,

trade representatives from the EU and the United States have met frequently over the past couple years, but in the shadow of the high-profile USMCA negotiations and subsequent political posturing. However, now that the USMCA is on the books, the time has come for a renewal in intensity of the U.S.-EU "trade talks."

In late 2019, Ursula von der Leyen and Phil Hogan were elevated to the offices of president and trade commissioner of the European Commission (the executive branch of the European Union), respectively. They will be taking the lead in dealing with the United States on trade in 2020. In mid-January Hogan paid a three-day visit to Washington with the goal of "resetting" the U.S.-EU trade negotiations. Proclaiming his visit a good start, Hogan already had plans to visit Washington again in February and March. EU President von der Leyen and President Trump met for the first time on January 21 at the 50th World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. The *Financial Times* reported that while attending this annual conclave of globalist elites, Trump and von

der Leyen separately announced efforts to conclude an agreement between the United States and the EU this spring on "trade, technology, and energy," and a full U.S.-EU trade deal in November.

Therefore, those of us who oppose the globalists' "bottom-up" trade agenda for world government have much to be concerned about regarding the U.S.-EU trade negotiations this year and beyond. The reason why this concern is justified is that, as has been made abundantly clear by numerous articles in this magazine over the past few decades, the globalist elites of the United States worked closely with their counterparts in Europe following the end of World War II to submerge the sovereignty of the European nations in a new supranational, regional government that is now known as the European Union.

This began with the Marshall Plan. Most Americans were led to believe that the Marshall Plan consisted of the United States giving financial aid to rebuild war-torn European nations as a means of preventing them from being subverted by the Soviet Union. In reality, the Marshall Plan funds were designed by globalists in the United States to help their European counterparts begin building what we now know as the EU from day one. And trade agreements were the main tool used by the American and European globalists to consolidate political and economic power under the European Union.

So it's only natural to suspect that something big, such as an Atlantic Union, is what the U.S. and EU "trade" negotiators will really be working on in 2020. They have the motive, opportunity, and expertise to create something like an Atlantic Union as their contribution to the world government project. Remember that "imperishable glory" that Colonel House sought. And remember also that the lead negotiator for the United States will be Robert Lighthizer, Trump's U.S. Trade Representative and a longtime



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member of the globalist Council on Foreign Relations.

However, we must remain realistic about the outcome of the 2020 U.S.-EU trade negotiations. It took decades for the American and European globalists to construct the EU. Granted that an Atlantic Union could be created on a much shorter timeline than was required for the EU, due to the already-established success of the EU, construction of an Atlantic Union would likely take several years at the least.

Beyond the common-sense reasoning that something so big and complex as an Atlantic Union would take at least several years to create through negotiations, the most important factor preventing any overnight creation of an Atlantic Union is the practical one of public opinion. As we saw with the United Nations, the United States has already ratified a treaty in 1945 that in principle subordinates our nation to the UN. However, in practice American public opinion would not support any immediate, overt display of UN control over all aspects of American life.

That's where Gardner's brilliant strategy of "an end run around national sovereignty" comes into play. The American public would be presented with a new "free trade" agreement (or a series of such agreements) between the United States and the EU that would be sold to them as producing more jobs and more prosperity for Americans. This would be the deceptive "end run around national sovereignty" that would enable the gradual creation of an Atlantic Union regional government without causing undue alarm among Americans over losing national sovereignty.

And why should we believe that this could happen? It could happen because it just did occur with the congressional approval and signing into law of the USMCA, a trade agreement that was sold as providing more jobs and prosperity, but was actually a major steppingstone toward a North American Union. The USMCA's Free Trade Commission, which will administer the trade provisions between the three countries, is designed to fulfill the same key role that the European Commission did in a series of European trade

agreements, instituting provisions that led to the loss of sovereignty for 28 formerly independent European nations.

What We Can Do

Although we can comfort ourselves that we won't be pledging allegiance to an EU flag or even a U.S./EU flag anytime soon, we still need to be contacting President Trump, our U.S. representative, and our U.S. senators in opposition to the upcoming U.S.-EU trade talks (see the Atlantic Union legislative alert at www.jbs.org/federal-legislative-alerts/). The historical record clearly shows that the globalists on both sides who will be negotiating these trade deals have a track record of creating trade agreements that continually move our nation and the nations we negotiate with toward regional governments as steppingstones toward a world government under the UN.

If we are to preserve our rights and freedoms as Americans, we must maintain our national sovereignty and our Constitution. And, we must reject categorically all "end runs around national sovereignty" that serve to create regional or world governments. ■

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GERM OF TOTALITARIANISM

Humans' fear of killer germs — this time the coronavirus — can be used to stir up calls for authoritarian government controls on a populace.

by Charles Scaliger

On January 23, 2020, 11 million people were taken captive. On that day, the communist government of the People's Republic of China decided to quarantine the entire city of Wuhan in response to the spread of a novel coronavirus that appeared to have originated there the previous month. In a single day, China's seventh-largest city (with three million people more than New York City) was effectively turned into a vast open-air concentration camp, with all air, rail, and road traffic out of the city ended. Over the next few days, the quarantine was extended over a number of other nearby cities. By January 25, almost 50 million people — a population roughly equivalent to the combined populations of California and Georgia — were under quarantine, prevented by their government from leaving their cities. At the time of this writing, that number has grown to about 60 million, including most of Hubei Province and also the city of Wenzhou on China's southeast coast. In Wuhan, all cars were banned from the downtown area, and city authorities rushed to erect a makeshift hospital to accommodate an anticipated influx of patients. The American government managed to evacuate its consular staff and many American

Charles Scaliger, a longtime contributor to THE NEW AMERICAN and former academic at an American university, now lives and works in East Asia.



Masked masses: In a spectacle unprecedented in human history, most of China's 1.3 billion people are staying at home, while those who must venture outside, to shop for food or perform essential work, must wear masks to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

citizens from Wuhan. In the weeks since these initial measures, these have expanded to include the entire enormous province of Hubei, where it is now prohibited to drive any private vehicle anywhere, except for crucial delivery of supplies. In Wenzhou, in

coastal Zhejiang Province, the several million residents are prohibited from leaving their houses more than once a week, when they are permitted a single shopping trip.

Quarantines have been practiced for centuries, but never before on a scale



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Pandemic past: The West African Ebola outbreak a few years ago was a signal lesson of the dangers, even in the 21st century, of novel pathogens wreaking havoc where no quarantines or other containment measures are put in place.

The Chinese government is methodically shutting down many forms of travel all over the country, prohibiting all group tours, for example. Tens of millions of Chinese have canceled vacation plans during the Chinese New Year holiday.

anywhere near what is being carried out right now on the Chinese mainland. The Chinese government is methodically shutting down many forms of travel all over the country, prohibiting all group tours, for example. Tens of millions of Chinese have canceled vacation plans during the Chinese New Year holiday. The usually busy airports and train stations are mostly devoid of activity, as all but a handful of flights and trains — including China's vaunted bullet trains — have been canceled. Millions of breath masks have been sold, and the streets of most major cities are practically empty of cars and pedestrians alike. Those people who do venture out mostly wear surgical masks. Anyone with flu- or cold-like symptoms is subject to involuntary quarantine. In a word, panic and mass hysteria, fanned by the actions of the government, are the order of the day.

What is the dreaded new coronavirus,

now officially called COVID-19? In spite of the scary-sounding name, it is essentially a type of common cold, albeit one packing a little more punch than the usual varieties. So far, it is unclear whether this particular strain is even as dangerous as the annual influenza bouts that take a predictable global toll on the aged and infirm. Nearly every known victim so far has been over 60 years old, typical of influenza and other pathologies that often induce pneumonia and other secondary infections in those with weakened immune systems. Added to this is the fact, little known outside of China, that most Chinese do not understand the relationship between keeping warm and avoiding (or mitigating) illness. Most Chinese believe that fresh air, even in the dead of winter, is a key to good health; consequently, the first thing that Chinese do when a person falls ill — at home or in hospital rooms — is open all the windows,

even if the outside temperature is below freezing. Many Chinese also despise artificial heating because it dries out the air and is allegedly bad for the skin. Thus in China, a rather unique combination of cultural aversion to “inside air” and to indoor heating has created optimal circumstances for the spread of diseases such as influenza and the Wuhan coronavirus during the cold Chinese winter months.

The origin of COVID-19 is still unclear, and may never be established conclusively. However, credible doubt has been cast on the official story that the virus originated in a Wuhan seafood market where exotic animals were sold and eaten. A pair of Chinese researchers, Botao and Lei Xiao, published a scientific paper with evidence that the contagion actually originated in the Wuhan Center for Disease Control and Prevention, where diseased bats and other animals are kept for medical research. This research facility is located only a few hundred yards from the now-notorious Huanan Seafood Market.

Leaving aside the etiology of the disease, the consequent deteriorating conditions in China should be instructive for all Americans concerned with the growth of federal government power. Epidemics, like war and natural disasters, are legitimate concerns of the state — and, under the wrong circumstances, can also provide a deadly pretext for the illegitimate expansion of government power.

No crisis, not even war, has quite the emotional impact of a seemingly unstoppable disease. Modern Western civilization was created on the ruins of the High Middle Ages, which met an abrupt and terrifying end in the Black Death pandemic. Those who experienced the event were convinced that the end of the world had come. The plague was indiscriminate in choosing its victims; lord and vassal, king and peasant were equally afflicted. Some of those who survived, like Italy's Petrarch, were motivated to seek a rebirth of civilization, whence the Renaissance.

Far more devastating in terms of global mortality was the great Spanish flu epidemic of 1918-1919. But to a world already devastated by the greatest war in history, the flu seemed to be just a continuation of unending misery visited on the emerging modern world. In more recent history, the terrifying outbreak of Ebola

from 2013 to 2016 across West Africa provoked understandable concern worldwide, given the mortality rate and horrific symptoms of this exotic disease.

Within living memory, outbreaks of smallpox, measles, and many other serious diseases were a dreary fact of existence, even in the developed world. Only in the past few decades has medical science progressed to the point of beating back most of these deadly scourges. Even so, various strains of influenza continue to exact an annual toll in the tens of thousands among the elderly and otherwise immunodeficient.

Communicable diseases pose clear and present public health hazards that governments have certain responsibilities to try to contain. In early America, however, quarantines were carried out by local governments, presumably out of fear for how quarantine powers might be abused by the federal government. The first quarantine station and hospital in the United States was constructed in Philadelphia in 1799, a belated reaction to the devastating 1793 yellow fever outbreak in that city. New York City opened a similar facility on Staten Island the following year. For the next 80 years, quarantines were managed exclusively by city and other local governments, though not without controversy. The Staten Island facility, known as the

New York Marine Hospital and the largest quarantine facility in the United States at the time, proved especially contentious. Staten Island residents resented the fact that it depressed property values, posed a threat of contagion to the community, and often took actions that trespassed on personal liberty. The local community of Castleton even passed a resolution in September of 1858 declaring the quarantine facility to be a “pest and a nuisance of the most odious character,” and encouraging residents to take measures to rid themselves of it. The following two days, mobs of locals attacked the facility and set it on fire, desisting only when a massive, heavily armed police contingent arrived to restore order. The “Staten Island Quarantine War” is but one instance of the controversy that the practice of quarantines has generated in the United States.

In 1878, Congress passed the National Quarantine Act, which granted quarantine authority to the federal government for the first time. By 1970, the Centers for Disease Control maintained 70 quarantine stations across the United States. But by the end of that decade, the number of such stations had been drastically reduced because of the perception that outbreaks requiring quarantine were largely a thing of the past. After 9/11 and the subsequent anthrax at-

tacks in Washington, however, the number of quarantine stations was raised to 20, reflecting ongoing concern that weaponized pathogens might be part of future terrorist attacks.

All of which brings us back to the unfolding situation in China. If the United States government possesses — and has exercised — the authority to institute quarantines, cannot the same be said of China and of any other government? The answer is a qualified “yes,” but in the case of the Wuhan/Hubei quarantine, China’s actions point out the stark contrasts between an authoritarian communist regime and our own government, federal and local. First of all, the history of quarantines in America has always been fraught with controversy, as such a potentially freedom-endangering subject ought to be. Second, in the United States most quarantine activities have been directed either at individuals already ill and in need of treatment and isolation or at preventing dangerous communicable diseases from entering the United States. Screening is being carried out currently at

Cruise control: Japan’s quarantine of the cruise ship *Diamond Princess* has been a nightmare for its thousands of passengers. But a surge of coronavirus cases on the stricken vessel has justified Japan’s cautionary measures, and prevented the disease from jumping ship.



AP Images

various American ports of entry in order to prevent visitors from China carrying the Wuhan coronavirus from entering the United States. All such activities would seem to be well within the purview of government's role in defending national borders and in protecting the public from those posing a clear and present danger to public health.

A somewhat different, and more alarming, take on the role of quarantines in America was on view during the dark days of World War I when the federal government took the unprecedented step of jailing tens of thousands of prostitutes in an effort to prevent the spread of venereal disease. This action was styled by one historian "the most concerted attack on civil liberties in the name of public health in American history." But overall, the American approach to quarantines has been to take action exclusively 1) at those wishing to enter our country from abroad and 2) at those already sick.

China, by contrast, permits no criticism of government policies under any circumstances. Dozens of ordinary Chinese citizens who have challenged the government's soothing, official version of events in Wuhan have been arrested or simply made to disappear. China's suffocating regime of Internet censorship has been working overtime to ferret out and stamp

out any flicker of dissent on Chinese social media. The doctor who first warned of the dangers of the novel coronavirus was quickly arrested and forced by the government to apologize — before falling ill of the disease himself and dying, an event that has enraged many Chinese and prompted widespread questioning of things that, until recently, went largely unquestioned, namely, the competence of China's all-powerful ruling Communist Party.

Moreover, the government has quarantined tens of millions of people who are not ill, under the sole pretext of preventing the spread of a disease that, by every indication, is in no way comparable in severity to pathogens of yore such as smallpox and yellow fever, or to modern-day scourges such as Ebola. The entire enormous country has been virtually shut down, with almost all public attractions, from Shanghai's Disneyland to local theme parks, historical sites, and nature reserves, closed indefinitely. In some areas, anyone exhibiting any cold- or flu-like symptoms at all is subject to immediate and involuntary quarantine, along with, in many cases, anyone they share a residence or even a residential building with. Hotels and convention centers are being commandeered as quarantine facilities. China, already a

police state by any definition, is now in a self-imposed state of siege by its own government.

At the same time, these extreme measures have been accompanied by the usual blasts of propaganda calculated to browbeat Chinese citizens into unquestioning compliance. Videos showing refractory citizens being compelled by righteously indignant bystanders and police to wear breathmasks in public places are circulated on social media such as the ubiquitous WeChat. Infomercials urging Chinese to cooperate with authorities in reporting people with any suspect symptoms and to comply with all government exactions, no matter how draconian, are reminiscent of wartime propaganda.

Meanwhile, the virus continues to spread, as do increasingly desperate efforts to contain it. The above-mentioned lockdown of Wenzhou, China's 15th-largest city and a very important center of commerce and culture on China's east coast, has been followed by increasingly draconian measures across China in nearly every major city. Chinese are all but forbidden to travel anywhere, and most major cities, from Chengdu and Chongqing in the west to Hangzhou in the east, have now limited the number of times that people are permitted to leave their homes each week, in some places only allowing one person per household the privilege of going outdoors at all. Individuals and families suspected of having the virus are, in some instances, kept locked in their homes, unable to go out to get food, and in other instances, are dragged from their homes to be incarcerated in poorly equipped quarantine centers. People suspected or known to be from Wuhan or Hubei are sometimes treated as outcasts, reported by neighbors to unsympathetic authorities, or even driven out of neighborhoods and towns. Across the country, schools have been closed until at least March, and in many areas, all but the most essential of government and private offices are closed, their normal occupants in hiding.

The total official number of coronavirus cases has risen past 70,000 at the time of this writing, with more than 1,770 confirmed deaths — a significant number, but still nowhere near apocalyptic; it is, in fact, not even comparable to an average influenza season, although time may yet tell a different tale. With so much se-



AP Images

Borderline panic: Government workers in China's Anhui Province check cars for passengers trying to enter from neighboring Hubei, where the epicenter of the coronavirus outbreak is located. All of China's provinces, including province-level cities such as Shanghai and Beijing, have imposed strict border controls and quarantines for all persons entering from other provinces.

crecy, deception, and rumor-mongering, it is impossible to know how much greater the true numbers may be. But in most parts of China outside Hubei, the crisis so far has been underwhelming, with fewer than 200 confirmed cases apiece in megacities Hangzhou and Chengdu, about 320 in Shanghai, nearly 400 in Beijing, more than 500 in Wenzhou, and more than 600 in Chongqing. Actual deaths outside Wuhan and Hubei have been minimal, though, with Shanghai reporting only one and Beijing five at latest report. So far, the only truly apocalyptic dimension to this outbreak has been the response of the Chinese authorities.

The Wuhan virus is only the latest crisis to afflict the Chinese Communist government in these troublesome times. Coming on the heels of a devastating trade war and ongoing Hong Kong defiance, the outbreak has afforded China's leaders yet another opportunity to show the world, and, more importantly, their own citizens that they are firmly in control. But all signs point to this being yet another monumental fiasco for the Chinese Communist Party's image. The out-

break has already had a devastating effect on China's markets, and its continuation is likely to create even more problems. Hotels, normally enjoying the profits of a busy holiday season, were mostly shut down during the New Year/Spring Festival break, and remain closed. Would-be holiday shoppers and tourists stayed home during that same period, spelling trouble for China's many retailers, domestic airlines, and tourism infrastructure. Many Chinese retailers and restaurant chains have already been forced into bankruptcy, and, in urban China's many modern malls, it is generally only deep-pocketed foreign chains, including Western fast-food restaurants, that remain open in the face of evaporating consumer demand. And foreign visitation, in the face of growing international consternation, is plunging as well, possibly resulting in diminished investments and foreign currency availability. These are outcomes China is desperate to avoid, in the context of an economy already in steep decline because of the trade war and growing general foreign skepticism over China's true intentions.

The response of the Trump administra-

tion, so far, has been measured. But new entry restrictions on Chinese citizens and those who have recently visited China, in the United States and across the globe, are going to have a significant effect in the coming months.

In the Chinese language, there are two words for "disaster," somewhat similar in sound but with subtle differences in meaning. One of them, *zaihai*, means a natural disaster, while the other, *zainan*, usually refers to a man-made or otherwise preventable disaster. The story of the Wuhan virus, so far, is a cautionary tale of the dangers of government power in times of epidemic, of the actions of unlimited government power turning a relatively ordinary *zaihai* into a gargantuan man-made *zainan*. It is also the latest in a string of woes afflicting Communist China, and may yet have far-reaching sociopolitical and economic effects beyond the complexities of the epidemic itself.

The hard-pressed hundreds of millions in Wuhan and the surrounding cities, as well as in Wenzhou and all across a now-prostrate China, will doubtless be grateful for a speedy resolution. ■

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Hong Kongers' HEROIC FIGHT

Beijing's communist elites and Wall Street's globalist elites continue conspiring together to strangle freedom in the prosperous city-state.

by William F. Jasper

The Umbrella Revolution continues in Hong Kong, as the fiercely independent inhabitants of one of the world's most modern and most densely populated cities struggle to hold on to their freedom and autonomy. Since June of 2019, Hong Kong has been rocked by mass demonstrations that have paralyzed the city and brought fears that its 7.4 million residents could soon face the type of deadly response that its Beijing overlords infamously unleashed on the Tiananmen Square protesters in 1989. According to common analysis, the fact that

William F. Jasper is senior editor of THE NEW AMERICAN.

China's Xi Jinping and his fellow hardline communists have not responded (thus far) with massive slaughter is due to their concern for "optics"; they would look bad on the world stage.

However, Beijing's restraint with regard to Hong Kong most likely has far more to do with its considerations about the possible reaction from the U.S. White House than with global optics. President Donald Trump in 2019-2020 is a far cry from President George H. W. Bush in 1989. When Deng Xiaoping ordered troops and tanks to fire on the peaceful protesters, he had good reason to believe that President Bush would issue a harshly worded but toothless response. He was not disappointed. While the world watched in horror a massacre that resulted in thousands dead (like-

Umbrella Revolution: Peaceful mass demonstrations erupted in Hong Kong in 2014 to protest the pro-communist government installed by Beijing in violation of the agreement governing the 1997 handover. Repeated protests since then have brought one to two million Hong Kongers to the streets, many carrying the symbolic umbrella.

ly more than 10,000) and thousands more wounded and seriously injured, President Bush responded with a "condemnation" that amounted to a tsk-tsk, and then back to business as usual. Bush, an old China hand (he was President Ford's "ambassador" to China, then known as "chief of the Liaison Office to the People's Republic of China") and a rising star in the Council on Foreign Relations, dispatched CFR minions Brent Scowcroft (national security advisor) and Lawrence Eagleburger (deputy secretary of state) on a secret mission to Beijing to assure Deng and the Communist Party leadership that his denunciations

were merely for American public consumption. Declassified documents show that Bush's team assured the Tiananmen Square butchers that the United States wanted to continue developing "a healthy relationship" with the communist regime and the Bush administration — and the globalist elites it represented — viewed the Tiananmen massacre as "an internal affair" that would not upset ongoing trade or the transfer of the technology necessary to transform China into a modern power.

The Communist Party elites and their billionaire corporate princelings may have hoped that a Tiananmen-style crackdown on Hong Kong could pass with similar lack of repercussions from U.S. officialdom. After all, except for occasional perfunctory human-rights criticisms, Beijing has been able to get away with widespread religious persecution, torture, murder, imprisonment, organ harvesting, and much more, for decades. And even with its increasing belligerence and threats, its corporate and political leaders have been welcomed into the bosom of Wall Street, while the top American and European executives of Big Banking, Big Tech, Big Pharma, and Big Media continue their infatuation with the mass-murdering regime.

On November 14, 2019, as demonstrators in Hong Kong protested China's tyrannical rule, the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations (NCUCR) feted the leading lights of the globalist establishment at its annual New York City Gala Dinner. The black tie-tuxedo soiree boasted the likes of Henry Kissinger, Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton, Madeleine Albright, Condoleezza Rice, Brent Scowcroft, George Shultz, Paul Volcker, Robert Zoellick, and an additional legion of Deep Staters. They were joined by chief officers of Citibank, BlackRock, Microsoft, Disney, PayPal, Qualcomm, Amgen, Chevron, Walmart, and more. These are the folks that masterminded the strip-mining of America's manufacturing base and the transferring of it to China over the past four decades. They regularly clink champagne glasses with the communists.

President Donald Trump is the first occupant of the White House since the communists came to power in China in 1949 to reverse the suicidal policies of the United States vis-à-vis China. Having already hit the Beijing regime with tariffs and

put them on notice that the United States would not continue ignoring their closed markets, huge subsidies to Chinese corporate "champions," and violations of intellectual property rights, President Trump also signaled that he wouldn't follow the Bush example of looking the other way if China chose to send the People's Liberation Army (PLA) into the streets of Hong Kong as it did at Tiananmen 30 years ago.

On November 27, President Trump signed into law two human rights bills in support of the Hong Kong protesters. The Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act (S.1838) requires the United States to review annually Hong Kong's special trading relationship and provides for sanctions against China and Hong Kong officials responsible for violating the rights of Hong Kongers. S. 2710, a bill "to prohibit the commercial export of covered munitions items to the Hong Kong Police Force," was in response to brutal actions by Hong Kong police against the demonstrators. By signing both bills and, more importantly, by giving every indication that he meant to enforce them, President Trump put Beijing on notice that it could not act with

impunity and expect a business-as-usual response from America.

In addition, the Trump administration has incorporated human-rights concerns into its ongoing trade negotiations with China. During an interview in Davos, Switzerland, at the World Economic Forum in January, President Trump said Hong Kong and human rights definitely are components of the China trade deal. Although he did not get into specifics, there is good reason to believe he will make good on the issue. Last October his administration blacklisted 28 Chinese companies over human-rights concerns, including Dahua Technology and Hikvision, two of the world's largest manufacturers of video surveillance products and major suppliers of China's Orwellian surveillance state. Moreover, he has had Vice President Mike Pence, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, and other administration spokesmen hammering China on human-rights issues in ways we have not seen before. Hong Kong journalist Chapman Chen told this reporter that these and other words and actions from the Trump administration "definitely give the people of Hong Kong a great deal of hope."



Red sock puppet: Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam, seen here in Beijing with China's top communist, President Xi Jinping, has enforced China's increasingly aggressive moves to pound Hong Kong into a subservient vassalage.

After all, except for occasional perfunctory human-rights criticisms, Beijing has been able to get away with widespread religious persecution, torture, murder, imprisonment, organ harvesting, and much more for decades.



Beijing's thugs in white: In addition to police brutality, China has brought in mobs of “men in white” from the city’s notorious triad gangs, armed with metal bars and wooden bats, to viciously attack the pro-freedom demonstrators.

Genesis of a Crisis

The June 2019 protests in Hong Kong were precipitated by Hong Kong’s Chief Executive Carrie Lam and the city’s Legislative Council introducing the Fugitive Offenders law, an extradition bill that would allow Hong Kongers to be extradited to the mainland, where they would have none of the protections they now enjoy and would be subjected to communist-style “justice.” Since Lam and the Legislative Council are mere sock puppets of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), this was seen as a blatant move by Beijing to extend total rule over Hong Kong, in violation of its Basic Law and the Sino-British Joint Declaration treaty of 1984 that provided the basis for British sovereignty

over Hong Kong to be transferred to China in 1997. On June 9, an estimated one million demonstrators took to the streets of Hong Kong to protest the extradition bill. On June 16 the number doubled, with an estimated two million of the city’s 7.4 million residents taking part in the protest. In the face of the massive demonstrations, Lam suspended the bill, but did not formally withdraw it. As the demonstrations continued the Hong Kong police became more brutal, and thugs from Hong Kong’s triad gangs were brought in to physically assault the demonstrators, while the police looked the other way. This caused demonstrators to demand that in addition to fully withdrawing the extradition bill, the Hong Kong government release arrested demon-

strators, set up an independent inquiry into the police brutality, and establish universal suffrage in Hong Kong.

Although the extradition bill has been formally withdrawn, the demonstrations have continued. Hundreds of thousands of umbrellas have festooned the events, symbolizing continuity of concern with the same issues of independence and freedom that sparked the Umbrella Revolution of 2014. That movement was triggered by a proposal of the communist mainland regime to “reform” Hong Kong’s electoral system to essentially give Beijing vetting authority over all political candidates.

Only the willfully blind believed the promises that the British handover of Hong Kong to communist China would turn out any differently than it has. Billed as the “one country, two systems” plan, the framework included promises that Hong Kong would be uniquely exempt, among China’s cities, from the socialist system practiced in the People’s Republic of China (PRC) for a period of 50 years. Hong Kong would keep its currency (the Hong Kong dollar), language, laws, and customs, and would retain autonomy in governance. Chinese police would not be allowed to operate in Hong Kong.

Chris Patten, the “Last Governor of Hong Kong” was tasked with selling the handover to Hong Kongers, Brits, and the world — and to counter all critics who saw it for the betrayal that it surely was. Patten was rewarded for his crucial role in this backstabbing by being made a royal peer of the realm (he is now Lord Patten, baron of Barnes), appointed to the European Commission, named chairman of the BBC Trust and co-chairman of the International Crisis Group, appointed chancellor of Oxford University and Vatican media advisor to Pope Francis, and made a member of the European Council on Foreign Relations and the Trilateral Commission. He has regularly been given columns in *The Economist*, *Financial Times*, Project Syndicate, and elsewhere to push globalist schemes, including, notably, support for increased powers for the European Union and opposition to Brexit. While overseeing the BBC, it should be noted, Lord Patten helped contain the sex scandals of notorious BBC pederasts Jimmy Savile, Rolf Harris, and others.

AP Images

Although there should have been no illusions that the Beijing communists would stop behaving like communists, there was at least a hope that they would find it in their interests to allow a continuation of the freedoms that had made Hong Kong a financial powerhouse and a cash cow for the socialist regime. As a banking capital, Hong Kong ranks number three in the world, surpassed only by New York and London. It is a major hub of currency exchange for China, as well as a major import-export center, since it is not subject to the same tariffs and import restrictions as China. If the PRC leaders thought Western leaders would respond negatively — and substantively, not merely rhetorically — to infringements on Hong Kong's autonomy, they might have had some incentive to moderate their actions. But they received only green lights from the West.

One of the most clear-eyed analysts who accurately called the tune on the Hong Kong betrayal was the late Far East expert Hilaire du Berrier, a longtime writer for this magazine. "There was never a chance that the July 1, 1997, handover would bring anything but tragedy," he wrote in his *HduB Reports* intelligence newsletter for April 1996. "Peking's apologists spouted drivelt and western statesmen, particularly British, claimed Governor Patten had arranged for a fifty-year period of democracy. It was a dream from the first. 'Big fish eat little fish; little fish eat crab; crab eat mud' is Peking's credo, and to allow democracy to survive in Hong Kong would be admission that she has lost big fish status. All one has to do to know how Hong Kong will be treated once the Union Jack comes down and the People's Liberation Army moves in is to watch Peking's military exercises off Taiwan and consider her order that America mind her own business."

Another writer who refused to join the sugar-coating chorus line was Jonathon Mirsky, who wrote in *The Times* of London of March 2, 1996: "It is often said that on July 1, 1997, very little will change in Hong Kong. 'Handover ceremonies apart, one would hardly notice.' This is pure cant. On that day there will be a political and social earthquake in Hong Kong which in other places would mark a revolution.... The first wholly elected legislative council will be dissolved; the Bill of

Rights will be neutered; and supreme legal power on 'matters of state' will move to Peking."

However, the voices of sanity and reason were overwhelmed by the cheering section of the Council on Foreign Relations and the globalist press, which assured, one and all, that far from bringing danger to Hong Kong, the handover would help bring about the liberalization of the mainland. Of course, for that to have any chance of happening would require Western governments to hold China to account and penalize her for any violations, something none of the globalist-dominated governments would ever do — until now.

Under the recently enacted Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act, signed by President Trump, the U.S. secretary of state must certify annually that Hong Kong is "sufficiently autonomous" in order to maintain its special economic status granted under the United States-Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992. That law has allowed the United States to deal with Hong Kong separately from the mainland on such matters as immigration, investment, and trade since the handover to Chinese rule in 1997.

In attempting to make good on these

efforts to protect Hong Kong, President Trump will be going against the mighty Beijing-Wall Street Lobby. As noted above, the plutocrats of the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations, the Council on Foreign Relations, World Economic Forum, Trilateral Commission, Bilderberg Group, International Chamber of Commerce, Business Roundtable, and other advocacy groups for a "New World Order" are pushing for continued "convergence" with China. Like billionaire speculator George Soros (a CFR member and CFR financial sponsor), most of the top "capitalists" of these organizations welcome China's Communist Party elite as fellow "owners" in the oligarchy of their planned New World Order. In a 2009 interview with the *Financial Times*, Soros discussed this "ownership," stating, "I think you really need to bring China into the creation of a new world order, financial world order. I think you need a new world order, that China has to be part of the process of creating it and they have to buy in, they have to own it in the same way as the United States owns ... the current order." Soros and his fellow globalists have no problem with seeing the United States replaced by Communist China as



Champagne & caviar elites: While China's communist regime cracked heads in Hong Kong, former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger headlined the gathering of pro-Beijing corporate and political elites at the 2019 Gala Dinner of the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations.



AP Images

Betrayal rewarded: Tasked with selling the handover of Hong Kong to China, Chris Patten was rewarded by being made “Lord Patten,” in addition to being appointed a European commissioner, chairman of the BBC Trust, co-chairman of the International Crisis Group, chancellor of Oxford University, and member of the European Council on Foreign Relations and the Trilateral Commission.

One of the most clear-eyed analysts who accurately called the tune on the Hong Kong betrayal was the late Far East expert Hilaire du Berrier, a longtime writer for this magazine. “There was never a chance that the July 1, 1997, handover would bring anything but tragedy.”

the dominant world power. They have no problem with providing Beijing’s dictators with surveillance equipment and the most advanced weapons technology.

As this writer recently noted in these pages, the gatherings of top U.S. business and financial leaders with their counterparts from China have come more and more to resemble the final dramatic scene from George Orwell’s cautionary tale *Animal Farm*, in which the faces of the pigs and the men morph until they are indistinguishable from each other. In the U.S.-China relationship, we are dealing now with Deep State Pigmen who permeate virtually all sectors of our economy, as well as academia, think tanks, entertainment, and media.

A good example of the Sino-American Pigmen Pageant was the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations’ 13th annual “China Town Hall” held this past

November 18 “at 80+ venues across the United States and China,” as the NCUCR’s promotionals boasted. Among the prestigious universities that hosted the event were Yale, Princeton, Drake, Georgetown, Wesleyan, Brandeis, Columbia, University of California, Arizona State University, and University of Minnesota. George Stephanopoulos (CFR member), Bill Clinton’s White House communications director and now ABC News anchor, moderated the webcast discussion of the event. He was joined by “expert panelists” Stephen Orlins (CFR), Melanie Hart, Yasheng Huang, and Ely Ratner (CFR senior fellow in China Studies). Yasheng Huang is one of many intellectuals from China who are facilitating U.S.-Sino convergence. Dr. Huang, a professor at the Sloan School of Management, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has an impressive vita that

includes close affiliations with Goldman Sachs, the World Bank, Harvard Business School, Walmart Foundation, World Economic Forum, and Stanford University. He provides a friendly, non-threatening face to help sell the great Pigmen merger.

While China’s propagandists such as Professor Huang have become an increasingly standard feature at American universities, American academic propagandists for China, such as Daniel A. Bell, are, likewise, increasingly common at Chinese universities. Professor Bell, who teaches at Tsinghua University, reliably regurgitates the Beijing line for American media audiences. During the 2014 Hong Kong protests, for instance, the *New York Times* generously provided him a platform to characterize the demonstrations as a harmful threat to “the most important experiment in political reform.” Really. “The Hong Kong special administrative region is the most important experiment in political reform,” Bell insisted. “But the system assumes that the central government has the ultimate power to determine what works and what doesn’t. If that power is threatened, the experiment may be put to an end. Hong Kong political activists who, willingly or not, harm the relation[ship] with Beijing also harm the chance for Hong Kong-style political reform in mainland China.”

This is the same Tsinghua University where uber-capitalist Stephen Schwarzman has donated \$100 million toward building Schwarzman College, as we reported in 2018. Schwarzman, the billionaire CEO of the Blackstone Group, is also raising another \$500 million from fellow billionaires for the campus. In addition, as we noted in previous articles, China’s *People’s Daily* proudly reported in 2017 that “Bill Gates, co-founder of Microsoft and chairman of TerraPower, has been elected as a foreign member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE), one of the country’s top academic institutions.”

It is the Deep State Pigmen such as Schwarzman, Gates, Bell, Kissinger, and Stephanopoulos who will be fighting any effort by President Trump to reverse course on China trade and to hold Beijing accountable on human rights issues, whether in Hong Kong or on the mainland. ■

Looking for a Private School? Choose Wisely!

There are many good private schools throughout the country, including religious ones. But parents beware: Many are not what they are advertised to be.

by Alex Newman and Dr. Duke Pesta

Walking through the Christian Heritage Academy (CHA) in Del City, Oklahoma, one gets the sense of being almost on another planet, or at least in another dimension. The children are well-dressed, smiling, and respectful. They seem genuinely happy. Their manners are impeccable. The quality of their scholarship, too, would put many college students to shame. Their knowledge of American history and the Bible, even in the lower grades, far surpasses that of the average American adult. And remarkably, the school did it all without a single penny of government money.

"We have a totally different approach to education," explained Headmaster Josh Bullard, who graduated from CHA in 1979, before leading a tour of the school and introducing us to the teachers and other staff who oversee the education of nearly 700 students. "Our vision is to train American Christian leaders for every sphere of society." And they do a great job, too, with their students not only performing far above average academically but also acquiring a Christian education and learning how to think critically — and

Alex Newman is an educator and the co-author of an education book. Dr. Duke Pesta is a professor and academic director at FreedomProject Academy.



An example: The Christian Heritage Academy is one of the many private schools across America that are training up a new generation of godly leaders with a great, God-centered education.

biblically. From CHA, they go off into politics, law, ministry, business, and more.

At another, similar school in Chesapeake, Virginia, known as the Stonebridge School, kindergarten students were learning how to sound out letters with phonics — something that has been largely cast aside in government schools, even though Common Core-style methods of memorizing sight words were debunked as quackery as far back as the mid-1800s. In the fourth-grade classroom, many of the children's cursive handwriting looked as if it had been produced by a calligrapher — it was absolutely beautiful. And the art was just amazing. Everything about this school was surreal.

On a tour around the school with Head of School Kathy Rader, it was clear that — like CHA — something was very special about this place. Even though teachers and faculty do not spend all year preparing the students for standardized tests, their average SAT scores are far above the national

average, as well. Just as at the Christian Heritage Academy, the goal is to provide a solid Christian education and prepare leaders to impact America and the world for God.

While the schools are 1,500 miles away from each other, they share something in common. Both rely on the "Principle Approach," a philosophy and method of education that "produces Christian character and self-government, Christian scholarship and Biblical reasoning." Both schools take scripture seriously. "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty," says 2 Corinthians 3:17, one of many biblical references to liberty and godliness going hand in hand that can be found at the schools. The Principle Approach, which is not affiliated with any particular Christian denomination, is now being used in hundreds of Christian schools from America to Brazil and Uganda and beyond.

Dr. Carole Adams, president of the Foundation for American Christian Edu-



Government at the core: Even many private schools, including most Catholic diocesan schools in America, have adopted the Obama-backed Common Core standards.

AP Images

cation (FACE), is one of the nation's top authorities on the Principle Approach. Stonebridge is actually a demonstration school for it. And CHA, while not affiliated with FACE, relies on the Principle Approach as well. Dr. Adams told *THE NEW AMERICAN* that a truly Christian education will include four components: worldview, curriculum, philosophy, and results. "To be considered Biblical, Christian education, all of these components must be in conformity to the Word of God," she said, adding that biblical truths (or principles) are the foundation of every subject.

It works. Students who attend Principle Approach schools hold to a much more biblical worldview than any other category of students, even including Christian homeschoolers. Nehemiah Institute President Dan Smithwick, who has been studying people's worldviews for many years, confirmed this with hard data. His "PEERS" test asks questions about "Politics, Economics, Education, Religion, and Social Issues" (PEERS) and then determines how well those line up with the institute's understanding of what Scripture teaches. It has become very popular with churches and home-school groups. But Smithwick, who has served on boards of Christian schools, found that even many self-proclaimed Christian schools are falling short of fulfilling their promises.

"Biblical worldview education is what is promised by all private Christian schools today," Smithwick told *THE NEW AMERICAN*. "However, our worldview assessment program, PEERS Testing, tells a different story. We are increasingly seeing the influence of secular/socialist philosophy being embraced by youth even from Christian homes. Cultural Marxism has made deep inroads into education, even Christian education, which is evidenced by results of the PEERS test.... Most Christian schools have unknowingly adopted philosophy and methodologies of education developed by scholars in Secular Humanist institutions."

However, the exceptions to the trend are the Christian schools affiliated with the Principle Approach, he said. "I urge Christian families and church leaders to investigate the meaning of true biblical worldview education and see the difference from traditional education," Smithwick continued, adding that he believes proper Christian education is crucial to continuing the biblical promise of a remnant being preserved by God.

Many Christian schools bill themselves as nondenominational, meaning that they teach basic biblical principles that Christians hold in common — what the great Christian apologist C.S. Lewis called "Mere Christianity" — without getting into doctrinal differences. Others are

definitely denominational. Not all private schools are alike, and it is up to the parents to decide the best educational alternative for their children.

For those who want to enroll their children in a Catholic school, there are still many available that provide a rock-solid academic experience combined with thorough religious training in the Catholic faith. For instance, networks of traditional Catholic schools across America affiliated with the Society of St. Pius X (SSPX) and the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter (FSSP) offer excellent education to thousands of families.

There are also phenomenal Jewish schools that provide an outstanding academic education infused with the faith and values of Judaism. One of the nation's first was Yeshiva Schools of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, which continues to provide a top-notch education to hundreds of students from the area. "For learning to be truly meaningful, it cannot be limited to a certain set of subjects, given at a particular time, or place," Dean Rabbi Yisroel Rosenfeld told *THE NEW AMERICAN* in describing the school's proven philosophy. "Rather, the process of education must address the whole child as he or she develops and matures at home, in school, and in the community."

Yeshiva Schools accomplishes that by "taking education far beyond the classroom, while keeping it within the context of Jewish tradition," Rabbi Rosenfeld continued. "For example, we provide opportunities for students to apply what they've learned in the real world. They work with children with special needs, visit seniors in residential centers, and get involved with projects to improve our neighborhood and the environment. In this way, Yeshiva Schools educates students to be knowledgeable, responsible, and productive members of society."

Today, there are many other options for private educational choices, too. Across America, for instance, parents are forming cooperative "schools" where families get together and parents contribute their time and expertise. A father who specializes in computer programming might teach a programming course, while a Hispanic mother might teach Spanish. In addition, there is a resurgence in the one-room school-house movement, with Aletheia Christian

College in Jerome, Idaho, training people from across the country to open and run small schools that can give children of all ages an excellent Christian education.

The options described in this article can be the models for a future where government no longer indoctrinates most Americans in so-called public schools. And even parents who cannot afford tuition have options, with many schools offering scholarships.

While the argument that some people are too poor to send their children to a private school is often cited as justification for the government's practical monopoly, a school in Oklahoma City — the Little Light Christian School — is proving that generous Americans can and do help those in need find a way. The school serves the most at-risk children in the community, namely the children of imprisoned parents, by offering them a tuition-free private Christian education. A tour of the school would be enough to bring tears to one's eyes.

About 30 years ago, Robin Khoury was praying. God gave her a vision, she recounted to *THE NEW AMERICAN* during a tour, that one day she would have a school for poor children. During that time, she was homeschooling her own children,

and had no way of knowing what would eventually come. It would be almost two decades before her school became a reality. But it did.

"I was listening to speakers, and someone started talking about the problems that children with incarcerated mothers have," she says. "Anxiety, depression, post-traumatic-stress-disorder, and behavior problems. And then I heard God whisper, 'These are the kids for your school. These are the kids I've been talking about.'" The next day, she filed incorporation papers for Little Light Ministries. And within three years, the school would be open. Today, it serves dozens of children, and amazing things are happening there.

Regardless of one's faith tradition, there are great options out there for anyone and everyone. In addition to brick-and-mortar schools, there are also online schools such as FreedomProject Academy, which offers a classical education rooted in Judeo-Christian values. And there is homeschooling, a viable option favored by millions.

Buyer Beware

It would almost be hard to do worse than the government schools, which have been quite literally designed to dumb down and indoctrinate children. But while there are

many incredible private, independent, and religious schools out there, there are also plenty of dangers and pitfalls that parents should be aware of when it comes to choosing the right educational program for their children.

It's an alarming sign of the times when *caveat emptor* has become the watchword even for America's Christian schools. In considering Christian schools before the creation of the Federal Department of Education (1979), there may have existed disparities between the quality of academic programs, or the degree to which faith and worldview were successfully integrated with a child's course of study. But one thing that remained reliable was the commitment of Christian schools to be conscientiously Christian, accounting for denominational differences. The same was true for Jewish schools.

Those days are gone, and, incredibly, many "Protestant" and "Catholic" and "Jewish" schools are now committed to aligning academic and social programs to public-school models. The argument is that religious-school children need to "keep up" with public-school peers, take the same dehumanizing standardized tests, and ultimately pursue the same forms of materialistic and worldly success.

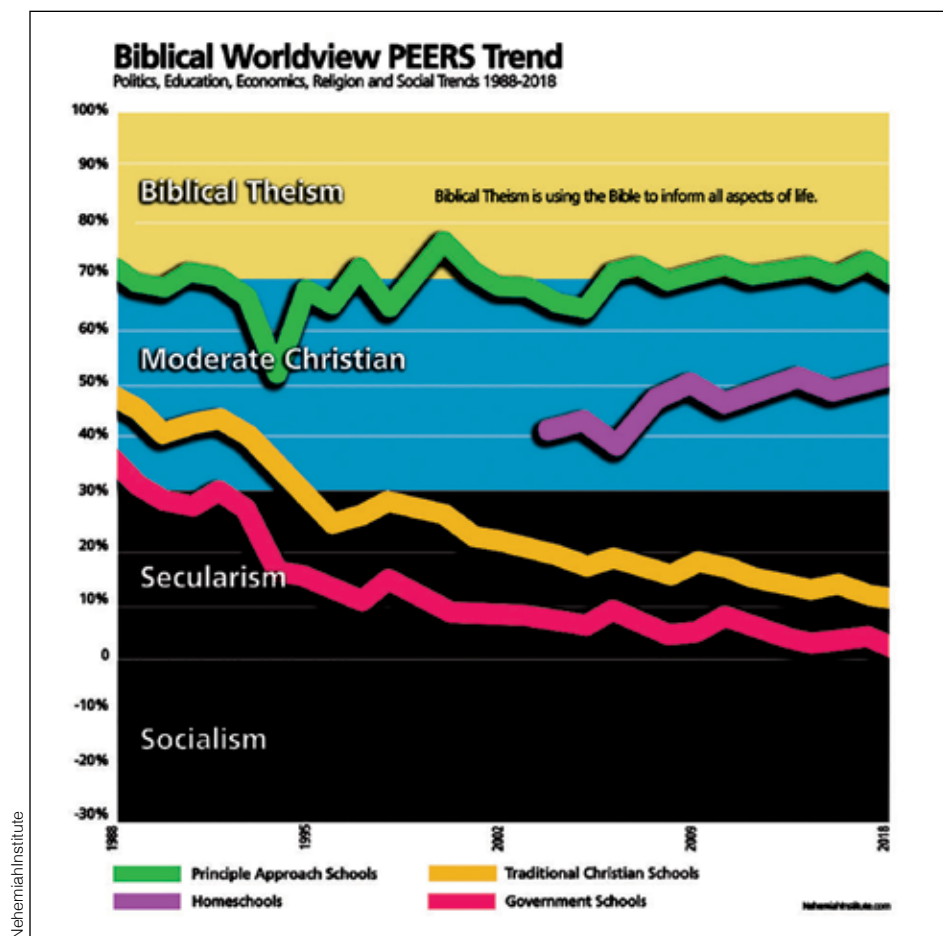
And while families will still find a greater emphasis on discipline and safer learning environments in most Christian schools, they will find very little in terms of faith-building and biblical values. As costly as Christian schooling has become, administrators are wagering that faithful parents will pay exorbitant tuition for schooling that is in many respects Christian-in-name-only. Apparently, a well-placed cross here, a white blouse and plaid skirt there, are more sufficient markers of Christian authenticity than what happens in classrooms or is written in textbooks.

And this secularizing of Christian education is happening across denominations: Most Catholic diocesan schools, for instance, use Common Core-aligned materials, as do most Protestant schools, from "high church" to "low church" schools. Alarming, many Christian schools have adopted the secular and politicized social-justice curricula that is currently transforming public schools into sites of ideological indoctrination. The well-known



facebook/littlelightchristianschool

A cross rather than criminalization: With help from generous Americans, Little Light Ministries chief Robin Khoury offers an excellent, tuition-free Christian education to the children of parents incarcerated in the criminal justice system.



Religiosity: Using the Nehemiah Institute's "PEERS" test has allowed researchers to compare the worldviews of students in different educational environments.

diligence when choosing a school. Job No. 1 is to ensure that your child's faith is nurtured, not undermined. Job No. 2 is to ensure that your child receives an education that is knowledge-based, not ideology-based. You can no longer simply take the word of Christian principals or teachers. We have encountered hundreds of parents who removed their kids from public schools, placing them in Christian schools that promised authentic faith formation and rigorous education, only to find out months later that they were being exposed to Common Core-aligned materials and anti-Christian social-justice worldviews.

To help navigate these decisions, here are three questions you can ask Christian school administrators that offer a starting point, provided you do due diligence and confirm the answers yourself: 1) Is your curriculum aligned in any way with Common Core or outside standardized testing? 2) Can you demonstrate, tangibly, how faith and scripture are the foundations of school administration and pedagogy? 3) Do you acknowledge that biblically and in terms of common sense parents are the primary educators of their children and have an absolute right to review all curriculum materials and to have access to the teachers and staff?

Not everyone who wants to get their children out of the government schools is willing or able to choose homeschooling. But fortunately, thanks to the liberty and prosperity enjoyed by Americans, there are many excellent private-school options for parents to choose from. The challenge is to ensure that parents are not paying thousands and thousands of dollars for a private alternative offering the same sort of dumbed-down indoctrination program imposed on Americans by government. Parents should carefully and prayerfully consider their options — after all, there are few decisions in life that will be more important, or have longer-lasting consequences, than those involving the education of children. Choose wisely. ■

Charlotte Christian School in North Carolina, for instance, recently came under fire for introducing the "Be The Bridge" curriculum promoting "Critical Race Theory," a far-left racist ideology completely antithetical to Christianity.

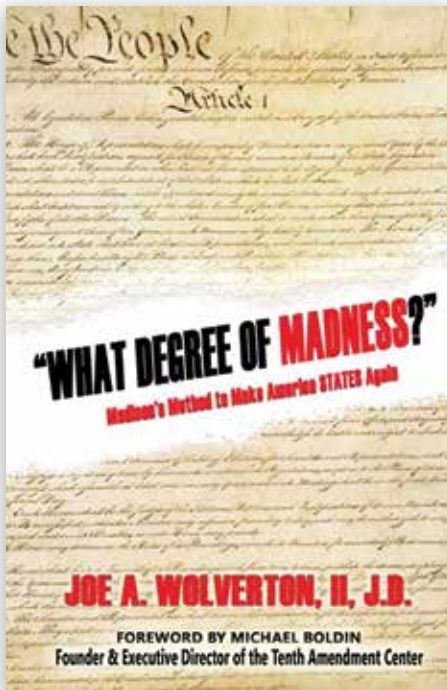
The depraved and age-inappropriate sexuality education that is sweeping public schools is also turning up in Christian schools. And things such as transgenderism, homosexuality, and drag-queen culture are embraced under the guise of dubious "anti-bullying" programs that subordinate scripture to progressive posturing. Many administrators and teachers are embarrassed by biblical morality when it comes to issues such as sexual activity outside of marriage, abortion, and gender confusion, and quietly go about remaking — unmaking in reality — Christian morality and presenting the results to unsuspecting school children as if they were gospel.

One key factor in this move toward apologizing for Christianity — rather than teaching Christian apologetics — is the way teachers are accredited. Overwhelmingly, degrees from university departments of education — which are entirely secular, anti-Christian, and thoroughly progressive — are the primary method through which students become teachers. It doesn't matter how well-meaning or faith-driven a student may be, once entering these programs, survival often depends on compromising one's worldview, in ways that the young teacher may not even recognize. When teachers and administrators join Christian schools after being trained in godless, government-funded colleges of education, they bring that baggage with them.

It is critical that families considering Christian schools exercise extraordinary

HOW TO RESTORE THE BALANCE OF FEDERALISM

In contrast to the intent of the U.S. Constitution, the federal government is centralizing power and treating states as a king treats subjects. This book tells how to end that.



by Steve Byas

“What Degree of Madness?” Madison’s Method to Make America STATES Again, by Joe Wolverton II, J.D., Columbia, South Carolina: Shotwell Publishing, 2020, 144 pages, paperback.

We often hear that people like to talk about the weather, but nobody does anything about it. The same thing can be said for most conservatives, even consistent constitutionalists, when it comes to the question of what to do about the way U.S. government at the national level has reduced the states to mere administrative units. Like those who often talk about rain, wind, clouds, and temperature, but believe there is nothing that can be done about it, those of us who believe we should regain federalism

Steve Byas is a university history and government instructor, and the author of History’s Greatest Libels.

as envisioned by James Madison and the rest of the Framers of the Constitution lament the loss of state sovereignty, but are at a loss as to what to do about it.

In this well-written and useful volume, author Joe Wolverton not only criticizes the drift away from the federal system of government crafted at the 1787 Constitutional Convention, he also gives the reader concrete ways that this drift can be not only slowed, but actually reversed.

Madison did not believe that the federal government could become tyrannical under the Constitution he crafted. As Wolverton wrote, “Madison assumed that the people’s devotion to their state legislatures would compel them to resist any effort by agents of the federal government to subordinate states to second-class status.”

Why did Madison think this? Wolverton argues that there were two reasons that led Madison to this belief: Madison did not believe the people and the states would ever elect federal officers “ready to betray” the best interests of both the states and the people, and he could not conceive that the states would sit idly by as the federal government consolidated power.

Unfortunately, the American people have been deceived by centralizers into believing the myth that the federal government created the states, instead of the other way around. This is the view that is taught in history textbooks, law schools, the media, and in the courts. But, as Wolverton so ably demonstrates, this turns American history on its head.

The States Created the Federal Government

He notes that, at the Massachusetts ratifying convention on February 6, 1788, that state agreed to the Constitution if it were “explicitly declared that all Powers not expressly delegated by the aforesaid Constitution are reserved to the several States to be by them exercised.” Several other

states had similar proclamations. Virginia likewise declared that “the powers granted under the Constitution being derived from the People of the United States may be resumed by them whensoever the same shall be perverted to their injury or oppression.”

Wolverton expertly offers evidence that the states created the federal government, including the argument that the Constitution is a “compact” of the states. “It was the sovereign states that ceded the territory of authority which the federal government occupies,” Wolverton wrote. “Not once during the deliberations at the Constitutional Convention was there a proposal that their work be presented for approval to the body of the populace acting as individuals. From the beginning of the process that culminated on September 17, 1787 with the signing of the Constitution, it was understood that the ratification of at least nine states was the *sine qua non* of the start of a new government.”

In other words, as Wolverton asserts, the federal government was not created *ex nihilo* (out of nothing). It was created by the states. At the Constitutional Convention, representatives voted as *states*, not as individuals. Article VII of the Constitution reads, “The ratification of the Convention of nine States, shall be sufficient for the Establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the Same.”

As Wolverton emphasized, this meant, “The framers of the Constitution recognized that the document they signed in September 1787 was an agreement among the states represented. Every article was written by the states, voted on by the states, accepted or rejected by the states, ultimately approved by the states, and would only become binding upon states who ratified it.”

But the states’ creation, the new national government, soon began violating the agreement.

In 1798, just seven years after the

passage of the First Amendment, which explicitly said that Congress could not pass a law abridging freedom of speech or of the press, the Congress did exactly that with the Sedition Act. When federal judges — appointed by Federalist presidents and confirmed by a federal Senate — ignored that restriction of the First Amendment, it raised the question, “Just what can be done when the all three branches of the federal government conspire to burst out of the bonds of the Constitution?”

Today, many contend that it is the Supreme Court alone that determines the constitutionality of a law. But the Supreme Court is part of the federal government, and history has demonstrated that it is quite rare for that body to side with a state or any combination of states in any conflict with the federal government.

Thomas Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence, and James Madison, the “Father of the Constitution,” wrestled with what to do if federal officials simply ignored the clear wording of the Constitution. Their answer was to write (secretly, so as to avoid being jailed themselves under the Sedition Act) the Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions, adopted by those respective state legislatures, asserting that

states should *nullify*, or refuse to abide by, such unconstitutional laws.

In fact, state officials have a duty to do so, since, like their federal counterparts, they take an oath to uphold the U.S. Constitution. By refusing to allow the unconstitutional usurpation of state powers by the federal government, they are honoring their oath.

Statists claim that this is a dangerous view that amounts to secession. But how can insisting that the Constitution be upheld amount to secession? Wolverton argues that the judicious use of nullification can lead to a restoration of lost state sovereignty. He says that nullification is an alternative to secession because it offers the benefits of preserving the Union and demonstrates state allegiance to the principles of freedom that undergird the Constitution and, by extension, our Founders. “It is an ad hoc approach to ad hoc threats (acts that exceed the enumerated powers) that solves the sovereignty issue without dissolving the union,” Wolverton wrote in defending the use of nullification.

He does, however, argue that secession should not be “taken off the table.” After all, this was the last resort of the colonies in 1776, when they opted to secede from the British Empire.

When Should Nullification Be Used to Rein In Federal Power?

Wolverton offers two rules of thumb as to when nullification is justified. One, does the act violate the Constitution’s enumeration of powers delegated to the federal government; and two, has every attempt to redress the breach been made?

“Done right, nullification is a surgical, sparing way to remove malignant tumors of tyranny, not a chainsaw,” Wolverton explained.

One of the more interesting arguments proposed by Wolverton is that the states entered into a compact, and made their common government, which we call the “federal” government, their *agent*. That is, the federal government was set up to act on behalf of the states that created it. “Another aspect of contract law analogous to the search for legal justification of nullification is a subset of contract law — the law of agency,” he explains. “The principal may grant the agent as much or as little authority as suits his purpose. That is to say, by simply giving an agent certain powers, that agent is not authorized to act outside of that defined sphere of authority.” In other words, nullification by the states is simply the principal (the state) vetoing an act by the agent (the federal government) which was not authorized in the agreement (the Constitution).

Clearly, then, the only powers the federal government could possibly have under the Constitution are those powers the compact parties gave to their common agent — the federal government.

To put a fine point on it, whoever heard of an agent being the one who tells the principal what to do?

But Wolverton does not just put forward the idea of nullification as a method of how the states can rein in the power of their agent (the federal government). His book tells the reader how nullification worked in practice in the past, and also how nullification could be a tool for our present predicament, and for conflicts with the federal government in the future.

Instead of just lamenting the loss of our federal system of government, patriots can read this book and take action to restore the federal system the Founders created. ■



Signing of the Constitution,
September 17, 1787



THE GOODNESS OF AMERICA

Citizenship Celebration

When Florida elementary-school teacher Annmarie Small took her oath of citizenship after 13 years of living in the United States, the courtroom was packed with her students, both past and present, who wanted to be there for her big day.

Small was born in Kingston, Jamaica, where she struggled as a teacher raising her five-year-old son. She came to the United States 13 years ago in hopes of a better life. "I was struggling financially in Jamaica and even having a master's degree, I wasn't able to make ends meet," she said.

She was hired to teach at Cornerstone Learning Academy, a small, K-8 private school in Tallahassee, where she says she found enormous support in her path to citizenship. "I've had the support of Cornerstone since day one," she told ABC News.

In a speech to the courtroom, she said her school was what taught her about being an American. "They have shown me that America ... is more than a place of glamour, fancy cars, red carpets, ball gowns and stilettos — though I do love my stilettos," she said. "America is beyond just the material things."

In attendance at Small's January 16 ceremony was her entire fourth-grade class, as well as the school's fifth-, sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-graders, most of whom Small has taught. In fact, she had so many guests that some had to wait outside of the courtroom. "It's so special to me because it's not just one particular group," Small added. "Every year, I've had students and teachers and parents rooting for me."

ABC News reported that the middle-schoolers waved American flags and cheered as all the 75 new American citizens came out of the courtroom.

Small's students and colleagues knew how much becoming a citizen meant to their teacher and wanted to share in her joy.

"I'm really proud of her and I think she's pretty proud too," one of Small's current students, Kalliope, said.

"It's cool to see all the work and the final product," said Taylor Phillips, another student in Small's class.

The students and Cornerstone's director, Jason Flom, surprised Small with an "Amer-

ican party" at the school, which included apple pie and an all-American playlist.

Small told WTXL the first thing she did after the ceremony was register to vote.

Smile, You're on Camera!

A Michigan FedEx driver has gotten loads of praise for a small act of kindness on January 23, CNN reported.

Melvin J. Marlett was delivering a package to kindergarten teacher Jodi LaFreniere at her home in Manistique when he noticed her front porch was covered in snow. Without giving it a second thought, Marlett picked up LaFreniere's shovel and cleared a path.

Unbeknownst to Marlett at the time, LaFreniere saw the entire thing from her doorbell cam app. She was very moved by his good deed, especially since she didn't know Marlett, as she is not typically home when she receives her deliveries.

LaFreniere was able to track down Marlett on Facebook and publicly thank him for his kindness.

When FedEx learned of the story, the company applauded Marlett for his actions. "We commend our courier, Mel Marlett, who went above and beyond to help shovel snow for our customer while making a delivery," FedEx spokesperson Heather Wilson told CNN.

Meanwhile, Marlett contends his actions were not extraordinary.

"I would hope it's something that anybody would have done," he told CNN. "If you take care of your customers, they take care of you."

Sleep in Heavenly Peace

Tyler Sliz of Libertyville, Illinois, had a strange request for his fifth birthday last October: bedding. His reason, of course, is why he's featured here.

Ahead of his birthday party last year, Tyler posted a video asking guests for bedding so he could donate it to Sleep in Heavenly Peace, an organization that builds, assembles, and delivers beds to needy children, MSN reported.

Tyler's mother, Jackie, told CNN he

outright refused any other presents for his birthday. "He told all of the guests that if they brought anything else, he wouldn't play with it," she said.

Tyler received 30 pieces of bedding on his birthday, ABC News reported.

"At first, I was concerned he would feel disappointment at his birthday party when all he received was bedding, but he surprised me with his giving heart," she told ABC News. "All he truly wanted for his birthday was bedding so that he could carry it to Sleep in Heavenly Peace."

Tyler even bought more bedding with the birthday money two of his guests gave him.

And what started as a birthday initiative has grown into an all-out, ongoing campaign, MSN reported. Tyler has helped donate 125 pieces of bedding to the organization since his birthday, and continues to secure more donations.

Tyler's become a fixture at the Libertyville chapter of the organization, says Dan Harris, co-president of the chapter. "[Tyler] is just a ray of joy," said Harris. "Everybody in the chapter loves hearing about Tyler and seeing him drop off the bedding."

Tyler told CNN his next goal, now that he has surpassed his initial goal of 100 pieces of bedding, is to fill "my whole houseful" with bedding to donate.

Jackie told CNN the family learned of the organization through their church, St. Joseph Catholic Church. While Tyler wanted to help build the beds, his age made that too difficult — the rules state you have to be 12 years old. But he knew he wanted to do something. So he turned to bedding.

"The one place kids go for refuge is their bed," Harris said. "Parents have to sometimes choose between having food on their table or heating their homes or a having a bed. So we make it easier for children to have a bed and we give the child something of their own."

CNN reports Tyler has turned his cause into a family-wide project. Last October, four generations of the Sliz family participated in a build day, and Tyler was able to fulfill his wish of becoming an honorary bed-maker. ■

— RAVEN CLABOUGH

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Problematic Prohibition

One hundred years ago, that generation's Progressives generated enough outcry against drinking alcohol that an amendment was passed to outlaw it. But it didn't bring Utopia.

by Steve Byas

January 17 marked the 100th anniversary of the beginning of National Prohibition, the so-called Noble Experiment that demonstrates the failure of the progressive political philosophy that made it possible, illustrating the truth of conservative scholar Russell Kirk's assertion in his book *The Politics of Prudence*: "Any public measure ought to be judged by its probable long-run consequences, not merely by temporary advantage and popularity."

The 18th Amendment, which prohibited the "manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors," was quite popular when it sailed through Congress in 1918, and was quickly ratified by the requisite number of states in 1919. The Volstead Act implemented the enforcement structure for National Prohibition, and National Prohibition would remain in effect until the passage of the 21st Amendment, which repealed the 18th, in 1933.

Even then alcohol abuse had a long sordid history, and state efforts to curtail it could be traced back well into the 19th century. Maine was the first state to ban the sale of alcohol in 1851, based on studies by Portland businessman Neal Dow, who claimed there was a link between booze and family violence, crime, and poverty.

When it comes to individuals' welfare, we often hear the argument that the federal government has to "step in" because states have failed to act, but in the case of alcohol, the fact is that states were often prevented from acting by federal courts. In 1886, Iowa restricted the importation of liquor into the state, but in *Bowman v. Railway Company*, the Supreme Court declared Iowa's actions unconstitutional. The court reasoned that since Congress had failed



Library of Congress

Wrong: New York City Deputy Police Commissioner John Leach watches as agents pour seized liquor into a sewer during a Prohibition Era raid. Progressives believed that they could solve the problem of alcohol abuse simply by giving the federal government the power to regulate it.

Steve Byas is a university history and government instructor and author of *History's Greatest Libels*.



It was still available: Bootleggers — those who sold alcohol illegally during Prohibition — were clever. Here we see bottles of scotch whiskey smuggled in hollowed-out loaves of bread, and whiskey crates labeled as green tomatoes being taken from a refrigerated railroad car. While Prohibition certainly reduced deaths from alcohol abuse for awhile, alcohol remained readily available throughout the Prohibition Era.

to use its power to regulate the interstate trade of liquor, then Congress desired that liquor crossing state lines was meant to remain unregulated. This left state governments that desired to prevent liquor shipments into their “dry” states impotent to stop it.

Today, the common perception is that Prohibition was mainly the result of a religious crusade, something also believed by some in the early 1900s. At the time, prominent religious skeptic H.L. Mencken castigated National Prohibition as simply the work of “ignorant bumpkins of the cow states.”

A Progressive Cause

But as historian Larry Schweikert noted in his book *A Patriot's History of the United States*, “Only after Prohibition failed was there a deliberate effort to reinterpret the essentially Progressive flavor of Prohibition as the work of wild-eyed Christian evangelists.”

In contrast, Richard Hofstadter, in his Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Age of Reform*, called it an “injustice” to hold Progressives responsible for National Prohibition. Yet, Hofstadter conceded that “leading Prohibitionists had often been leading reformers,” citing socialist Upton Sinclair’s *The Wet Parade*, an anti-liquor book.

David Shannon, writing in *Between the Wars: America, 1919-1941*, argues, “Prohibition had a strong attraction for middle-class reformers” who saw it as their place

to help poor whites, many of whose limited incomes went for booze. He does not discount the work of the Women’s Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) and the Anti-Saloon League, but says that they “found the climate of opinion quite favorable [for Prohibition] during the Progressive Era.”

Historian Clarence Carson, writing in *The Growth of America, 1878-1928*, said it was the triumph of the Progressives that made such a drastic act as National Prohibition possible, arguing that the Progressives “were undergirded by a belief in the possibility and desirability of making over society by regulation and law.”

This compulsion of Progressives to tell others how to run their personal lives preceded them taking up the Prohibitionist cause. As Schweikert explained in *A Patriot's History of the United States*, Progressives had first made an enemy of soft drinks in general, and Coca-Cola in particular. He called the efforts to go after Coke “a test run for the 18th Amendment.” Today’s Progressives retain this impulse. One only need cite the efforts of former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg to restrict the amount of soda pop consumed in his city, as well as his “National Salt Reduction Initiative” (he compared salt to “asbestos,” according to a recent article in *National Review*) and his founding and financing the anti-gun group Everytown for Gun Safety.

Other recent Progressive efforts to strip Americans of their liberty to make such personal choices include seat belt laws,

pushing for non-meat diets, and attempts to dictate what type light bulb consumers purchase. The list only seems to keep growing.

The Progressive Era held sway during first two decades of the 20th century, and attempted to overturn the founding principles of the United States. It included among its champions Democrats such as Woodrow Wilson and Republicans such as Theodore Roosevelt, and exhibited great faith in the power of the government — especially the federal government — to improve society by the passing of laws and increased regulation of society. In a nutshell, the Progressives assured the public they could keep the government in check at the ballot box. By way of contrast, the Founders of America generally feared governmental power (e.g., Washington even reputedly compared government to fire — a dangerous servant and a fearful master — and Jefferson contended that government needed to be kept on a chain, that chain being the U.S. Constitution).

The Progressive approach, of course, should raise the question as to who is going to keep public intentions in check, and prevent them from infringing on the individual liberty and property of citizens who are in the minority. After all, a citizen should be able to express unpopular views or practice an unpopular religion. Or drink a soda pop without first seeking permission from government.

Perhaps nothing better illustrates the Progressives’ optimism than the at-

tempt of government to improve society through National Prohibition of alcohol. As Paul Johnson wrote in *A History of the American People*, “The imposition of Prohibition, and its failure, illustrates perfectly a number of important principles in American history. First, it shows the widespread belief in America that utopia can be achieved in the here-and-now and the millennium secured in this world.”

Prohibition and Organized Crime

And Prohibition highlights the unintended negative consequences of social-control laws. One failure often cited about National Prohibition is the growth and acceleration of organized crime. John Torrio provided illegal liquor in Chicago from 1920-1924, making so much money that he opted to retire back to Italy with \$30 million, when he was almost killed by a rival gang. He was succeeded by one of his lieutenants in crime, Al Capone. A one-time bouncer in a brothel (where it is believed that he contracted the syphilis that eventually killed him), Capone eventually made his way to Chicago, where he became a favorite of Torrio.

It is estimated that Capone profited around \$60 million per year by providing bootleg whiskey. Many small-time bootleggers who refused to buy liquor from him were killed in bombings or shootings with Thompson submachine guns. To help his public image, Capone often made do-

nations to private charities, including a soup kitchen in Chicago.

Ultimately, however, Capone was rightly more associated with extreme violence. In an attempt to eliminate competition by the “North Side gang” led by rival gangster Bugs Moran, Capone had seven of its members slaughtered in the infamous “Saint Valentine’s Day Massacre.” While neither state nor federal law enforcement was ever able to convict him for his multiple crimes of murder, or selling booze, he was eventually convicted for income tax evasion in 1931.

After all, Capone had paid no taxes on all that illegal money.

In 130 known gangland killings in Chicago from 1926-27, the Chicago police department made no arrests.

But gangland slayings associated with Prohibition were not the only negative consequence of the Progressives’ Noble Experiment. As Shannon notes, bootleggers often obtained grain alcohol (drinking alcohol) from industrial alcohol that contained undrinkable alcohols or other poisons, but failed to remove all the poisons, often resulting in blindness, paralysis, and even death. (Similar tragic stories about poisoned products are often told of illegal drugs sold on the streets today.)

As Johnson explained, “Prohibition was a characteristically 20th-century exercise in social engineering which ended by doing unintended, enormous, and per-

manent damage to society.” Another negative effect was the placement of the power of regulation of such things as alcohol in the hands of federal authorities, instead of leaving such power in the hands of states and their local governments, as was intended by the Constitution.

Damaging Limited Government

In the early 1900s, it was still generally understood that the federal government could not exercise a power unless it had been enumerated in the Constitution, largely in Article I, Section 8. As James Madison explained, “The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution to the federal government are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State governments are numerous and indefinite. The former will be exercised principally on external objects, as war, peace, negotiation and foreign commerce.... The powers reserved to the several States will extend to all the objects which in the ordinary course of affairs, concern the lives and liberties, and properties of the people, and the internal order, improvement and prosperity of the State.”

This well-accepted wise political philosophy is why in 1918 it was still considered necessary to enact an amendment to the Constitution to give the federal government the additional power to regulate alcohol. Of course, today’s Progressives do not even bother with constitutional amendments. If they desire to do something, they just do it. One might recall House Speaker Nancy Pelosi asking, “Is that a serious question?” when someone asked her what part of the Constitution gave Congress the power to order someone to buy health insurance.

Unlike Prohibition, no amendment was added to the Constitution giving the federal government the power to enact legislation criminalizing the use of certain drugs. But aided by today’s lack of understanding of constitutional principles, the feds are waging a war against drugs anyway. And this war is being carried out in much the same manner as the federal war against alcohol use in the 1920s, with many of the same negative results: violence, the disregard of property rights and civil rights, and the corruption of law enforcement.

Rampant corruption was just one cause of the inability to enforce National Prohibition. In some cases, states simply did not



Gangsters' money font:
Al Capone was the most prominent of the big-time gangsters who grew rich selling illegal liquor during Prohibition, making an estimated \$60 million per year.

AP Images



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Popularly unpopular: A crowd in New York City celebrates the repeal of Prohibition after midnight on April 7, 1933. Though Prohibition had enough popularity to be made law, even many of those who were for it still drank alcohol.

want to cooperate with federal officials, either because it was unpopular to do so in their communities, or because they were too busy working to fight their own non-alcohol crimes, such as murder, robbery, and rape. Often, when distributors of illegal liquor were charged, juries would not convict. Oddly, even many who publicly supported National Prohibition were frequent customers of bootleggers.

Some chalk this up to the phenomenon that many in society like “Feel Good Laws” — statutes that do very little to control an activity, but it just makes them “feel good” that society has made a statement against this or that vice, or other social problem. As Will Rogers (the most popular movie star of the decade) joked, “Mississippi will vote dry and drink wet as long as it can stagger to the polls.”

The Drive for Repeal Grows

Over the course of the 1920s, National Prohibition became increasingly unpopular. By 1928, the Democratic Party had adopted a platform calling for its repeal and nominated an openly “wet” politician, who favored legalizing liquor, as their presidential nominee — New York Governor Al Smith. Smith did not win, but the tide was clearly running against the Progressives’ Noble Experiment.

Moreover, with the onset of the Great Depression, the revenue coming into the federal Treasury through its taxation of legal business activity and income was drying up, and the lure of extracting some additional revenue from the sale of intoxicating beverages was powerful. Morals taking second place to revenues is not new, of course. King James I of England dropped his initial opposition to legal tobacco in his kingdom when he was told that it would provide a rich source of revenue.

By 1933, the 21st Amendment repealed the 18th. But the way in which the 21st Amendment was ratified provides us with another warning for our time. The Constitution provides two ways to propose an amendment (either a two-thirds majority vote of each house of Congress, or via a national convention) and two ways to ratify. All 27 amendments have been proposed by a two-thirds vote of each house of Congress, and all but the 21st have been ratified by three-fourths of state *legislatures*. Instead, the 21st was ratified by three-fourths of state *conventions*.

This is instructive. Advocates of using the constitutional convention method (sometimes referred to as a Convention of the States) to propose adding amendments to the Constitution discount fears that such a convention could become a “runaway”

convention, passing amendments that could curtail free speech or the right to keep and bear arms, restricting religious liberty, or even replacing the entire Constitution. Proponents argue that three-fourths of state legislatures would never ratify such unpopular amendments. They overlook amendments that three-fourths of the state legislatures should not have ratified such as the 16th (income tax) Amendment, and they have more confidence in the state legislatures than I do.

But according to Article V of the Constitution, it is the *Congress* that determines the ratification method, not the state legislatures. Just imagine if Congress opted to send amendments such as repealing the Second Amendment to the states, stipulating that such an amendment be considered by a state *convention*, rather than by state *legislatures*. Are we willing to trust that those who want to preserve religious freedom, freedom of speech, or the Second Amendment would make up the majority either at a national convention or in the various state conventions? With the power of the media, the popular culture, and left-wing billionaires, are we willing to risk these precious liberties in our present society?

As the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia so wisely opined, the 21st century is just not a good century in which to write a Constitution.

In his book *Roosevelt to Roosevelt: The United States in the Twentieth Century*, Dwight Lowell Dumond noted that the Congress reasoned that the repeal of Prohibition had a better chance of success in state *conventions*, rather than through state *legislatures*. Not only did Congress make that decision under Article V of the Constitution, but, as Dumond explained, they chose to *allow* the states to arrange the time and method of holding the conventions. In other words, Congress could have simply *dictated* the time and the method of holding such conventions, including how such delegates were to be selected.

Our unhappy experience with National Prohibition is a powerful lesson from history — a lesson that should guide our public-policy decisions today. History teaches us the truth of the wise words of President Warren Harding, who in 1920 summed up his rejection of the Progressive Era that produced National Prohibition: “All human ills are not curable by legislation.” ■

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Female Second Amendment Supporters

The Republican consulting firm Republican Main Street Partnership released poll results last summer that reinforced a long known political reality: Women voters are big supporters of expanding gun-control laws, with 71 percent supporting making gun laws even stricter. But according to a news report from KTNV.com on January 23, there are a considerable number of women out there who support the Second Amendment. KTNV.com reported about the SHOT show (which stands for the Shooting, Hunting & Outdoor Trade show), which occurred at the Sands Expo Center in Las Vegas on January 21-24. Dianna Muller, who is the founder of a nonpartisan organization dedicated to gun rights called the DC Project, was also at the event, and she told KTNV, "We see the majority of women coming in because they want to be able to protect themselves.... Our world is becoming increasingly violent, and it's important for us to be able to protect ourselves, and a firearm is a great equalizer."

Karen Butler, president of the "Shoot Like a Girl" organization, discussed that women are also drawn to the exciting aspects of shooting. Butler told KTNV.com, "What we find is once [women] start shooting, they become recreational shooters, and we're excited because shooting is a fun sport. So, not only can you defend yourself if you needed, but you can also go to the range and have a lot of fun."

Anti-gun Politicians Target "Preemption Laws"

While this column has touched on all sorts of gun-control measures proposed by opponents of the Second Amendment, we have never before discussed the effort to get rid of "preemption laws." The website NWgunnews.com, which reports on gun-related news in the American Northwest states of Idaho, Washington, Wyoming, Oregon, and Montana, posted about how "radical gun control groups like Moms Demand Action and Everytown For Gun

Safety" have begun going after state "firearm preemption laws." Preemption laws refer to state-level legislation that prohibits its local governments from passing any gun restrictions more onerous than what is permitted at the state level.

NWgunnews explained that anti-gun activists have been attacking these preemption laws for years, and now there is a formidable effort in the state of Washington to permit local municipalities to pass stricter gun-control measures. The proposed bill already has multiple legislators sponsoring it, and a public hearing has also been held. NWgunnews.com warned that repealing "Washington's firearm preemption would have devastating consequences on gun owners across the state. No longer would the firearm laws be the same no matter where you traveled in Washington, but there would be a patchwork of laws from city to city. Imagine a city like Seattle, with its rampant crime and dirty public property telling gun owners they can't carry a gun for self-defense!"

NWgunnews.com also warned about similar legislation in Idaho that would "let Idaho's cities and counties regulate how many rounds a citizen can carry onto public property. Not only is this type of policy illogical, it certainly isn't going to stop a determined criminal from harming innocent people."

This should serve as a reminder to us that our enemy never sleeps, and they will chip away at the Second Amendment every chance they get and try to attack it from the federal, state, and local level. We must be eternally vigilant!

Second Amendment Balkanization?

The term "Balkanization" was coined in the buildup to World War I and referred to the division of the Balkan Peninsula into smaller states. Over time, the term has become synonymous with the dissolution of nations into smaller entities due to ethnic and/or sectarian strife that made the formerly unified country no longer sustainable. The term now comes to mind when reviewing the widening divisions and political turmoil

in Virginia, where what was once a Republican stronghold has completely morphed into a Democratic Party-controlled state. The situation in Virginia has gotten downright tense since Democrats took full political control of the state and announced their intention to enact a far-left policy of new gun-control laws, remove restrictions on abortion, and enact pro-LGBTQ measures. The backlash was swift, with numerous counties in the state proactively passing Second Amendment Sanctuary resolutions, and the fervor culminated in thousands of gun-rights activists marching on the state Capitol to signal their discontent.

The Associated Press reported on January 28 about how West Virginia Governor Jim Justice and Liberty University President Jerry Falwell, Jr. issued an urgent appeal to pro-Second Amendment Virginia counties to secede from Virginia and join the state of West Virginia. Governor Justice linked the Second Amendment to the sanctity of life in his message for counties seeking refuge from the Democrats. "If you're not truly happy where you are, we stand with open arms to take you from Virginia or anywhere where you may be.... We stand strongly behind the Second Amendment and we stand strongly for the unborn," Governor Justice said.

Jerry Falwell, Jr. echoed Governor Justice's comments and deplored the future direction of the state: "Democratic leaders in Richmond, through their elitism and radicalism, have left a nearly unrecognizable state in their wake."

West Virginia lawmakers are working on formal resolutions to invite parts of Virginia to join their state, but such a thing would ultimately need to be approved by both states and Congress. Even though most political observers view this as a long shot, others are taking it very seriously.

Falwell's lawyers reportedly told him that "counties in Virginia would first need to conduct petition drives. Then a referendum would be held, and if successful, the proposal would go before Virginia's General Assembly." This is where it would ultimately stall, as the Assembly is currently controlled by Democrats, but who knows what the future may hold. ■

— PATRICK KREY



Progressives Plot Death of the Fracking Boom

ITEM: *The New York Times*, in its January 28 print edition, indicates that the Democrats have a “conundrum”: Should they ban hydraulic fracturing, better known as fracking, or win the presidency in such states as Pennsylvania? In these places, says a subtitle, there is “Rust Belt Resistance to a Progressive Ideal.”

“Climate change,” continues the left-wing paper, “has consistently polled as one of the top issues for Democratic primary voters, propelling Senators Sanders and Warren leftward even as the specific politics of fracking have gotten little airing. While Mr. Sanders and Ms. Warren push a nationwide fracking ban, other leading Democrats — Joseph R. Biden Jr., Pete Buttigieg, Amy Klobuchar and Michael R. Bloomberg — have held back, calling instead for tighter regulations, a ban on new oil and gas drilling leases on federal lands, and a transition away from natural gas over time. In critical pockets of the country, perhaps none more so than Pennsylvania, the issue of fracking could become vital in the general election, according to union leaders, Democratic politicians and Republican strategists.”

ITEM: An article for the news site Vox for January 15 presented the purported benefits of a fracking ban, as well as a few reasons against such action. The piece took note of Sanders’ call for a fracking ban and quoted him saying: “If we as a nation do not transform our energy system away from fossil fuel ... the planet we are leaving our kids will be uninhabitable and unhealthy.”

Fracking, the article emphasized, “keeps us dependent on fossil fuels and undermines decarbonization.” Meanwhile, “low oil prices driven in part by fracking have encouraged more travel.” And such low oil prices, maintained Vox, “undermined the business case for cleaner transportation alternatives, like electric cars and fuel cell-powered buses.”

Vox also cited disciples of green scripture, e.g., “‘Not only is natural gas dangerous and destructive, it’s increasingly unnecessary,’ said Michael Brune, execu-



AP Images

Which “collapse” to choose? The radical Left wishes to get rid of fracking to stave off a “climate collapse,” though there is as of yet no evidence that higher CO₂ levels would cause problems. But if Democrats get rid of fracking, they will assuredly cause the economy to collapse.

tive director of the Sierra Club. ‘We do think there should be a national ban on fracking.’”

ITEM: The Hill for February 3 reported that legislation introduced “by Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) that Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.) helped craft would ban fracking nationwide by 2025.... The legislation would immediately prevent federal agencies from issuing federal permits for expanded fracking, new fracking, new pipelines, new natural gas or oil export terminals and other gas and oil infrastructure.”

CORRECTION: The wannabe savers of the globe do have big, bold action in mind. They are, however, hiding the fact that their desired world is going to revolve on taxes — much higher taxes. The additional levies will be required for the huge fossil-fuels revenues forfeited and hundreds of thousands of jobs lost if fracking is banned.

There will be many other costs incurred. As Leslie Beyer, president of Petroleum Equipment and Services Association (PESA), has put it: Such a ban “would mean banning a technology that has bolstered us geopolitically, economically and environmentally.”

First, let’s summarize the process. Large amounts of natural gas and oil resources are located in shale formations in

semi-porous or non-porous rocks. In the past, that did not allow the fuel to flow freely through conventional drilling.

This changed through the combination of advanced hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling. The process of fracking involves the high-pressure injection of water, chemicals and sand into shale deposits to create small cracks in the rock to release the gas and oil. With horizontal drilling, the initial penetration into the ground, as in traditional drilling, is done vertically. Then, as the name suggests, it turns horizontally to drill along the layer containing the fossil fuel.

In the early 2000s, horizontal drilling coupled with hydraulic fracturing became widely used to extract tight gas. Not long thereafter, that same combination of technologies was employed widely to extract tight oil. As explained by the American Petroleum Institute:

Safe hydraulic fracturing is the biggest single reason America is having an energy revolution right now, one that has changed the U.S. energy picture from scarcity to abundance. Fracking is letting the U.S. tap vast oil and natural gas reserves that previously were locked away in shale and other tight-rock formations. Up



Correction, Please!

to 95 percent of natural gas wells drilled in the next decade will require hydraulic fracturing.

After fracking became practical, “Suddenly the U.S. and Canada each had 500 or 600 years or more of recoverable reserves,” as pointed out by Mario Loyola, a senior fellow at the Competitive Enterprise Institute.

Also recall that it wasn’t that long ago that “scarcity” was said to be inevitable. Our “liberal” leaders swore it to be so.

In 1977, President Jimmy Carter assured the nation that our energy future was dismal. In his words: “The oil and natural gas we rely on for 75 percent of our energy are simply running out. In spite of increased effort, domestic production has been dropping steadily at about 6 percent a year. Imports have doubled in the last five years. And our nation’s economic and political independence is becoming increasingly vulnerable.”

Not really. When the energies of the marketplace were allowed to work, the dark future became much brighter. Primarily because of the combination of horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing in shale formations, between 2005 and 2018, natural gas production in the United

States increased by 69 percent. Over the same period and through the same processes, crude oil production in this country increased by 105 percent.

Nowadays, as summarized by economic commentator Steve Moore, Ohio and Michigan “have a combined total of more than 400,000 workers in the shale industry. Pennsylvania has another 320,000. Colorado and Florida each have more than 200,000 workers in oil and gas.”

However, left-wingers, including virtually all of the Democratic front-runners, can’t stand such prosperity. Some boast they would ban fracking immediately. Others would kill it through a thousand cuts of regulations and red tape. Executive orders would suffice if congressional assistance isn’t available.

Warren and Sanders, as noted, are among the prospective banners of fracking; some slower slayers also follow:

- Sanders would also ban drilling offshore and on federal lands, as well as banning imports and exports of fossil fuels. In addition, he would cancel oil pipelines already being built and halt the permitting of new fossil-fuel extraction, transportation, and refining infrastructure.

- Warren has vowed: “As president, I would issue an executive order on Day

One banning all new fossil-fuel leases, including for drilling or fracking offshore and on public lands.” (As it happens, she and her husband for years reported income from natural gas royalties in Oklahoma. The assets were apparently, and conveniently, unloaded just before her Senate campaign in Massachusetts and transferred to their children, according to the *Wall Street Journal*.)

- Pete Buttigieg, an alleged “moderate,” wants to ban new fracking and is for “a rapid end to existing fracking.” There will be net-zero emissions by 2050 under his plan.

- Mike Bloomberg has told the *Washington Post* that the nation needs “a rapid phase-out of all fossil fuels in order to prevent the most catastrophic impacts of climate change.” Fracking, he explained to the left-wing paper, “should only be allowed where there are very strong health and environmental protections.”

- Joe Biden, during a December debate, was given a question by a *Politico* reporter about the “stints of explosive economic growth” enjoyed by recent presidents “due to a boom in oil and natural gas production.” Biden was asked if he would be “willing to sacrifice some of that growth, even knowing potentially that it could displace thousands, maybe hundreds of thousands of blue-collar workers.” Said Biden: “The answer is yes.” He also opposes new drilling on public lands and promises to “phase-out all fossil fuels.”

This is why Biden’s supporters, among others, are nervous in Pennsylvania and other areas. Fossil fuels mean many well-paying jobs. The progressive lieutenant governor in the Keystone State has acknowledged one of the outcomes of a fracking ban: “In Pennsylvania, you’re talking hundreds of thousands of related jobs that would be — they would be unemployed overnight,” in the words of John Fetterman. As a recent *New York Magazine* article observed: “In Western Pennsylvania, fracking hasn’t just brought back jobs; it has brought back good, unionized — and, in some cases, *six-figure* — jobs that don’t require a college degree.” (Emphasis in original.)



Failing to plan is planning to fail: Presidential candidate Bernie Sanders wants to get rid of fossil fuels and nuclear energy, though neither wind power nor solar nor hydroelectric could possibly power our country using presently available technology without utterly bankrupting the country.



Taking away their livelihoods: Politicians who want to get rid of fracking have to face the fact that they would cause mass unemployment of unionized oil and gas workers.

As fracking has grown in the United States, so too has renewable energy generation. But renewables are not an overall energy replacement, except as the figments of eco-dreamers.

In adapted excerpts from his recent book, *Elizabeth Warren: How Her Presidency Would Destroy the Middle Class and the American Dream*, David Bahnsen reminds us that renewables “account for just 18 percent of electricity production. Even the most delusional, optimistic projections about the growth of renewables don’t predict anything more than 35 percent of electricity needs being met by renewables for decades.”

Mark Mills, a senior fellow with the Manhattan Institute, similarly explained in “Real Clear Energy” that it takes “magical thinking to believe that shale production could be replaced quickly by wind and solar — at any price, and regardless of climate change motivations.” Mills puts this into perspective by noting that, since 2007, “American fracking technology has added 500 percent more energy to markets than have all of the planet’s wind and solar farms combined.”

Consider the fact that, as has been concluded by various economists, at least \$1 trillion of the economic output in the United States is related to the shale revolution.

About \$548 billion of the growth in the Gross Domestic Product over the last 10 years is the direct result of fracking, according to a study by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. David Bahnsen calls this the equivalent of “adding the entire country of Sweden to our national economy in just a decade.”

How do such massive numbers translate locally? A study at the University of Chicago, examining the benefits and costs of shale development at the community level across nine different U.S. basins, determined that because of fracking the average household netted benefits of as much as \$1,900 per year.

In an interview with the *Wall Street Journal*, Sam Ori, executive director of the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago, remarked that oil not recovered from fracked U.S. wells would be replaced in the world market by the world’s bad guys: Countries such as “Saudi Arabia and Russia would step in to replace lost U.S. supplies. The net impact on global carbon emissions would be negligible. They might even rise in the short term, because production in those countries is much dirtier than in the U.S.”

This is the real world.

Here’s a more realistic look, this from Harold Hamm, recently retired as the chief

executive of Continental Resources (he is now executive chairman).

Though Hamm isn’t terrified of carbon dioxide — you know, that’s the stuff you and I exhale regularly — in a recent public letter, he observed that “clean-burning natural gas” has reduced CO₂ emissions in the United States to levels “experienced in the early 1990s, yielding a 15% reduction in overall U.S. carbon emissions, more than any other country.

The energy sector, Hamm continued,

is creating tens of thousands of jobs and supporting tens of millions more. Domestic oil and gas production are filling states’ coffers with billions in tax dollars. Ask the Democratic governor of New Mexico how it has completely changed her state’s budget fortunes. It’s a story repeated in energy-producing states like North Dakota, Colorado, Oklahoma, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Texas. Every state, every American, is benefiting.

Yet almost the entire Democratic field for president wants to dismantle and destroy the industry that has done more for middle-class Americans than any other over the past 10 years. U.S. electricity costs are the envy of the industrialized world. Lower energy prices are like a progressive tax cut that helps the poorest households most. But Democrats would unravel all of it for a political purpose.

Save us from the greenish-tinged help of the climate-change cult. And do take a careful look at these theoretical redeemers. In that vein, we just perused the most recent “Mansions” section of the *Wall Street Journal*, which featured the various homes of the current Democratic front-runners. They include Warren’s two homes, Biden’s two, avowed socialist Sanders’ three, and Bloomberg’s nine (his with an estimated total value of more than \$100 million). Apparently you can tell who is an authentic environmentalist, because that is the one with an extra house in the country. ■

— WILLIAM P. HOAR

BY WILLIAM F. JASPER

Deep State Injustice: **Courts and Activists**

The Deep State coup attempt to remove President Donald Trump through impeachment failed on February 5, when the Senate voted 48-52 to acquit the president on the charge of abuse of power and 47-53 on the charge of obstruction of Congress. Both votes fell far short of the two-thirds needed to convict him and remove him from office. That defeat for the virulent anti-Trumpers, the culmination of a three-year vicious smear campaign, has not given pause to the fanatics: Far-left members of Congress and their backers have announced that they will pursue additional impeachment efforts.

However, impeachment isn't the only deadly game they're playing. Those accusing President Trump of obstructing Congress have been carrying on a relentless jihad of obstruction, a multi-pronged effort to obstruct every move by the Trump administration aimed at undoing the socialist, Big Government programs and regulatory strangulation that are killing the American dream and destroying America's preeminence in science, technology, invention, and innovation. The obstructionists are using their activist allies on the federal bench, comrades within the Department of Justice and the EPA, and throughout the federal bureaucracy to thwart every attempt by Team Trump to make good on its pledge to "drain the swamp." The current call by the militant Left for Attorney General William Barr's resignation should be seen in this light.

On Sunday, February 16, the *New York Times* (naturally) led off the effort with an article entitled "Former Justice Dept. Lawyers Press for Barr to Step Down." The *Times* reported: "More than 1,100 former federal prosecutors and Justice Department officials called on Attorney General William P. Barr on Sunday to step down after he intervened ... to lower the Justice Department's sentencing recommendation for President Trump's longtime friend Roger J. Stone Jr." Attorney General Barr had determined that the sentencing recommendation of seven to nine years in prison was excessive compared to similar cases. Four of the federal prosecutors who had been involved in prosecuting Stone — including three who had worked for Robert Mueller's coup effort against Trump — resigned in protest.

"Outrage" was the word of the day — for days on end. The Pelosi-Schiff-Nadler-Schumer chorus was outraged. The Fake News industrial complex (*Times*, *Post*, CNN, MSNBC, NPR, etc.) was outraged. And of course, the former DOJ attorneys who signed the letter calling for Barr's resignation expressed out-



William Barr

AP Images

rage that Barr had overridden the four "line prosecutors." They also hypocritically proclaimed that "the rule of law depends on the evenhanded administration of justice." Evenhanded? As, perhaps, in the cases of Hillary Clinton, CIA Director John Brennan, FBI Director James Comey, and Director of National Intelligence James Clapper? All of the aforementioned Obama Deep Staters were caught in multiple counts of lying on grave matters, but were allowed to walk. Meanwhile, President Trump's National Security Advisor General

Michael Flynn has been prosecuted with a vengeance, has been financially ruined, has had his good name traduced, and may still face prison — for doing nothing materially wrong. Even his alleged lying to the FBI is a fabricated charge, according to his defense attorney, Sidney Powell, who accuses the prosecutors of "one atrocity after the other in this case."

We are not aware whether any of the sanctimonious former DOJ legal beagles that are now "outraged" over the leniency extended toward Roger Stone expressed even the slightest indignation over the DOJ's decisions to look the other way and give passes to Clinton, Brennan, Comey, and Clapper.

The outraged "DOJ Alumni," as they bill themselves, are far from being the non-partisan constitutionalists they insist they are. The *New York Times* noted that signatures for the letter demanding Barr's resignation were gathered by a group called "Protect Democracy," which the *Times* deceptively described merely as "a nonprofit legal group." The truth is Protect Democracy is just one appendage of a vast anti-Trump network founded and funded by Pierre Omidyar, the billionaire founder of eBay, political pal of George Soros, and CIA asset. The co-founders of Protect Democracy are Ian Bassin and Justin Florence, both of whom served as major-domos in the Obama White House. Communications director Aaron Baird was senior advisor to Representative Adam Schiff. Other staff members include Obama DOJ alumni Ben Berwick and Deana El-Mallawany; and ACLU veterans Jamila Benkato and Farbod Faraji.

Besides a genuine fear in the globalist camp that the Trump-Barr DOJ may be lining up indictments for the crimes and treason of many key Deep State operatives, there is also anger and alarm that Barr is exposing and effectively opposing their subversive use of nationwide injunctions by "progressive" judges to hamstring the president in his constitutional functions. The shrieks of outrage are music to the ears of real constitutionalists. ■

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