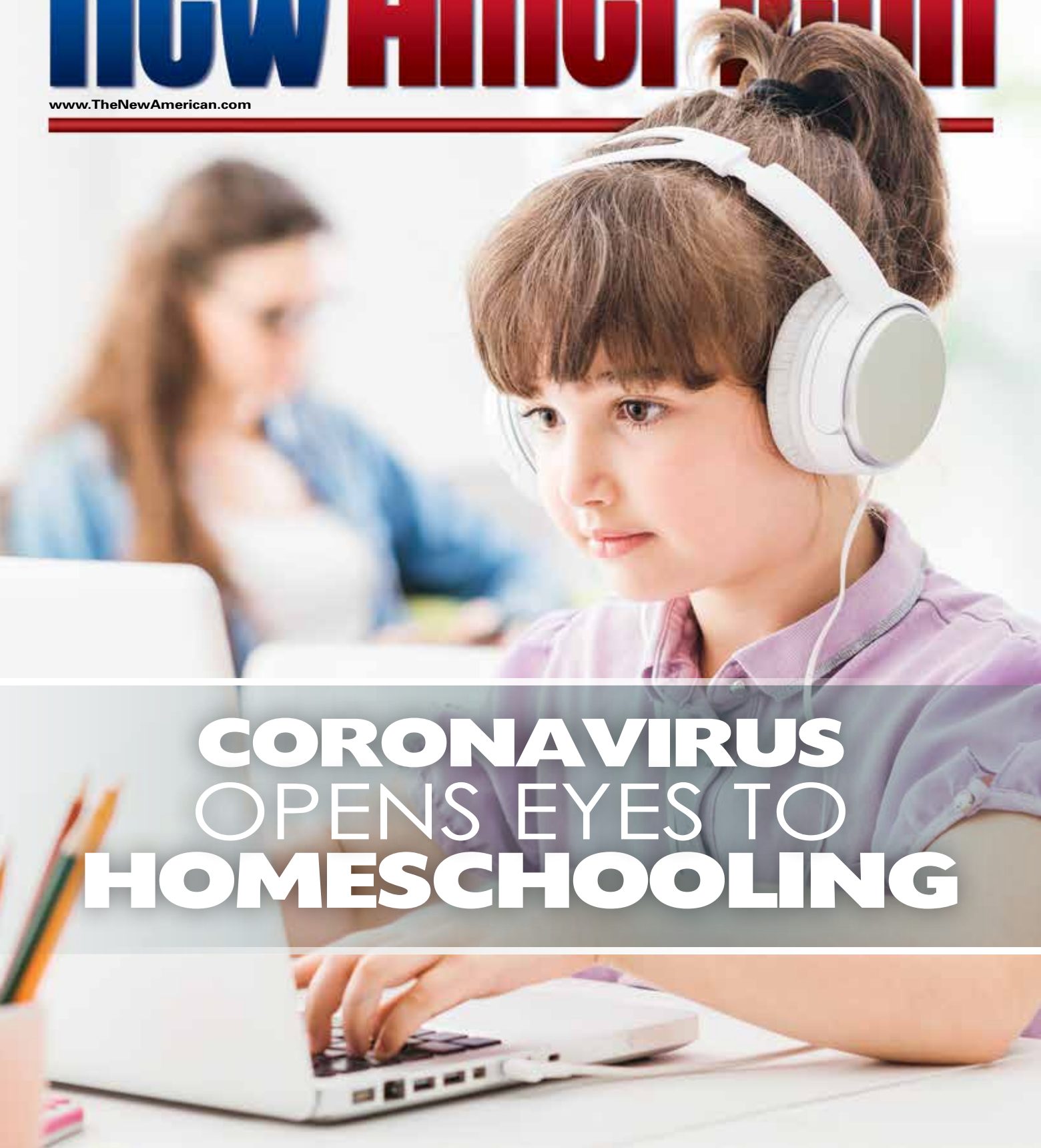


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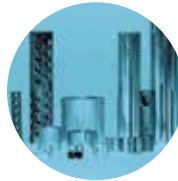
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## COVID Consequences

“This is a test of the emergency broadcast system.” How many times have we heard or seen those words over the years? Yet here we are in a supposed bona fide emergency, and there aren’t emergency broadcasts, only dictates handed down by governors.

Despite the lack of emergency broadcasts, there is a test happening — of the socialist indoctrination American students have been subjected to for generations. Government schools have progressively moved toward social-justice teachings and away from the blessings of liberty since the 1960s, and our current dilemma with COVID-19 is being used as a test ground to see how much socialism the current population is willing to put up with and for how long.

I believe that the forces of evil are trying to change the psyche of America to obtain the socialist brass ring, the final undoing of the Constitution. Governor Cuomo has said that America will be permanently changed. Others shadow his movements.

Between the hyper-sensationalism by all media, including Fox News, to the over-the-top closing down of the economy by all levels of government, the people are illegitimately being driven to hysteria, and that fear allows the changing of our country. All levels of government have failed to uphold liberty. Even parks and beaches have been closed. Though President Trump has instituted measured responses to the virus, he has been overshadowed by Johnny-come-lately unprepared statewide responses.

A typical socialist ploy involves not being able to prove a negative, and we see that ploy being used now to build fear. We’re told that we have to accept socialist controls to save our lives. But though we know that COVID-19 will end, we will never know for sure that the draconian measures handed down by governors in shutting down the economy saved any more lives than may have happened with a more targeted approach. Taiwan, for example, has fared very well without shuttering businesses or schools.

There were outrageous predictions of one million to two million American deaths from COVID-19. The only way these numbers will be true is if they include the loss of life that will occur if our response to COVID-19 causes economic collapse and poverty followed by anarchy and tyranny.

In this case I believe the cure is far more damaging to the country than the virus. The average American knows 600 people. It is unlikely that you will personally know someone who has succumbed to the virus. However, you will undoubtedly know someone or even many people whose lives will be harmed by government response. Of federal politicians, only Congressman Thomas Massie of Kentucky has taken a strong public stand against the onslaught.

While it is comical to see our vaunted press corps reporting the coronavirus hype from their basements, the forced shutdowns and four to 10 trillion dollars in added debt will devastate the economy. Twenty-five percent of shuttered businesses may never reopen.

As Joseph Pulitzer said, “Our Republic and its press will rise or fall together.”

JAMES M. SPICKARD  
Little Egg Harbor, New Jersey

## Parents Beware

Parents should beware of sending their kids off to a higher education if this is an example of it! According to a report by Campus Reform, an African-American politics course at Syracuse University requires that students read leftist filmmaker Michael Moore’s book *Stupid White Men*, a dose of leftist indoctrination.

As the title suggests, the book includes controversial statements about race. In one chapter, which is not-too-subtly titled “Kill Whitey,” Moore asks if all white people suffer from a shared low-grade mental illness.

Moore’s book is nowhere close to an academic study or textbook worth reading. It is pure indoctrination against white people — particularly white men.

Michael Moore, who is a white man, is most likely bent on proving how woke he is to other progressives. Worse, the students were forced to give Moore, an avowed socialist, profit from the purchase.

WILLIAM BAKER  
Sent via e-mail

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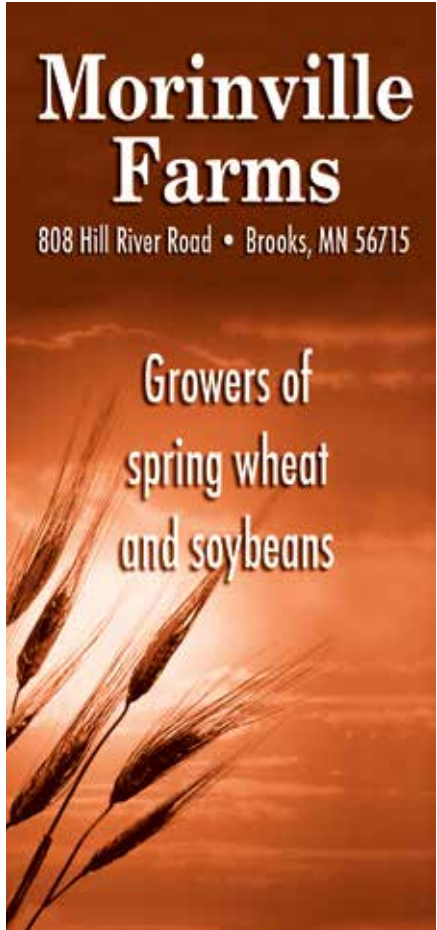
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## China Using Coronavirus Crisis to Buy Up British Companies

Nigel Farage, leader of Britain's Brexit Party, claims Chinese interests seek to use the coronavirus outbreak to gain control of large segments of the U.K. economy, particularly strategic industries such as manufacturing.

"What is happening right now is that Chinese companies and Chinese money are lining up for what they expect to be a 'fire sale' of British businesses," he said April 8 during a Facebook live stream.

Citing Germany's recently enacted protections against foreign takeovers of their companies during the COVID-19 crisis, Farage suggested Britain must take similar measures:

I fear, we're going to allow China in to buy up vast swathes of our strategic and manufacturing industries and it just can't be allowed. The problem is the same mob that sold us out to Brussels are now happy to sell out our sovereignty once again to China and this needs a much bigger, higher, level of debate.

In March, the Chinese Jingye Group bought out British Steel, the latest consequence of a line of policy allowing Chinese state-run companies to buy up controlling interests in British firms. Former Prime Minister David Cameron and former Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne, for instance, let China invest in British nuclear power plants.

"For some reason, many of our civil servants, politicians, and Big Business figures seem to be in love with the despicable, barbarous regime who don't just murder thousands of their own people every year, but put hundreds of thousands in camps ... where they're being re-educated away from their faith to support the Chinese Communist Party," Farage continued.

The former European Parliament member related China's history of stealing intellectual property and their intention of becoming the leading global superpower.

According to an April 10 article on Breitbart, British MPs are currently conducting an emergency inquiry into the threat of Chinese companies stripping the assets of firms critical to the U.K.'s economy, such as those in the technology sector.



GageSkidmore

## Massive Oil Discovery in Alaska to Provide More Supply

The announcement of a massive new oil find on April 8 couldn't have come at a better time. The 1.8-billion-barrel prospect called Talitha is located next to the Trans-Alaska Pipeline on Alaska's North Slope, reducing greatly the developer's transportation costs when the field comes online in the next few years.

By that time the world's thirst for low-priced crude oil will have returned following the COVID-19 shutdown, and Talitha's low cost will help lead the United States and global economies to even higher levels of output.

Pantheon Resources updated an evaluation of an old exploration well and concluded that the prospect could ultimately produce 500 million barrels of oil, with peak production nearing 90,000 barrels a day. Pantheon's CEO Jay Cheatham told the Associated Press, "We are so advantaged because of our location, being able to be right there along the Dalton Highway [aka the 'haul road' for rigs serving the oil fields in the North Slope]."

The world is likely to need the additional supply. Reports over the weekend are that OPEC and Russia are mending their fences and have agreed, with reluctant approval of member Mexico, to cut their production by 10 million barrels a day. This has shored up crude oil prices by \$3 a barrel which, prior to the tentative agreement, looked like they were headed to \$10 a barrel or less.

Thanks to the virus shutdown, American oil producers have

already cut production, which is likely to decline by two million barrels a day by the end of the year, according to the Energy Department. U.S. crude oil producers have already cut thousands of jobs (the industry currently employs, directly or indirectly, some 10 million people), have taken hundreds of wells offline, and have decommissioned rigs and fracking equipment in response to the shutdown.

Once the shutdown ends, the global recovery will need all the low-cost energy it can get in order to return to normal levels.



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## Japan Paying \$2 Billion for Its Manufacturers to Leave China

Japan has set apart the equivalent of US\$2.2 billion of its COVID-19 stimulus package to incentivize its manufacturers to bring production back from China as the coronavirus interrupts trade between the two east Asian nations, the *South China Morning Post* noted April 9.

The budget, put together in response to the viral crisis, includes 220 billion yen (\$2 billion) for companies who agree to move their production back to Japan, along with 23.5 billion yen for those seeking to move their production from China to countries other than Japan.

The move comes as the two nations were in the process of strengthening their trade ties. Chinese President Xi Jinping was scheduled for a state visit to Japan in early April — the first visit of its kind in a decade. But the visit was canceled amid the coronavirus outbreak, and no new date has been announced.

China is currently Japan's top trading partner under normal circumstances, but imports from China fell by nearly half in February as the disease forced the closure of factories, depriving Japanese manufacturers of key building components.

This has renewed discussion of reducing Japan's reliance on China for its manufacturing needs. A Japanese government panel on future investment last year highlighted the need to increase the production of high-added-value products domestically and for other goods to be diversified across Southeast Asia.

A survey by Tokyo Shoko Research released in February found that 37 percent of the over 2,600 companies to respond were diversifying their procurement to places apart from China in response to the crisis.

When the coronavirus first broke out in China, Japan provided aid to the communist state in the form of masks and protective gear, earning praise from Beijing.

In another measure against the disease, China declared the Japan-produced antiviral Avigan to be an effective coronavirus treatment.

Despite the gestures of goodwill, many in Japan blame China for mishandling the outbreak in its early stages and believe the country should have blocked entry to Chinese visitors sooner.



theasis/iStock/Getty ImagesPlus

## Citing COVID-19, EU Seeks “New Marshall Plan” for “New Europe”

Under the guise of “saving” Europe from the coronavirus and economic calamity, European Union leaders are calling for an enormous “Marshall Plan” that would supposedly stimulate the continent's bruised economies and transform the EU. The goal: “a new Europe.”

EU President Ursula von der Leyen, who leads the European Commission, which acts as a sort of hybrid legislative and executive branch, has been leading the charge to weaponize the upcoming budget as a transformative “Marshall Plan.”

“The European budget should be the Marshall Plan we lay out together,” said von der Leyen in an April 4 op-ed on the European Commission website headlined “How Our Europe Will Regain Its Strength.” “We all know that in this crisis we need quick answers and we cannot take two or three years to invent new tools,” she wrote.

Among the priorities that von der Leyen said would be at the heart of the proposed spending bonanza is “decarbonization.” Another key scheme the EU president outlined is being touted as “SURE” — the Short Time Unemployment Scheme. “Besides liquidity and other support, we are introducing a new proposal to preserve the vibrant heart of the European economy and that is skilled workers,” she said in reference to the “SURE” plot. Under the plan, the EU would make 100 billion euros of money ex-

tracted from taxpayers of European nations available to European governments so they could hand it out to European companies, which would then supposedly give it back to European workers. Yes, seriously.

Faith in the EU is crumbling. In fact, awareness is spreading that this faith was misplaced to begin with. Across the continent, citizens and nations inspired by Brexit are now longing for a way out of the trap, too. But Deep State globalists running the EU cannot allow that to happen. And so, they are hoping to literally bribe citizens with their own money through this grand new “Marshall Plan” for Europe. ■



AlexeyPetrov/iStock/Getty ImagesPlus



### Former Secretary of State Believes the Pandemic Will Lead to a New World Order

“The reality is the world will never be the same after the coronavirus. Farsighted government is necessary to overcome obstacles unprecedented in magnitude and global scope.”

*In his April 3, 2020 Wall Street Journal article, Henry Kissinger once again expressed his willingness to transfer power from the United States and other independent nations to a world government. He didn't specify the United Nations as the recipient of power in this article, but he has long been a supporter of that world body.*



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### Idaho Law Seeks to Bar Transgender Athletes From Competitive School Sports

“We physically cannot compete against biological boys and once those opportunities are lost, they are gone and you can't get them back. This situation could literally tear teams and communities apart.”

*A former college basketball player and NCAA Division 1 women's coach, Barbara Ehardt is now an Idaho state legislator who introduced the measure, which passed and was signed by the governor. However, the new law barring boys who claim to be females has been challenged by the pro-transgender group Lambda Legal. The ACLU and Planned Parenthood also want to overturn the law.*

### New Tunnel From Mexico to San Diego Discovered

“These tunnels show the determination of drug trafficking organizations to subvert our border controls and smuggle deadly drugs into our community.”

*Federal agents seized \$29.6 million worth of illegal drugs from a 2,000-foot-long tunnel into San Diego. The Drug Enforcement Administration's John W. Callery stated that no arrests had been made because the tunnel was not being used at the time it was seized. More than 70 similar tunnels have been discovered in the San Diego area since 1993.*



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### Former President Likens Supposedly Slow Coronavirus Response to Claims About Climate Change

“We've seen all too terribly the consequences of those who denied warnings of a pandemic. We can't afford any more consequences of climate denial.”

*A committed supporter of unproven claims about climate change, former President Barack Obama refuses to acknowledge that a large and growing number of scientists do not believe the sweeping claims that the planet is threatened by changing weather patterns. But he eagerly sought to equate the speed of action to combat the coronavirus with the need for similar speed to deal with climate issues.*

### Sanders' Press Secretary Happy to Cease Qualifying Her Commitment to Socialism

“On the plus side, I can drop the ‘Democratic’ word from my tweets about why Socialism is good.”

*Members of Bernie Sanders' campaign staff always referred to him and themselves as “Democratic” Socialists. Now that his campaign for the presidency has failed, the campaign's press secretary, Briahna Joy Gray, announced her delight in no longer trying to soften her commitment to total Marxism with the use of the word “Democratic.”*

### Jihadist Who Planned Attacks on U.S. Landmarks Pleaded Guilty and Went to Prison

“He planned to conduct a terrorist attack on the White House as part of what he claimed was his obligation to engage in jihad.”

*When he tried to buy an anti-tank missile, authorities started watching Hasher Jalial Taheb of Cumming, Georgia. Undercover agents led by Assistant Attorney General John Demers discovered his intention to attack the White House, Washington Monument, Lincoln Memorial, and New York's Statue of Liberty. ■*



AP Images

— COMPILED BY JOHN F. MCMANUS



# **CORONAVIRUS OPENS EYES TO HOMESCHOOLING**

The country's coronavirus lockdowns have forced kids to do online schooling. Homeschooling advocates hope this experience will draw kids from public schools.



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by Alex Newman

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Even before the coronavirus shutdown, the Smith parents were concerned about their young teenage son's experience at the local public school. In fact, the child begged not to go back. From bullying and indoctrination that led to depression, to godlessness and false propaganda passed off as "education," to handcuffed teachers who must obey the system amid the chaos, the family was already very worried.

Then the governor of the state shut down the schools in March due to coronavirus. The school had provided Google "Chromebooks" and Google accounts to the students with lessons, resources, and assignments to work on at home. What Samantha Smith saw, though, convinced her that the time had come to remove her son from government education and do something different.

"It was all so confusing, just a bunch of mish-mash stuff that was impossible to navigate or understand," said the mother, whose real identity is being protected to avoid harming her relationship with school district officials. "Parents are left totally out of the loop, and this is what goes on during normal school days as well."

The godless nature of the "education" was deeply harmful, too. The mother told THE NEW AMERICAN that she believed her son developed some depression as a result of the "false teachings" being forced on him by the school. Indeed, the child was even reprimanded and disciplined for speaking the truth, which was interpreted as defiance, she said. And her son saw that there was no biblical integration into anything, even though he knows full well that one cannot separate God's design from education or anything else.

And so, the Smith family took the plunge and decided to homeschool and enroll their son, 14, into the Freedom-Project Academy, an online K-12 school (see page 21) that is firmly grounded in biblical principles. While the Smiths will still rely on local government schools for some extracurricular activities, the child's

---

*Alex Newman is an educator and the co-author (with the late Sam Blumenfeld) of the book Crimes of the Educators: How Utopians Are Using Government Schools to Destroy America's Children.*

For more than 20 years he has been calling for an "exodus" of Christian children from government schools. Now, it has happened — at least temporarily. The challenge will be to capitalize on it, he said.



**Empty:** Across America, government schools were shut down by order of governors and local officials, liberating tens of millions of children from indoctrination — at least temporarily.

education will now be a combination of homeschooling and FPA. "We know this is the best option," the mother concluded.

In the span of a few weeks, the population of homeschooling families in America exploded by some 2,000 percent or more. Thanks to panic surrounding the Chinese virus, the number of home-educated children went from just a few million to almost the entire school-age population of the United States and even the globe. Of course, many of those children are still relying on government for lessons and activities — something that must not be confused with genuine home education — but many other families have been left entirely on their own. In any case, interest in home education has never been greater.

Advocates of homeschooling began rejoicing, practically in unison, at the prospect of dramatic growth in the movement. More than a few commentators suggested that, with enough effort by home-education advocates, there is a very real chance that

millions of students may never return to the public-school system after the dust settles. It would be unprecedented, but not impossible — especially as millions of parents discover for the first time what their children are being exposed to in government schools.

Not everyone is pleased at the surging interest in home education, though. The Deep State's propaganda organs, far-left governors, the United Nations, the education establishment, and the sexual revolutionaries obsessed with sexualizing children have all been less than enthusiastic at the thought of countless millions becoming homeschoolers almost overnight. Some globalist groups such as UNESCO and the OECD are even trying to hijack the moment. Whether they will succeed remains to be seen.

### Surging Interest

From the torrent of news articles across America and the globe about homeschooling, it is clear that the subject has never been

A “veteran drag queen” known as “Nina West” is hosting “Homeschool With Nina.” This supposedly “family friendly” show includes the cross-dressing man singing songs directed at children, such as “Drag Is Magic.”

this hot — not by a long shot. And while some of the media reports were hostile, many were fair, if not outright supportive, of the national move toward home education. A *Wall Street Journal* piece by editor and homeschool father Matthew Hennessey, for example, argued that an increase in homeschooling numbers would be a “silver lining in a very dark cloud.” Fox News ran multiple reports on the subject, too.

As government schools were shutting down in state after state, homeschoolers across America who spoke with *THE NEW AMERICAN* magazine confirmed that there has been unprecedented interest in the practice in recent weeks. Friends and family members whose children have been in public or traditional schools all their lives suddenly find themselves thinking seriously about home education for the first time — at least for now, if not for the long haul. As they try it, many will love it. And homeschool families everywhere are mobilizing to help ease the transition as millions consider joining the movement.

The Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA), the largest and most powerful group advocating for home education in the world, has also confirmed expanded interest in homeschooling among the public. In response to the schools shutting down and the growing attention, the group even released a “quick start” guide outlining seven steps for parents to begin homeschooling their children. It has been extremely popular so far.

“I fully expect that there are going to be a lot of people who are going to point back to the coronavirus pandemic as the time when they started homeschooling and they started their homeschooling journey,” HSLDA attorney and director for global outreach Mike Donnelly was quoted as

saying by Breitbart News. “We don’t know what this pandemic is going to look like. But it may end up changing people’s behavior, and as people have the opportunity to figure out education with their children, in a homeschooling context, some people, I think, are going to say, ‘You know this isn’t so bad; in fact, this is kind of good and I think we’re going to keep doing this.’”

Countless organizations, including FreedomProject Academy and the Ron Paul Homeschool Curriculum, have re-

sponded to the soaring interest by making some of their resources available for free to those families suddenly homeschooling out of necessity. And the website *CoronavirusHomeschooling.com*, sponsored by the Texas Home School Coalition, has even made available an entire homeschool curriculum for students of all ages, along with countless other resources to help families in need. “You don’t need a PhD. Just be a parent and you’ll be fine,” the site assures parents. “We’ll send you daily lesson plans with video instructions to help you through. We’ll tell you exactly what to do each day. You’ve got this!”

Actress and nationally syndicated radio host Sam Sorbo, author of *They’re Your Kids: An Inspirational Journey From Self-Doubter to Home School Advocate*, is among the celebrities promoting the service. She is optimistic that many of the families being forced to homeschool amid the coronavirus panic will realize it is far better for their children than government schools. In a radio interview on her show featuring this writer, and again during a Heritage Foundation panel discussion entitled “We’re All Homeschoolers Now: Navigating the Coronavirus Challenge to K-12 Education,” the highly influential Sorbo sounded thrilled at the prospect.

“I’m optimistic that families will discover the joys of home education,” she said about this time period, adding that parents were likely to become suspicious of government schools as those institutions hesitate to make their materials and curriculum available to families online. “My whole message to parents is, ‘You don’t feel capable of educating your children at home because you’ve been taught that you’re incapable.’ In fact, that seems to be an overarching message of our education bureaucracy — to make you aware of how inadequate you are, to make you uncertain of how well you can do.” Now is the perfect time to try, she said.

To help bring that about and encourage parents, Sorbo joined forces with *The Old Schoolhouse* magazine and other leaders in the movement to host a webinar for families that find themselves in



**Selling homeschooling:** Actress and homeschool mom Sam Sorbo, who wrote a book encouraging parents to educate their own children, is among the celebrities promoting home education amid the crisis.

AP Images



“accidental homeschooling.” According to the publisher of the magazine, new homeschoolers from all over the world — even from nations where it is illegal — are signing up for their programs every day. Sorbo, who along with her husband homeschooled her own children, also launched a YouTube program called *The Accidental Home Schooler* aimed at those who are just getting started with home education.

Sorbo is also urging all newly established homeschool families to take advantage of the free resources at CoronavirusHomeschooling.com. “We mobilized our entire team and have worked around-the-clock to produce excellent daily lesson plans beginning with grades K through 5,” she told THE NEW AMERICAN magazine, celebrating the empowerment of parents to “take the reins” of their children’s education in the months ahead. “Using our website, every parent has immediate access to this free resource, as well as support from our team of education professionals. We are rolling out new resources every week, for children of all ages, so that parents have the vibrant, comprehensive, necessary resources to teach at home.”

### Government-education Critics

In an exclusive interview with THE NEW AMERICAN, former Arizona Superinten-

dent of Public Instruction Diane Douglas said parents should view the current pandemic as the “greatest opportunity of their lives” to take control over what their children are learning. Douglas originally ran for the top education post in her state, hoping to reform the system and bring back traditional education, including phonics and real history. By the end of her four-year term, though, she realized reform was futile, and that the only hope was for parents to remove their children from the system in huge numbers, she explained.

“This is part of a 100-year or 150-year battle for the souls of our children,” continued Douglas, warning that collectivists and anti-Christian forces were using government schools to dumb down and indoctrinate America’s children. “John Dewey [founding father of America’s so-called progressive public-school system] was very clear, his intent was to change our society and make sure our children were un- or under-educated.... Understand the battle we’re fighting. I wish I had had the courage to homeschool my daughter, but I was chicken at the time.”

Aside from choosing homeschooling or a good private school, when asked what Americans could do in this battle, Douglas urged everyone to get a copy of THE NEW

AMERICAN magazine’s Special Report “Rescuing Our Children.” Originally published in February of 2019, the expanded second edition was just released. “They can get the *Reader’s Digest* version and understand what we are facing, and how far it goes back,” said Douglas. (Copies of the Special Report can be ordered in bulk at discounted prices at [TheNewAmerican.com/RescuingOurChildren](http://TheNewAmerican.com/RescuingOurChildren).)

Numerous critics of public schools suggested that this Wuhan virus shutdown may be just the medicine needed to finally break the government’s practical monopoly over the minds of children. “Despite it being a national health crisis, there could be a positive outcome from Coronavirus,” said education expert Carole Hornsby Haynes, who has a Ph.D. in professional education, in a newsletter. “It just could be the catalyst for breaking the stranglehold of government schools as parents decide to ‘unschool’ their children and make American education the greatest in the world again.”

At the forefront of the movement to rescue children from government schools for over two decades has been Exodus Mandate founder Lieutenant Colonel E. Ray Moore. He explained to THE NEW AMERICAN magazine that, despite the enormity of the health and economic tragedy, the shutdown of government schools is actually an incredible opportunity to grow homeschooling and Christian schools as never before. For more than 20 years he has been calling for an “exodus” of Christian children from government schools. Now, it has happened — at least temporarily. The challenge will be to capitalize on it, he said.

“This is a unique moment in American history,” said Moore, whose ministry fights to expose what he calls the “pagan, godless” government schools. Thanks to coronavirus and government orders surrounding it, America could be on the verge of “a sea change” in how the nation does K-12 education. “In all my years in this movement, I’ve never seen an opportunity like this,” he said. “This is an incredible chance to rescue millions of American children from the anti-Christian indoctrination they are getting in public schools. We must act now.”

Moore, himself a veteran homeschooler, has teamed up to help lead two new, broader



**Homeschoolers help by providing lessons:** CoronavirusHomeschooling.com is one of many resources available to the millions of new home educators looking for help.

initiatives on the education front. First, he now serves as chairman of the Christian Education Initiative, a coalition of dozens of non-profit organizations and ministries dedicated to expanding Christian education. The other, Public School Exit, with help from this writer and Dr. Duke Pesta of FreedomProject, among others, is aiming to take that message beyond just the evangelical community, while facilitating the exodus that Moore has been working toward for so long. “This is the time to strike,” said Moore about the growing national movement.

Public School Exit co-founder Dran Reese, president of the Salt & Light Council and its various ministries, echoed Moore’s call for pastors to seize this opportunity. “Pastors and church leaders have a huge role to play in equipping congregations with a biblical understanding of citizenship, and that includes education of children,” said Reese, who also promotes biblical citizenship through her highly influential ministry work. “This pandemic is a perfect time for pastors on the sidelines to get involved.” But be aware that many self-styled religious schools are often far too similar to government schools for comfort.

Moore echoed those remarks, calling on pastors to once again serve as “true shepherds” and lead the families they pastor to the “green pastures and still waters” of non-governmental education. Among other things, that means churches should work to wean their congregations off the secular, anti-Christian education offered by government, and encourage them to use good programs such as those offered by FreedomProject Academy, the Foundation for American Christian Education, Alpha and Omega, A Beka, Classical Conversations, and many more. While not depending on government will obviously require a financial sacrifice, critics of government schooling say the well-being of their children ought to be parents’ top priority. Churches ought to help, too.

“Suddenly hundreds of thousands of churches and pastors have nothing but homeschool children to care for,” Moore exclaimed,

clearly thrilled at the prospect. “What conservative and Christian leaders could not do — that is, persuade, encourage, warn and urge millions of families to leave public schools — the coronavirus has done in several weeks, backed by orders of state governors, President Trump and the federal government.... Is this the ‘tipping point’ that we all have worked and prayed for?”

Whether this will be a tipping point remains to be seen. But what is clear is that the timing could not have been better. If something like the current coronavirus pandemic had hit in 1980, the infrastructure would not have been in place to facilitate an enormous exodus from the government schools into home education and Christian schools, Moore said. But in 2020, there are now countless state organizations, ministries, non-profit groups, media operations, and publications, and millions of homeschooling families, chomping at the bit to assist in guiding friends and family into making the right educational choices. “Carpe diem,” said Moore.



ExodusMandate

**The cloud’s silver lining:** Lieutenant Colonel E. Ray Moore (ret.), who launched Exodus Mandate over 20 years ago to get Christians out of government schools, says this is a historic opportunity to grow home education and save America.

## Enemies of Homeschooling Strike Back

Writing in the anti-Trump *Washington Post*, former Tennessee Education Commissioner Kevin Huffman claimed children would be damaged by all this home education. Under the headline “Homeschooling during the coronavirus will set back a generation of children,” Huffman said America was “embarking on a massive, months-long virtual-pedagogy experiment, and it is not likely to end well.” Pointing to the fact that children sometimes forget what they have learned over the summer, Huffman warned of impending disaster.

Critics, though, could barely contain their disgust at the far-left paper. “Really, now you attack homeschooling? I’d wager the average homeschooled kid in America fares better in virtually any metric than the average public/leftist indoctrination school kid,” Donald Trump, Jr. responded on Twitter to the *Post*’s piece. “You should do a story on it... but you won’t because you would never expose the racket.” Trump, Jr. was one of countless critics lambasting the increasingly discredited newspaper owned by Amazon boss Jeff Bezos.

Of course, the *Post* was hardly alone. Harvard Law School recently announced that it would be hosting a summit this summer to consider ways of regulating or crushing the supposedly “controversial” practice of homeschooling. One of the law professors behind the scheme, Elizabeth Bartholet, recently called for a “presumptive ban on homeschooling.” The other organizer, law professor James Dwyer, claimed that “the reason that parent-child relationship exists is because the state confers legal parenthood on people through its paternity and maternity laws.”

California Governor Gavin Newsom even argued that homeschooling was inherently deficient. “There is a big distance between a parent teaching their child and a teacher teaching their child,” he claimed. “It’s not that our kids don’t respect their parents, they just don’t seem to respect them when it comes to educating them, as much as they do their teachers.”



He also boasted that Google was donating big bucks to ensure that the state's children could continue receiving government "education" while at home.

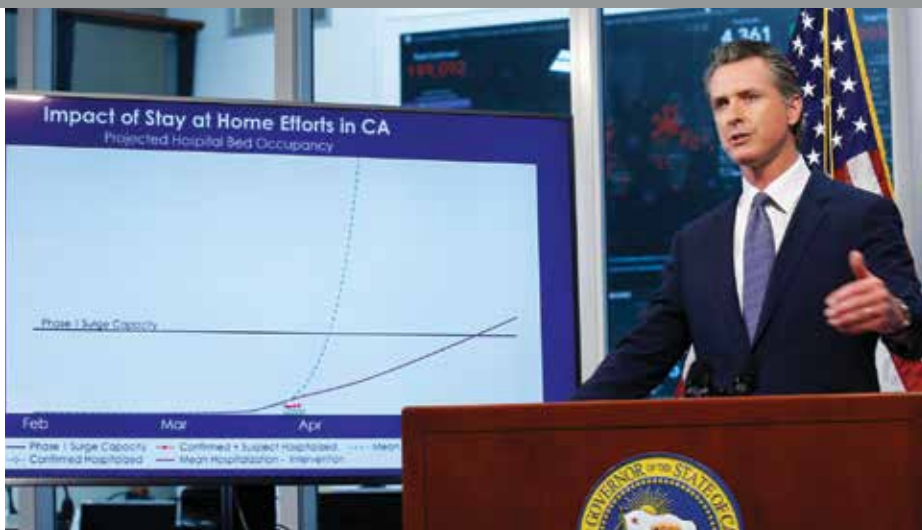
Radical sex-education group SIECUS, founded with help from a sex fiend known as Alfred Kinsey who was responsible for the rape and sexual torture of numerous children, developed homeschool "sex-ed resources" for parents amid coronavirus. "While parents work to ensure that their children stay on track with their English, math, and science lessons, they should also be prioritizing their kids' sex education," the group said.

"Let's be real: Not too many children grow up to use algebra in their daily adult lives. But they will certainly apply the knowledge and skills they (should) learn through sex ed," said SIECUS, which proceeds to link to sexualization videos targeting children as young as four. "Thanks to the variety of credible, online sex education resources, parents are better suited to serve as substitute sex educators than they might think."

Other perverts are also jumping on the bandwagon in an effort to continue grooming and sexualizing children even when they are at home. With the nationwide "drag queen story hour" shows at school on pause amid coronavirus, a "veteran drag queen" known as "Nina West" is hosting "Homeschool With Nina." This supposedly "family friendly" show includes the cross-dressing man singing songs directed at children, such as "Drag Is Magic."

Finally, Deep State globalists, realizing that they may lose their grip on the minds of millions of children, are scrambling to keep those victims locked into the system. The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, for instance, boasted of leading a "collective" (read: UN) response in education as over 1.5 billion children are home from school. As part of that, the global outfit is working with national governments to keep the students involved in government school through technology while peddling dangerous "social-emotional learning" to manipulate children.

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the globalist World Economic Forum (WEF) are also hoping to enable a seamless shift from government indoctrination at school



**Pulling public-school strings:** In a sign of growing resistance to a potential exit from public schools, California Governor Gavin Newsom claimed children respect their teachers more than parents on education.

to government indoctrination at home, with help from Big Tech companies such as Google and Microsoft. "It is particularly inspiring to see entirely new ways of working emerging, ones that go beyond simply replacing physical schools with digital analogues," Tracey Burns, with the OECD Directorate for Education and Skills, was quoted as saying on the WEF website, emphasizing that the major focus must be on preventing "inequality."

### The Future

The global shutdown of schools comes as the move to rescue children from government miseducation and indoctrination goes mainstream. Even before the crisis, a late 2019 survey by EdChoice found that interest in homeschooling was at an all-time high. In all, a staggering 15 percent of parents preferred homeschooling over any other form of schooling, including private, public, and charter schools. That figure was five percent in 2012. Less than a third of parents chose government schools as the best option for their children.

In just the last year, talk of getting children out has gone from the fringes to center stage. Talk-show titan Rush Limbaugh, the most popular radio host in America, urged parents to remove their children from

public school in favor of home education. Responding to New Jersey's new LGBT indoctrination mandate for public schools, top evangelical leader Franklin Graham also urged parents to get their kids out. Even President Trump, who in 2016 blasted "progressives" at the Department of Education who "indoctrinate" children, used his 2020 State of the Union address to decry the fact that so many children are "trapped" in "failing government schools."

With some 40 million American children home from government school this week amid the virus outbreak, this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to rescue America's embattled youth from the threat of government schools. And you can help make that happen. To get started, consider ordering a copy (or 100 to share) of the second edition of THE NEW AMERICAN magazine's popular Special Report "Rescuing Our Children." It outlines the problem, and more importantly, the solution. There has never been a better time to rescue millions of children — and the future of America! ■

To order "Rescuing Our Children," see page 31.



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# WASHINGTON STATE MANDATES PERVERSION AT SCHOOL

Washington State is the latest state to mandate a sex-ed curriculum that will cause emotional and physical harm to children, as it attempts to convince kids that anything goes.



**Standing up for the innocent:** Parents across Washington State rallied against the new statute mandating “comprehensive” sexualization of schoolchildren, but lawmakers backed by abortion giant Planned Parenthood did not listen.

*by Alex Newman*

When government schools start up again in Washington State, so-called Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) will be even more ubiquitous than before. Lessons in kindergarten will introduce children, typically around age five, to homosexuality, homosexual parenting, “anatomy” including drawings of genitalia, and much more. From there, each year the young children will move on to other “lessons” encouraging transgenderism, sodomy, fornication, and every form of perversion imaginable. And now, it is all mandated by state law.

Critics of the radical new sex-education

mandate expressed outrage. Children were horrified. Some pro-family activists accused government officials of seeking to “groom” children for sexual acts and potentially even abuse by predators. A lawmaker blasted it as an “all-out assault” on the Judeo-Christian values at America’s foundation. The abusive and obscene material is so outrageous that some opponents are now calling on parents to remove their children from public school as quickly as possible.

“This is not education,” warned children’s rights activist Katy Faust, with Them Before Us, adding that abortion groups lobbying for the bill had an interest in sexualizing their prospective clients. “This is propaganda, ideology, and grooming.”

The statute in question, SB 5395 in the Senate and HB 1407 in the House, mandates radical sex education at every level throughout a child’s education. Introduced in the legislature by sexual revolutionaries in mid-January, by March 27, despite massive parental opposition, the legislation was signed into law by far-left Democrat Governor Jay Inslee. That was right around the time that schools were being shut down by government decree. But when they re-open next year, any parents who continue sending their children to public schools must understand that those children will be bombarded with unprecedented amounts of sex propaganda and perversion — with devastating consequences.

Consider that the material was so graphic that when it was discussed in the House of Representatives, a warning flashed on viewers’ TV screens: “Mature subject matter — viewer discretion advised.” A brief review of the materials that will be used reveals why that warning was needed. When lawmakers tried to quote some of the material, they got “gaveled” and silenced because it was so obscene. In fact, much of the material is so outrageous that, not too long ago, adults would have been arrested and charged with a felony for exposing children to pornography and obscenity, or for encouraging them to engage in raunchy sexual activities that would have been inconceivable in previous generations. Even today, outside a school setting, adults in many states could face felony charges for giving this sort of filth to children.

“This bill has left no choice but for parents to remove their children from school,” State Representative Matt Shea (R), a national leader in the liberty movement who fought against the bill, told THE NEW AMERICAN. “The mask is off: During the debate TVW stated ‘Mature Subject Matter, Viewer Discretion Advised.’ Why are we teaching mature subject matter to kindergartners? PG-13 and Rated R ma-

terial are exactly that. If a movie theater couldn't show your kids that kind of material why on Earth can they be shown that in the government school classroom? This is an all-out assault on our Judeo-Christian values that undergird our Republic. This is stealing childhood."

Even children are crying out for help. A young girl from rural Curtis Junior High School who spoke out publicly amid the debate over the legislation sounded desperate. "I'd like to tell you what the sex-education curriculum has done to our school in the past couple of years," she said in public testimony urging lawmakers to vote no. "Feeling violated is the new norm. Sexual harassment is the new norm. Lack of respect is the new norm. Graphic details and pornographic images and inappropriate assignments have been a part of everyday life."

"Sex has now become the main topic of every conversation from the start of school until the end," she explained — and that was the situation that *already* existed before this new legislation super-charging "sex ed" was formally approved. "The whole culture of our school has become toxic, especially to girls.... It's disturbing and inappropriate, but I don't get to say no." Other children similarly cried out for help at the legislature about the relentless abuse being perpetrated by government

schools. But lawmakers passed it anyway, ignoring the desperate pleas from parents and children.

The history of sex education reveals a great deal. Consider that the first advocates of sexualizing children with graphic sex ed were communist butchers in Hungary's Bela Kun regime, who provided obscene material in an effort to break down families, traditional values, and Christian civilization. Later, "Dr." Alfred Kinsey, responsible for the rape and sexual torture of hundreds or even thousands of children in the name of sex research, purported to give it scientific respectability. Basically, Kinsey's pedophiles raped and molested children as young as five months old, claimed those victims experienced "climax," and concluded that children were "sexual" from birth. The modern push for ubiquitous, anti-Christian sex education was born.

### Curriculum

While no particular curriculum is mandated under the new Washington statute, all districts must choose one that complies with the mandates. The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction touts a variety of resources as being compliant. Family Watch International President Sharon Slater, though, one of the world's top experts on Comprehensive Sexuality Education and co-chair of the Protect

Child Health Coalition, noted that the list of state-approved curricula "includes several of the most harmful programs we have analyzed."

"In fact, many of the approved Comprehensive Sexual Health Education programs have scored 15 out of 15 for harmful elements when reviewed using our 15 Harmful Elements Analysis Tool," she told *THE NEW AMERICAN*.

The comprehensive sexuality education programs mandated in the legislation sexualize children, Slater warned. "They seek to change societal sexual and gender norms by indoctrinating children with explicit sexual information," she said, urging parents to see the documentary *The War on Children: The Comprehensive Sexuality Education Agenda* available at [StopCSE.org](http://StopCSE.org) to understand the threat. "Most CSE programs also promote acceptance of diverse sexual identities and orientations and have an almost obsessive focus on sexual pleasure, instructing children and youth at the earliest ages on how to obtain sexual pleasure in a variety of ways."

One of the resources touted by Washington's education bureaucracy to comply with the state's mandate is known as "Teaching Tolerance," produced by the anti-Christian hate group the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). Under the guise of promoting what the intolerant SPLC calls "tolerance," students in kindergarten through second grade learn, among other things, to ignore their parents and impersonate the other sex if they feel they might have been born in the "wrong" body. That lesson comes from the book *10,000 Dresses* by Marcus Ewert, one of several SPLC-recommended texts for K-2 "Teaching Tolerance" lessons on "gender."

The state superintendent is fully on board with this outlandish idea. While testifying in favor of the legislation, he claimed that transgenderism is "biology." "Students are born this way," he argued in defending the teaching of gender confusion to children.

Of course, in reality, the data proves that to be a fraud. Consider that in the last five years, the number of minor girls in Utah undergoing a "medical transition" to a new "gender" has increased by 10,000 percent, according to data gathered by the state's health authorities. In Sweden, the



AP Images

**Does he love 'em or hate 'em?** Far-left Washington Governor Jay Inslee is a big proponent of radical sex "education" for all, despite the well-documented negative effects of it.



number of transgender children grew by 1,500 percent in a decade. In California, a study by UCLA revealed that 27 percent of children ages 12-17 describe themselves as “gender non-conforming.” This is a direct result of transgenderism propaganda at school.

Meanwhile, one of the primary curriculum options touted by the Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction as “consistent with state requirements” is known as Rights, Respect, Responsibility (3Rs). The program, which received the most harmful ranking possible from Family Watch International, was developed by the sexual revolutionaries at Advocates for Youth, a partner of tax-funded abortion giant and Democratic political machine Planned Parenthood. And the content would likely shock even many of the most liberal and progressive parents.

Under 3Rs, children are exposed to gender confusion and homosexuality starting in kindergarten, learning that girls can supposedly have male genitalia and vice-versa. By first grade or before, indoctrination into gender theory and efforts to undermine traditional “gender roles” are unleashed. Throughout elementary school, the children will be exposed to images that have been widely condemned as pornographic, including cartoons in books such as *It’s Perfectly Normal*.

By the time the children are 11 years old, in sixth grade, if not before, they will learn about how to search the Internet for information on sex to become a “sex ed sleuth.” The full-blown transgenderism propaganda also reaches a crescendo, with gullible children being taught that they can choose what gender they are and take steps to make that a reality — for comparison imagine an anorexic girl learning at school how to get liposuction without her parents’ knowledge. In grade five, for instance, they are taught that “it’s important to remember that someone can have a penis even if they don’t identify as a boy or a vulva even if they don’t identify as a girl.”

Before becoming teens, they learn about “making changes in the world” through “LGBT advocacy.” At 12, abortion is introduced as an “option” to deal with unwanted pregnancies. Teachers are instructed to tell students that “once a person confirms they are pregnant, they need to decide whether they are going to have



**Abusing statistics and kids:** Sex fiend Alfred Kinsey, responsible for the rape and sexual torture of many children, created a pseudo-scientific rationale for sex ed, using fraud to claim children are “sexual from birth.”

the baby ... or end the pregnancy.” Students in seventh grade are also forced to role-play sex negotiations, fight for men to go in girls’ bathrooms, sue schools that do not fully embrace the LGBT agenda, and more. By ninth grade, they are ordered to watch *I Am Jazz* drag and transgender shows on the Internet. Many of the resources suggested by 3Rs contain terms, concepts, and perversion that simply cannot be mentioned here for obvious reasons.

### Deadly Lies

Over and over again, peddlers of the perversion have insisted that the propaganda would be “medically accurate.” And yet, some of the material set to be used under the approved 3Rs (and others) is downright dishonest — and dangerous. Consider, for instance, a worksheet on the relative risks of various sexual acts handed out to seventh-grade students. In the section on activities that supposedly carry “low risk,” especially as it relates to venereal diseases, is this: “Anal sex using a condom correctly.” Later, the document claims that condoms offer “very good protection” during sodomy. This is a lie that will literally cause many of those children to die prematurely.

Even the government’s own data proves this to be a lie. The Food and Drug Administration has never approved condoms for sodomy. That is because according to the

U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), even perfect and consistent condom use is only between 60 and 70 percent effective in preventing venereal diseases such as HIV/AIDS during anal intercourse. In other words, at least 30 percent of the time, venereal diseases can be and are spread despite condom use. Teaching young children that sodomy with a condom is “low risk” when there is a 30-percent chance of infection should be considered criminal.

More than a few medical professionals have pointed out this danger, including many doctors in California when similar lies were exposed being taught to children there. “Equating vaginal and anal condom efficacy stats is misleading at best and deceitful at worst,” explained family medicine physician Dr. Jeffrey Barke, who served 12 years on a California school board. Calling the new curriculum “hazardous” to children, the doctor said he was “shocked by the lack of medical accuracy.” “How is this misinformation keeping students safe?” he wondered, adding that the lies would be especially harmful to homosexual and transgender students who engage in sodomy.

By the time the children become teenagers, the 3Rs program teaches them to acquire and use birth control. They also learn how to seduce fellow children and receive “consent” for sex acts, despite the

Lessons in kindergarten will introduce children, typically around age five, to homosexuality, homosexual parenting, “anatomy” including drawings of genitalia, and much more. From there, each year the young children will move on to other “lessons.”



AP Images

**Brainwashing the young:** Even in conservative Utah, transgender propaganda at school is wreaking havoc, sparking a 10,000-percent increase in the number of girls undergoing a “medical transition” over the last five years.

fact that these children are nowhere near the legal age of consent.

Then they are introduced to terms such as “pansexual.” And over and over again, they are encouraged to rely on abortion giant Planned Parenthood for “services” ranging from abortion and contraception to propaganda on sex. Critics say profits for the abortion industry are one of the major motivations behind the push to sexualize children at school.

### Consent

Much of the propaganda in the sex-ed schemes mandated under the new law revolves around normalizing and thereby encouraging perversion. The word “consent” features prominently in all the indoctrination, as children are taught beginning at a very young age to believe that any-

thing goes, sexually, as long as everyone involved gives their “affirmative consent.” In reality, the age of consent in Washington is 16, and even then, unmarried children have no business fornicating.

CDC data show that teens who have had sexual contact have higher rates of drug use, suicide, sexual violence, depression, and more. Dr. Melvin Anchell, who served on Lyndon Johnson’s Commission on Obscenity and Pornography, explained that this sort of sex education causes “irreparable harm” to children, severely damaging their future marriages, families, relationships, and lives. The data also show that, despite being justified as a tool to reduce venereal disease and unwanted pregnancies, both of those have surged in tandem with the proliferation of sex education. But policymakers do not seem to care.

Aside from “consent” propaganda, sexual morality is tossed out the window. The legislation states, for instance, that “abstinence may not be taught to the exclusion of other materials and instruction on contraceptives and disease prevention.”

And in a “note to the teacher,” the 3Rs program warns educators about children who may come from religious homes and how to respond. “Some students may say ‘because it’s wrong’ or ‘because it’s a sin.’ Although these are valid reasons for some students, it is important to avoid shaming those who do have sex,” the warning states. “Simply adding the word ‘some’ — ‘some people have been taught that it’s a sin, although not everyone is religious or belongs to the same religion’ — can ensure that that student is heard while minimizing the judgment placed on those who may end up having a different experience.”

Parents, meanwhile, are being told to calm down because they can supposedly opt their children out of the most grotesque elements of the indoctrination. And yet Washington Sexual Health Education boss Laurie Dils was caught on camera plotting to “weave” the filth and propaganda into every subject. The goal is “comprehensive sex ed that starts in kindergarten, that’s provided every year and not just once in a stand-alone class each year,” she said in a video posted online. “It’s intensive instruction that really engages youth over a matter of weeks, if not the full year, sort of weaving these conversations into all sorts of content areas.”

One of the children who testified against the new statute also noted that the children whose parents opt them out are mercilessly teased, and hear all the information from friends later anyway.

Unfortunately, Washington State is hardly unique. In the June 17, 2019 issue of *THE NEW AMERICAN* magazine, an article headlined “California’s New Sex-ed Regime Is Worse Than You Can Imagine” exposed similarly grotesque indoctrination of children there. The very same programs, organizations, and curricula used in those states are firmly embedded in public schools in conservative states, too. And as long as more than eight in 10 parents continue to send their children to government for education, the horror show will continue to degenerate further and further. ■



# A PITCH FOR FPA AND HOMESCHOOLING

The coronavirus is showing many parents what critics of public schools have long been saying: Kids are receiving a subpar education in the public schools — and it's no accident.



**D**r. Duke Pesta, academic director of FreedomProject Academy, was interviewed by THE NEW AMERICAN about what parents and families are seeing from schools in response to the coronavirus, and what long-term lessons can be gleaned from what they are seeing.

**THE NEW AMERICAN:** *How has FreedomProject Academy been dealing with coronavirus?*

**Dr. Duke Pesta:** Other than the societal macro-stresses that the virus inflicts on all of us — including the frustration of watching constitutionally protected rights and liberties stripped away by state and federal bureaucracies — we continue to provide live, online classes with actual teachers for our students across America and a dozen foreign countries. Our FPA students are in class every day in the safety of their own homes, receiving a strong classical education rooted in Judeo-Christian values. Technology helps us to create a virtual classroom environment that allows students to interact with their teachers and peers. For FPA, it is business as usual, and our students have not missed

a single day of classes because of COVID-19. As a distance-learning school, we are also considered “essential personnel” by all 50 states, a recognition that we can continue to educate during the pandemic.

It is overwhelming to consider what public-school kids are up against in their government-controlled classrooms as we begin the third decade of the 21st century: school shootings, Red for Ed teacher walk outs, radical sexuality curriculum starting in elementary school, the war on gender and biological sex, the incessant encroachments into the curriculum by Planned Parenthood and the LGBTQ agenda, bullying, meaningless high-stakes testing, and, now, a virus that has shuttered the schools and left thousands of unprepared teachers and millions of struggling kids to create online learning models out of whole cloth. And all of this without dwelling on the 800-pound gorilla in the classroom: the sobering realization that the American public-school system is no longer able to — or interested in — educating your children with academic success, or even basic proficiency, as their primary purpose. According to National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) tests, more than 60 percent of public-school kids are not able to read or do math at the grade level where they belong. Many of these students are as much two and even three years behind where they should be.

**TNA:** *What can others learn from FPA, if anything?*

**Dr. Pesta:** The current upheaval of global government education is more about consequences than warnings. For decades now, activists across the country have warned families about the corrupt, compromised, inefficient, needlessly expensive, and altogether politicized nature of modern public schools. We have called out the sexualization of children, the displacement of parents at the hands of teachers and educrats, the extensive data gathering, the one-size-fits-all curriculum, the ideological imbalance, and the social-justice takeover of the classrooms. More Americans than ever before are homeschooling, but the reality is that too few American families heeded the warnings, so the consequences are now being felt most directly because of the pandemic. As long as government schools were providing eight hours a day of “free” day care, along with a meal or two, many parents were willing to put up with the high costs of public schools, the mediocre (at best) education, the transformation of schools into sites of radical indoctrination, and

the freezing out of parents about every aspect of their children's education. But now the kids are sheltering at home, and it is increasingly obvious to parents sheltering alongside them how insufficient and slapdash are the online accommodations offered by the public schools. If there are things to learn from FPA amidst this chaos, they should be that 1) parents must take back control of their children's education, become primarily responsible for seeing that their children receive an education that will allow them to thrive in adulthood, and 2) they must recognize that there are almost limitless resources available to help with homeschooling, FreedomProject Academy preeminent among them.

**TNA:** *Are FPA students doing better academically than public-school children?*

**Dr. Pesta:** We give placement exams in reading and math for every student who seeks to join our school. In many instances, these exams show that when public-school kids come to us, they are one to two years behind where they should be vis-à-vis their age and grade level. We can help them catch up, but it is important

to realize that the results of the placement exams demonstrate the problem with great clarity. As mentioned already, the nation's NAEP scores underscore what our exams show. This is not simply an accident or honest failure on the part of the public schools: It is a feature of the new social-justice education. When kids are held to high standards and made accountable for their progress, there will be, by definition, children who cannot or will not reach the standard. To today's politicized educrats, this system of expectations and accountability is a form of "white supremacy," bigotry, and intolerance. To combat the fact that some kids are smarter and work harder, which leads to quantifiable differences in results and opportunities for those "privileged" students, social-justice education artificially lowers standards and actively retards student success. If they cannot make every student equally gifted or successful, they can at least hold down those students capable of moving ahead. That is what the "common" in Common Core actually means: In the name of "social justice," "equity," and "inclusion," the public schools are sacrificing real learning and

student individuality for one-size-fits-all collectivism. FPA rejects this socialistic approach to teaching and learning. We prioritize the mastery of subject matter and encourage individual student development and excellence. Whether it's kindergarten or senior year of high school, we educate your children to be at or above expectation for each grade.

**TNA:** *How soon can a student transfer to FPA, and what would it require?*

**Dr. Pesta:** We are enrolling students for the Fall 2020-Spring 2021 school year right now and all the way through June. There is a real possibility that the coronavirus will interfere with the start of public-school classes in fall. By enrolling with FPA now, you are guaranteeing your student will be in school and receiving a quality classical education regardless of what happens with the pandemic through the rest of this year. To find out more and receive a free program guide for FreedomProject Academy, visit [FreedomForSchool.com](http://FreedomForSchool.com) or [fpeusa.org](http://fpeusa.org).

**TNA:** *What should American parents be thinking about education during these unusual times?*

**Dr. Pesta:** Besides the obvious advantages of convenience and the flexibility of the home environment, the biggest benefit of homeschooling is the ability to manage the message. It is impossible not to recognize the increasingly volatile politicization of our government schools. As an educator who has personally worked with students from middle school through graduate school, I can attest to the fact that far too often today's public-school students are taught what to think, as opposed to learning to think for themselves. Homeschooling reinforces the idea that parents should be the first and most important filter, one that protects their children from ideological indoctrination and the one-sided, politicized spin of the contemporary classroom. Ultimately, it doesn't matter how many vacations, cellphones, and soccer practices we provide for our kids if we have not given them the best possible education. If parents do not educate children in a manner that allows them to take care of their own families in the future, we have failed them. ■



**Real plans and progress:** During the coronavirus lockdowns, FPA homeschooled kids aren't simply keeping busy doing worksheets. They have face-to-face time with teachers, who are giving instruction. And the kids are encouraged to excel and accelerate their learning.



# CLIMATE CRUSADERS YET CARBON CREATORS

Americans are constantly told that they have to change their lifestyles to mitigate climate change, but the leaders of the climate-change movement don't plan to change theirs.

by Michael Tennant

“Climate change is real,” actor Leonardo DiCaprio declared in his 2016 Academy Award acceptance speech. “It is happening right now. It is the most urgent threat facing our entire species, and we need to work collectively together and stop procrastinating.”

Likewise, Great Britain's Prince Charles told the 2020 World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, that “global warming, climate change, and the devastating loss of biodiversity are the greatest threats humanity has ever faced.”

“Do we want to go down in history as the people who didn't do anything to bring the world back from the brink?” he asked. “The only limit is our willingness to act and the time to act is now.”

One might expect people who are so confident that comfortable Western lifestyles — particularly to the extent that they generate excessive amounts of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) — are going to doom the planet to be doing everything they can to reduce their own contributions to global warming. But one would be very, very wrong.

Rex Murphy, columnist for Canada's *National Post*, pointedly observed, “There is no issue on this orbiting Earth, nor has there even been, that has the burden and depth, the volume and intensity of the rawest hypocrisy — that burns on the flames of hypocrisy itself — as that of global warming.”

“Those who most harangue and harass the rest of us on our ‘carbon’ usage,” he averred, “are the greatest wastrels of all.”

## Leo the Lyin'

When it comes to the alleged threat of global warming, DiCaprio is easily the most outspoken Hollywood celebrity.

*Michael Tennant is a freelance writer and regular contributor to THE NEW AMERICAN.*



AP Images

**Leonardo “DiCarbon”:** Leonardo DiCaprio claims climate change is “the most urgent threat facing our entire species,” but his many houses, cars, and flights leave a titanic carbon footprint.

Last year, DiCaprio took a private jet to a Google climate-change confab in Sicily. He wasn't alone: 114 private aircraft and more than a few luxury yachts (which can burn as many as 530 gallons of fuel *per hour*) brought supposedly carbon-hating celebrities to the conference at the luxurious Verdura Resort, where they rode around in gas-gulping Maseratis.



**Live hypocrisy:** After performers at Al Gore's 2007 Live Earth concert logged 220,000 air miles, English rock band Muse sarcastically renamed the event "private jets for climate change."

The Oscar-winning 45-year-old created, produced, co-wrote, and narrated the 2007 documentary film *The 11th Hour*, in which he declared that "global warming is ... the number-one environmental challenge we face today." He was named a United Nations Messenger of Peace with a special focus on climate change, and spoke at the signing of the 2016 Paris Agreement. He addressed the World Economic Forum. He even obtained a private audience with Pope Francis to discuss the issue.

DiCaprio never misses an opportunity to lecture the rest of us on the need to "decarbonize" to save the world. "Our

planet cannot be saved unless we leave fossil fuels in the ground where they belong," he said in Paris. "An upheaval and massive change is [*sic*] required now." He has even argued that people who deny the existence of anthropogenic climate change "should not be allowed to hold public office."

DiCaprio's actions, however, belie his public pronouncements.

According to CelebInsidr.com, DiCaprio has a net worth of \$260 million "and surely knows how to spend it well. He has fine taste in houses and mansions and shops for them like kids shop for candies.... He is known to own at least

13 houses and mansions, including bungalows [*sic*] and apartment[s] in California and New York." His carbon footprint from his dwellings alone dwarfs that of most other humans.

On top of that, he owns numerous automobiles. Some are electric or hybrid, but plenty, such as his four Rolls-Royces and his Lamborghini Aventador, are gas guzzlers.

Then there's his long-distance travel, which he does in abundance, often on private jets or yachts.

In 2014, for example, he took a private jet to the World Cup in Brazil. "While there, he stayed on the 470-foot yacht of Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahayan — the chair of Abu Dhabi's International Petroleum Investment Company," according to a Media Research Center (MRC) report. "DiCaprio had rented the same yacht in April 2014, to co-host an '80s themed party with Jamie Foxx and Orlando Bloom."

The previous New Year's Eve, DiCaprio and his *Wolf of Wall Street* co-star Jonah Hill chartered a 747 from Sydney, Australia, to Las Vegas so they could attend parties in both places.

In six months of 2015 and 2016, DiCaprio took 18 airplane trips totaling almost 100,000 miles. In May 2016, he traveled by private jet from the Cannes Film Festival to New York City to accept — apparently with a straight face — an award for his environmental advocacy. Then he flew back to Cannes, a round trip of 8,000 miles.

Last year, DiCaprio took a private jet to a Google climate-change confab in Sicily. He wasn't alone: 114 private aircraft and more than a few luxury yachts (which can burn as many as 530 gallons of fuel *per hour*) brought supposedly carbon-hating celebrities to the conference at the luxurious Verdura Resort, where they rode around in gas-gulping Maseratis.

"I reckon this high-class global warming missionary retreat wiped out in a mere three days the presumed benefits of Canada's useless carbon tax," Murphy caustically remarked. "Ten such summits and the Earth will barrel into the Sun: not from overheating — from perfect embarrassment that it shelters such a band of plutocratic Uriah Heeps."



## Gore-ging on Fossil Fuels

DiCaprio's counterpart in the political realm is former Vice President Al Gore. Gore was one of the earliest politicians to warn of the supposed threat of global warming, holding the first congressional hearings on the subject in 1981. He is the author of three books on climate change, two of which have been made into movies. Despite his lack of scientific credentials, Gore is a featured speaker at many climate conferences; he claims to have delivered his keynote address on global warming at least 1,000 times.

According to MoneyInc.com, Gore's net worth stands at \$300 million. A significant portion of that comes from his global-warming activism. In addition to the profits from his books and movies, Gore rakes in a cool \$100,000 every time he gives that famous keynote speech, and he collected \$1.5 million when he received the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize. Gore also scored a \$70-million payday (after clearing debts) from the 2014 sale of Current TV, the network he co-founded, to Al Jazeera, the network partly owned by the royal family of Qatar, whose fortune comes from the sale of that well-known green-energy source, petroleum.

While Gore doesn't own a private jet, he does log thousands of commercial air miles every year stumping for global socialism in the name of saving the planet. Others attending those events also fly in for them, some in private planes.

Performers at Gore's 2007 "Live Earth" concert flew a total of at least 220,000 miles, leading the English rock band Muse to dub it "private jets for climate change." *The Guardian* noted: "Its total carbon footprint, including the artists and spectators' travel and energy consumption, was likely to have been at least 31,500 tons, said John Buckley of Carbonfootprint.com — more than 3,000 times the average Briton's annual footprint. One viewer of BBC2's *Newsnight* complained online: 'Would you hold a hog roast to promote vegetarianism?'"

Gore's real estate, meanwhile, slurps up fossil fuels as if there were no tomorrow. A 2017 analysis by the National Center for Public Policy Research found that Gore's 10,070-square-foot Tennessee mansion "guzzles more electricity in one year than the average American family uses in 21 years." In September 2016, his home used 34 times the electricity of the average

American household. The amount of juice he used to heat his swimming pool over the course of a single year could power the average American home for six years. Gore's energy consumption in 2017 was actually higher than it had been a decade earlier, when he was forced to spend tens of thousands of dollars on green-energy upgrades to his home after its energy hogging was first brought to light.

Gore also owns a penthouse apartment in San Francisco and a farmhouse in Carthage, Tennessee, making his carbon footprint even larger.

## Royal Planes

Prince Charles "has been campaigning against the dangers of global warming for 50 years," a royal source told the *Daily Mail*. Fifty years ago, of course, the alleged threat was not global warming but a new ice age. Still, it's undeniable that Charles has been one of the world's foremost anti-carbon crusaders for many years.

In 2011, upon his installation as president of the U.K. branch of the World Wildlife Fund, Charles warned that the planet is headed for a "sixth extinction event" and "stressed on the need to bring about a sustainability revolution to keep a check on people's consumption-ridden lifestyles and to reduce petrol, food and other resource consumption," according to the *International Business Times*.

"History will not judge us by how much economic growth we achieve in the immediate years ahead, nor by how much we expand material consumption, but by the legacy for our grandchildren and their grandchildren," he said. "We are consuming what is rightfully theirs by sacrificing long-term progress on the altar of immediate satisfaction."

Charles ought to know. He flies thousands of miles every year, usually by private aircraft, to make a variety of appearances, including many in which he urges an end to fossil-fuel use.

In 2007, for instance, he made an 11,000-mile round-trip flight to New York to accept a Global Environmental Citizen award from Gore, generating 20.4 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> in the process. He also traveled from the airport to the event by private train.

"Flying to an environmental award ceremony is a bit like turning up to an Oxfam [anti-poverty] award ceremony in



**Unprincipled:** Prince Charles took time out from a 16,000-mile private-jet jaunt to stump for "green" taxes and other anti-carbon measures at the 2020 World Economic Forum.

AP Images



**Emission impossible:** Greta Thunberg's "zero-emissions" yacht trip to New York generated over two metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>, more than the Swedish EPA says the average Swede should generate in an entire year to prevent catastrophic climate change.

a stretch limo," Joss Garman, spokesman for the environmental group Plane Stupid, said at the time.

Such criticism did little to clip the prince's wings. Charles' visit to the World Economic Forum — where he, in the *Mail's* words, "called for new eco-taxes, greener fuels and hydrogen-powered planes" — came in the midst of an 11-day series of travels by private aircraft totaling more than 16,000 miles and emitting over 162 metric tons of carbon, 18 times the average Briton's annual output.

Charles' son Prince Harry and daughter-in-law Meghan Markle seem to have learned from the old man. They, too, are jet-setting climate crusaders.

The couple flew to the 2019 Google Camp, where a barefoot Harry gave "an impassioned lecture about saving nature," wrote the *New York Post*. That was just days after telling British *Vogue* that he and his wife planned to have no more than two children in order to protect the planet.

Around the same time, the Duke of Sussex said on Instagram that when it comes to the environment, "every choice, every footprint, every action makes a difference." Then he and the duchess jetted off to Spain and France, producing, by the BBC's calculations, 37.6 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>,

"more than six times an average Briton's yearly emissions, or 111 times those of a person in [the African country of] Lesotho."

### Greta's Green Grandstanding

The current star in climate-crisis circles is 17-year-old Swede Greta Thunberg. The girl, who has been diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and selective mutism, became a celebrity after playing hooky from school to protest what she considered her government's inaction to combat global warming. Since then, she has been invited to speak before multiple climate conferences and legislative bodies. She, too, met the pope, who encouraged her to continue with her efforts.

Greta has led the "flight shaming" movement, discouraging people from traveling by airplane because of jets' carbon emissions. She even shamed her own mother into giving up an international career as an opera singer to avoid flying.

She hasn't given up traveling, though. Indeed, she has been quite mobile, attending climate conferences and other events in Europe and the Americas. She has just found other ways of getting where she's going. These other means of transportation

may shield Greta from charges of hypocrisy, but they're mostly for show and do little to reduce carbon emissions.

Last year, Greta made a highly publicized, two-week transatlantic voyage in a "zero-emissions" sailing yacht from Plymouth, England, to New York City to attend the UN Climate Action Summit.

While the yacht itself may have operated without fossil fuels, the trip was hardly carbon-neutral, noted OilPrice.com:

Two crewmembers had to fly across the Atlantic to New York to bring the boat back, and two of the crewmembers that made the original voyage had to fly across the Atlantic from the U.S. to return home. That's four flights to keep Greta from making two. We won't even mention the train trip Greta took to get to Plymouth, England, in order to set sail, nor will we mention the numerous freeze-dried meals, which we assume are encased in some single-use plastic product, which by our estimations, the two-man crew, Greta, her father, and some cameraman documenting the experience equated to over 200 meals....

In a nutshell, the 5,337-kilometer flight times four people generated 2,134,800 grams of CO<sub>2</sub> by our calculations, just for the flights alone.

While in the United States, Greta used a Tesla Model 3 electric car loaned to her by Arnold Schwarzenegger. That sounds like a "green" alternative until one considers that the carbon generated by producing both the car and the electricity required to power it is roughly the same as that generated by producing a gas-powered car *and* burning fuel to power it.

### Carbon Copycats

These big-name climate crusaders are hardly alone in their hypocrisy and grandstanding.

"We're going to have to live with less" to combat climate change, film director James Cameron told the *Los Angeles Times* in 2010. Cameron, at the time, owned three houses with a combined area of more than 24,000 square feet, each of which had a heated swimming pool but not "a single energy-saving solar panel or windmill," according to the *Independent*.



Actor Woody Harrelson, who favors government intervention to prevent global warming, lives in Hawaii, which MRC wrote “requires him to fly to the mainland several times a year for work and climate activism events.” When it comes to virtue signaling, Harrelson seems to have conflicting priorities: While attending the 2008 Cannes Film Festival, he realized he’d left his vegan belt and shoes in California, so he had them flown in.

Bill Gates has a forthcoming book in which he “will outline his ideas for achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions,” penned the Associated Press. Gates might want to start in his own backyard — or, rather, his own hangar. He owns a private jet and uses it extensively; researchers at Sweden’s Lund University estimated that in 2017, he flew 213,000 miles, generating 1,600 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>, about 160 times the average human’s annual CO<sub>2</sub> output. In 2011, he invested \$60 million in NEOS GeoSolutions, a Houston-based firm that helps oil and gas companies decide where to drill.

Politicians get into the act, too. The

*Washington Examiner* reported that among the candidates in this year’s Democratic presidential contest, all of whom claim to believe that cutting carbon emissions is a must, Senator Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) led the pack in private-jet travel, having spent \$1.2 million on it in the last three months of 2019. In addition,

Former Vice President Joe Biden, 77, spent the second-most on private jets, \$1 million, through Advanced Aviation. The campaign for Massachusetts [sic] Sen. Elizabeth Warren, 70, spent about \$721,000 on private jets through Advanced Aviation. The private plane bill for former South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg, 38, was \$324,000 through Advanced Aviation, Evo-Jets, Solairus Aviation, and Vertivue Air Charters.

Former New York City mayor and billionaire businessman Michael Bloomberg, 77, spent about \$700,000 on private jet travel from his late November campaign launch through the end of December.

When these folks get together, the hypocrisy multiplies like rabbits.

Consider the annual World Economic Forum summit. The WEF claims that “decarbonizing the global economy in a matter of decades is the number one priority.” However, as HuffPost pointed out, “It’s a bit ironic to discuss climate change at Davos, a remote location in Switzerland that requires a tremendous carbon footprint to even get to.” Hundreds of private jets descend on the nearest airports every year. From there, it’s either drive at least two hours or, as many impatient attendees do, hop a helicopter to get to Davos, spewing carbon all the way.

Then there was the 2019 UN Climate Change Conference (COP25) in Madrid. The UN claims eating meat contributes significantly to global warming, but the Heartland Institute’s James Taylor discovered that Burger King, which did not have its vegetarian burger on the menu, “easily had longer lines than any other food provider at the COP25 food court.” Everyone, it seems, was filling up on either fries or hypocrisy.

“Do as I say, not as I do,” of course, has been part and parcel of the anti-global-warming movement since its inception. UN Environment Programme founder Maurice Strong, one of the early promoters of climate hysteria, once asked, “Isn’t the only hope for the planet that the industrialized civilizations collapse?” Yet Strong made his fortune in the oil business, built an unapproved \$35-million luxury hotel in the middle of a wildlife reserve in Costa Rica, and flew to climate conferences all over the world.

### Critical Studies

Although climate-change believers might dismiss these criticisms as the carping of skeptics, they would surely find it more difficult to wave away academic studies reaching the same conclusions — and these do exist.

A 2017 study of 300 “conservation scientists” conducted by like-minded scientists at Cambridge University found that “most have a carbon footprint which is virtually no different to anyone else,” reported the *Telegraph*. The scientists “still flew frequently — an average of nine flights a year — ate meat or fish approximately five times a week and rarely



**Fuel the Bern:** Green New Deal proponent Senator Bernie Sanders, here shown boarding a plane, spent \$1.2 million on private-jet travel during the last quarter of 2019 — more than any of his rivals.

AP Images

purchased carbon offsets for their own emissions. They were also less green in traveling to work than medics, and kept more dogs and cats.”

The next year, after studying 600 Americans, University of Michigan researchers concluded that individuals’ actions in support of a cleaner planet occurred in *inverse proportion* to their stated commitment to preventing climate change. That is, those who most supported government policies to stave off global warming were the least likely to take individual action to improve the environment, such as recycling, using public transportation, or employing reusable shopping bags. “Belief in climate change,” the researchers wrote, “does not appear to be a necessary or sufficient condition for pro-environmental behavior.”

### Climate Confession — With a Caveat

While some climate crusaders bristle at the notion that they don’t practice what they preach — actor Mark Ruffalo once claimed that “anyone who attacks Leon-

ardo DiCaprio [on such grounds] is either a coward or an ideologue” — others have copped to their two-facedness. Last year, over 100 celebrities who support Extinction Rebellion, an environmental pressure group, issued an open letter to the media that began:

Dear journalists who have called us hypocrites,

You’re right.

We live high carbon lives and the industries that we are part of have huge carbon footprints. Like you — and everyone else — we are stuck in this fossil-fuel economy and without systemic change, our lifestyles will keep on causing climate and ecological harm.

“This letter is one of the more obvious examples of empty, sanctimonious virtue signaling I can remember,” wrote John Phelan, an economist at the Center of the American Experiment, a Minnesota-based conservative think tank.

“If these celebrities want to reduce their carbon footprint they can do so immediately,” he continued. “They can stop flying, as they want the rest of us to. They can take jobs they can walk to, ride a horse to, get public transport to. Don’t jet across the planet to the Oscars or Cannes. If they truly feel that they are battling an existential threat to humanity, giving up air travel is a small price to pay.”

Instead, they say they’re going to keep on being hypocrites, not allowing critics to “silence” them as they “fight for [children’s] already devastated future.” They argue that the world needs “systemic change” to force people to return to their pre-industrial lives — which, compared to life in today’s world, would be, as Thomas Hobbes famously put it, “solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short.”

“But,” observed Phelan,

apparently, it isn’t up to them to change, it is up to the “system” to change. Except that “systems” are just aggregates. They have no motive power of their own. If we want “systems” to change we need to change the component parts of that system. And, in this case, that is us. And these celebrities aren’t willing to make that change. They hide by palming off responsibility to something called a “system.”

When Branch Rickey wanted to break the racist color bar in baseball and unleash Jackie Robinson’s awesome talents on the Major Leagues, he didn’t sit about waiting for “systemic change.” He just went and picked him.

In short, those pushing the climate “emergency” want credit for having the “correct” opinions without having to alter their lavish lifestyles to conform to those opinions. In this, they are aided and abetted by the mainstream media, which praises them for the hot air they emit in the cause of global government but ignores their vast carbon emissions. Knowing this, how can the rest of us be expected to take their alarmist assertions seriously?

In the words of Instapundit Glenn Reynolds, “I’ll believe that it’s a crisis when the people who claim it’s a crisis start acting like it’s a crisis.” ■



**Going green:** When his comrades’ climate-change hypocrisy was challenged, actor Mark Ruffalo’s disposition changed from that of mild-mannered Bruce Banner to that of the Incredible Hulk.

AP Images



AP Images



# WHO IS COMMUNIST

The Marxist head of the World Health Organization got his job with the backing of China, despite participating in terrorist activities. Calls are coming to charge him for his crimes.

by Alex Newman

With United Nations World Health Organization (WHO) Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus of Ethiopia serving as a mouthpiece for the Communist Party of China on the global stage, questions and concerns about his shadowy communist past are growing louder. Considering his scandal-plagued background, critics have gone so far as to say that “Marxist revolutionary” Tedros should be on trial for crimes against humanity — not sitting atop the WHO barking orders at national governments and peddling Beijing’s propaganda to humanity. So far, though, the establishment media has largely remained silent about the emerging firestorm.

As THE NEW AMERICAN reported shortly after his tenure began, Tedros, who has no medical degree but got the top UN job with fervent backing from Communist China, is an actual communist with a long pedigree in the movement. Before taking up his perch at WHO, Tedros was most prominent for his government posts in a tyrannical regime, and for his key role in leading the murderous communist organization known as the Tigray People’s Liberation Front (TPLF). This ethno-Marxist terror group has declared war on freedom and other ethnic groups within Ethiopia. And Tedros played a major role, serving as a top member of the TPLF’s Politburo Central Committee, according to multiple news reports.

The U.S. government previously designated the Marxist group as a terrorist or-

**Working on world socialism:** UN boss António Guterres (right), former Socialist International chief, is working with Marxist revolutionary and World Health Organization leader Tedros Ghebreyesus (left) to exploit the Chinese virus.

ganization for its murders, kidnappings, terror attacks, and more. Citing at least a dozen terror attacks on private citizens, religious figures, private property, non-governmental organizations, journalists, and other targets spanning more than three decades, the Global Terror Database continues to list it as such. TPLF also joined forces with other mass-murdering Marxist-Leninist parties and formed the “Ethiopian People’s Revolutionary Democratic Front” (EPRDF), an alliance that today rules the nation despite having been formally disbanded last year.

While it claims to have moderated its Marxism-Leninism since coming to power in the early 1990s, in reality, critics say EPRDF governs in a deeply corrupt and autocratic fashion. Tedros, the “right-hand man” of late dictator Meles Zenawi, served in multiple senior positions in the Ethiopian regime over those years, including a term as health minister and later a stint as foreign minister. His service has been widely criticized, so much so that his original biography on WHO’s website initially omitted several of the most important points in his career. That past is now coming back to haunt him as critics dig deep.

As minister of health, Tedros reportedly played a key role in covering up epidemics. Perhaps the most significant example was his concealing of multiple cholera outbreaks, falsely labeling them water-borne diarrhea and downplaying the crises. He also bullied bureaucrats into silence about these problems, news reports and critics say. Later, as minister of foreign affairs, Tedros helped the regime hunt down journalists and dissidents, including those who fled abroad. Human Rights Watch and other groups drew global attention to the regime’s kidnapping and rendition of Andy Tsege, a British father of three who was tortured and tormented for years over his criticism of the dictatorship ruling Ethiopia.

The ethnic group that has been most ruthlessly targeted by Tedros’ TPLF is

known as the Amhara. Under the regime of Tedros and his EPRDF cronies, Amhara leaders reported regular human-rights abuses. A U.S.-based group known as the Amhara Professionals Union (APU) publicly lambasted Tedros for his crimes. “APU believes Dr. Ghebreyesus lacks the competence, impartiality, accountability and transparency that we feel are required,” the group said, practically accusing the current WHO boss of pursuing genocidal policies against the Amhara through sub-standard healthcare and even “selective application of contraceptives” to reduce the group’s population size.

“Such disparities were created and gaps increased across all measures of health in his leadership tenure,” the APU said about Tedros’ anti-Amhara campaign while serving the regime and his “fascist” political party. “Of particular importance is the un-

explained 2.5 million decrease in the Amhara population under his healthcare leadership. The Amharas were victimized and punished due to their ethnic background.... Therefore, we at the APU, believe that it would be a travesty of justice if WHO awards its highest position to a person who violated WHO’s core principles and whose deliberate actions and inactions have claimed the lives of millions of Amhara people as well as other Ethiopians.”

The regime that Tedros helped lead also persecuted people in the Oromia region of Ethiopia as it sought to forcibly relocate some 15,000 people to make way for “investment” opportunities. Following the use of tear gas, mass killings ensued as police fired military weapons at unarmed victims. That was followed by a government declaration of “emergency” and the mass arrest of some 70,000 people. In his role as

foreign minister, Tedros helped track down some dissidents overseas, especially in nearby Yemen, something that drew the ire of British authorities at the time.

Since taking over WHO with Beijing’s support, Tedros has continued to promote Marxist policies and individuals. Shortly after landing the job, for instance, he named mass-murdering Marxist dictator Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe as a “Goodwill Ambassador” for WHO. Mugabe, of course, was responsible for genocide against a rival ethnic group, slaughtering tens of thousands of people in an attempt to exterminate them. Tedros has also made a government takeover of healthcare worldwide — euphemistically dubbed “universal health coverage” — one of his top priorities during his term as WHO boss. Peddling climate hysteria as a health issue is also front and center, according to his own biography.

Some critics say Tedros should be put on trial for crimes against humanity. “If there was ever an example of the failure of globalized institutions, the WHO is it,” said analyst John Martin in a piece published by *Rough Estimate* headlined “The Crimes of Tedros Adhanom,” calling for the global outfit to be radically reformed or simply disbanded. “In a sane world, instead of leading a global organization, Tedros and his cronies would be put on trial at the International Criminal Court, tried for his crimes, and if found guilty, should spend the rest of his life in prison.”

Other critics have also blasted Tedros for his past. Writing in *Ethiopian News & Views*, for example, writer Abebe Gellaw slammed Tedros for playing the nice technocrat concerned about global health. “But his 12-page campaign CV never mentions his most important experience that made it possible for him to climb the ladder of power within the tyrannical regime oppressing and misruling Ethiopia,” wrote Gellaw, referring to the now-WHO boss and his “ethnofascist” group as a “gang” that was “responsible for all the corruption, killings, torture, mass detention, land grab and displacement” afflicting their homeland.

There is also the fact that Tedros is a puppet for the Chinese Communist Party, which has murdered more people than any government in human history. About the coronavirus he said, “We appreciate the seriousness with which China is taking

Before taking up his perch at WHO, Tedros was most prominent for his government posts in a tyrannical regime, and for his key role in leading the murderous communist organization known as the Tigray People's Liberation Front.



**Political partners:** WHO chief Tedros, widely accused of serving as a puppet for Beijing, embraces the agency's former leader, Communist Chinese agent Margaret Chan.

AP Images



this outbreak, especially the commitment from top leadership, and the transparency they have demonstrated,” blasting everyone who referred to SARS-CoV-2 as the “Chinese” virus or “Wuhan” virus. “China is actually setting a new standard for outbreak response.” He also blasted Trump’s ban on flights from China. Before Tedros, WHO was run by Communist Chinese agent Margaret Chan.

Numerous current and former WHO officials have contacted THE NEW AMERICAN over the years to highlight the incredible corruption and mismanagement that permeates the UN health agency. Among those whistleblowers is Kari Laperriere, author of *WHOLigans: A witness account of fraud and bullying at the heart of the World Health Organization*, who has exposed the “dark secrets” of WHO hiding behind “a respectable façade and the words of noble principles.” Laperriere, who spent decades working inside the UN, has sought to expose bullying and fraud perpetrated from the very top of the UN outfit, including by former WHO boss Chan of China.

Naturally, the entire UN system is using

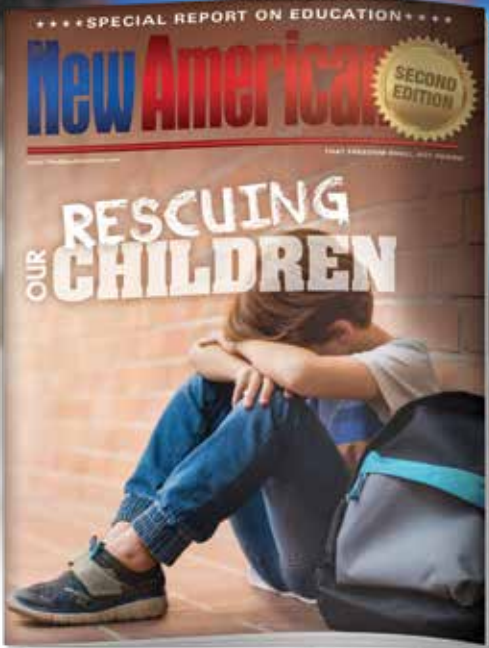
the Chinese virus as a pretext to advance globalism and Big Government — the very same “solutions” offered by the UN to deal with everything from “climate change” to poverty. “Everything we do during and after this crisis must be with a strong focus on building more equal, inclusive and sustainable economies and societies that are more resilient in the face of pandemics, climate change, and the many other global challenges we face,” said UN boss António Guterres, the former head of the Socialist International alliance of communist and socialist political parties (many with the blood of millions on their hands). WHO is also working to become a global health ministry, while Guterres calls on humanity to hand over “at least” 10 percent of global GDP to the UN to supposedly fight the coronavirus and inject “stimulus” into the global economy.

However, while WHO seeks more power and prestige, a growing chorus of U.S. lawmakers and media critics is calling for WHO to be investigated, de-funded, and even shut down completely. U.S. Senator Rick Scott (R-Fla.) is among those demanding a

congressional investigation of WHO over its “work for Communist China.” Saying he “deceived the world,” Senator Martha McSally (R-Ariz.) called for Tedros to step down. Trump even threatened to withhold U.S. funding.

*The Spectator*, meanwhile, ran a piece by Stephen Miller headlined simply: “Abolish the World Health Organization.” That would be a step in the right direction. But it would not neutralize the broader threat that the UN poses to American liberty, sovereignty, and self-government.

Legislation currently in Congress, known as the American Sovereignty Restoration Act (H.R. 204), would end all U.S. government involvement in the UN. It is sitting in the House Foreign Affairs Committee right now, waiting indefinitely for hearings. But with more support from Americans and potentially even from the White House, that dream could become a reality — neutralizing the ability of Marxist criminals such as Tedros and his Communist Chinese cronies to interfere in American life. There has never been a better time for an AMEXIT from the UN! ■



# OUR RESCUING CHILDREN

## FROM INDOCTRINATION

IT'S HERE, the second, expanded TNA edition about the failure of public schools. It explains that though children are faring worse and worse in public schools — doing terribly in the three R's — the schools keep doubling down, removing good teachers and coursework and replacing them with leftist indoctrination. We offer solutions.

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## THE GOODNESS OF AMERICA

As COVID-19 continues, Americans are finding new and wonderful ways to help their friends and neighbors navigate this difficult time. We would like to showcase here some of the more small-scale efforts that make a big difference.

### Porch Prom

When Grayson Chapman of Highland, Texas, found out her March 28 senior prom was canceled because of coronavirus concerns, she was devastated. The senior prom is a once-in-a-lifetime experience that many seniors look forward to during most of their high-school careers. Thankfully for Grayson, her siblings were there to help.

Grayson's sister, Maura, who is now in college, wanted to do something for her sister to make up for the canceled prom. She enlisted the help of their younger brother, Crae, and their mother, Jaci, and decided to turn the front porch into a makeshift prom.

"We just kind of drug things out that we had at home and we made it special," Jaci told Big Country Homepage.

The porch was transformed with lights and decorations taken from inside of the family's home and outfitted to play prom music. Food was prepared, and the siblings were all dressed in their best formal attire. Grayson's parents, uncle, and cousin were in attendance as well.

Jaci recalled that Grayson "thought it sounded a little cheesy at first," but became excited when she realized she would get to "dress up after all and go to her last 'prom.'"

The "prom" went on for two to three hours, and the night ended with Maura crowning Grayson "Prom Queen," using the crown she had received at her own prom.

"We used my crown to make it an even more real experience to have that element of prom queen and king in there," Maura said.

Grayson's little cousin Gene was crowned "Prom King."

Crae said it was "a little family moment" that they will never forget.

Jaci told Fox News that the prom was not the one her daughter had envisioned, "but we've tried to teach our children life is 10 percent what happens to you and 90 percent how you react to it."

### Slice of Hope

Three police organizations in Toms River, New Jersey, purchased 300 pizzas for their community after they were placed under a statewide stay-at-home order, Breitbart News reported.

Officer Jesse Robertazzi was inspired to organize the March 26 "Pizza Day" after he saw a similar event by one of his colleagues on Facebook in a nearby town. He spoke with some colleagues, and before long "Pizza Day" was in full effect. The program was sponsored by Toms River PBA, Toms River Fraternal Order of Police, and Toms River Police Foundation.

According to Breitbart News, the pizzas were prepared by six local pizzerias and ready by lunchtime on a first come, first served basis — one pizza per family. One pizzeria even threw in a side of garlic knots with every order.

They selected pizzas, according to Robertazzi, because "a large pie can feed a family of four, potentially" and is food that "brings everyone together to pull a slice off to eat."

The officers told CNN they had hoped that their "Pizza Day" would give families "a sense of normalcy by getting out the house and getting into their favorite pizza shop" to pick up the pizzas and bring them home to their families. They also loved the idea of giving business owners a sense of normalcy by bolstering their business in the absence of dining-in.

In a Facebook post by the police organizations, they said "Pizza Day" was part of their #keepitlocal initiative. The event was so successful that the organizers are hoping to do another one, using different area pizzerias.

### A Tip Paid Forward

In Prescott, Arizona, an anonymous donor tipped Rosa's Pizzeria \$2,000, which owner Skyler Reeves used to pay his employees' most urgent bills.

Reeves said he was busy loading orders for curbside pickup when a woman handed him an envelope and quickly walked away. When he opened it, he saw \$2,000 and a note that read, "Hi there.

As a neighbor and lover of Rosa's, please accept the enclosed and use it as you see fit for your staff."

Reeves told Fox News he was so unbelievably touched by the woman's generosity that "the hairs on my arm literally stood up." He admitted that the generosity could not have come at a better time, as he had already been forced to lay off nearly half of his 100-person staff, consolidate his three restaurants, stop his catering company from processing any new orders, and halt construction on his newest restaurant, which was set to open in April.

Reeves decided the best way to use the money was to ask his employees to bring him the bill that most stresses them. His intention is to use the \$2,000 tip, and supplement it with his own funds.

### Canceled Rent

Brooklyn, New York, landlord Mario Salerno announced on March 30 that he would be waiving rent for the month of April, NBC New York reported.

Salerno, who owns approximately 80 apartments throughout Brooklyn, made the announcement in a notice to residents. It read, "Due to the recent pandemic of Coronavirus COVID-19 affecting all of us, please note I am waiving rent for the month of April. Stay safe, help your neighbors, and wash your hands."

Salerno later told NBC he knew his residents had a lot to worry about through the health crisis and didn't want his rent to be another worry.

"I say don't worry about paying me, worry about your neighbor and worry about your family," he said.

Salerno's tenants were flabbergasted by his kindness and admitted the waiver was much-needed.

One tenant, Kaitlyn Guteski, told NBC she had been out of work after her hair salon was closed owing to the pandemic. Another tenant said he had lost his job as a lawyer and has been having trouble with the state's unemployment system, which is currently overwhelmed.

"He's Superman," Guteski told NBC New York. ■

—RAVEN CLABOUGH



# KENT STATE

## WHAT HAPPENED AND WHY



AP Images

The four deaths at Kent State, happening when the National Guard opened fire on violent protesters, were the culmination of years of liberal radical maneuvering.

*by Steve Byas*

**T**ension filled the air as Ohio National Guardsmen made the climb toward Blanket Hill on the campus of Kent State University, and students surged toward them. The National Guard had been called to the campus following the torching of the ROTC building on Saturday

*Steve Byas is a university instructor in history and government, and the author of History's Greatest Libels, in which he defends historical figures from unfair falsehoods.*

night, and now, on Monday, May 4, 1970, a few thousand students filled the commons area of the campus for a planned protest.

The Guardsmen half-turned, keeping a wary eye on the students drawing ever nearer — some of whom had been mixing verbal assaults with rocks and other projectiles for the past several minutes. Then, at 12:24 pm., several Guardsmen turned and began firing M-1 rifles.

Within a few seconds, Guardsmen had fired 67 shots, killing four students and leaving nine wounded. One student was permanently paralyzed.

**Ohio National Guardsmen**, called in to restore order on the campus of Kent State University, shot and killed four students and wounded several others on May 4, 1970. For 50 years, Americans have debated why this tragedy happened.

Fifty years have now passed since this tragic incident. Why did it happen, and why did it happen at Kent State?

It seemed so unlikely at the time. A violent confrontation like this would not have been all that surprising at such radicalized campuses as Cal-Berkeley, or some other high-profile university in California or New York in the toxic atmosphere of the times, during the Vietnam War. But as James Michener wrote in his book *Kent State: What Happened and Why*, this event happening at Kent State was “no accident.”

As we make a closer examination of



AP Images

**Communist cadres:** Tom Hayden was among the founders of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), the organization that had worked for several months to radicalize the campus at Kent State. In 1972, Hayden was married to radical actress Jane Fonda, who had traveled to Hanoi to show her support for the communist cause, earning her the nickname “Hanoi Jane.”

the shootings at Kent State, we are struck by the *organization* of events throughout, leading us to the conclusion that a small core of revolutionaries *wanted* martyrs to their revolutionary socialist cause.

Howard Means, writing in *67 Shots: Kent State and the End of American Innocence*, noted that the FBI had met with the Kent police and the campus police *two years earlier* to inform them of the ramped-up radical activity going on. In 1968, the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) began intense efforts to radicalize Kent State, with organizers from Chicago and Cleveland making multiple trips to the campus.

### Students for a Democratic Society (SDS)

The SDS was launched in 1960 as the student branch of the League for Industrial Democracy, founded in 1905 by socialists such as Upton Sinclair and Jack London. Then, in 1962, a University of Michigan student — Tom Hayden, who later married pro-Viet Cong actress Jane Fonda — captured leadership of the SDS, and

dropped the group’s earlier opposition to communists joining the group. Instead it now welcomed leftists of all persuasions, all with the intent to tear down the present structure of society, and rebuild it more to their liking.

Intrinsic to the existence of the SDS was provoking confrontation, and this they quickly accomplished at Kent State. In April 1969, SDS led about 50 students in storming the administration building, demanding, among other things, the termination of the ROTC program and the degree program in law enforcement. After a scuffle with campus police, the SDS’s campus charter was revoked.

This forced the SDS underground, but not out of existence, at Kent State.

An official SDS publication summarized the event, explaining that “the struggle is not over” at Kent State.

Kent State was also the focus of the Youth International Party, better known as the “Yippies,” a leftist group whose manifesto was co-written by Jerry Rubin and Abbie Hoffman. At a rally on the Kent State campus less than one month before

the May 4 shootings, Rubin told about 2,000 students, “The first part of the Yip-pie program is to kill your parents,” and insisted that Kent State was a “super prison.” He promised, “We’re going to build a new society within American society.” When Michener went to Kent State after the shootings to research his book, one anonymous SDS leader told him that they were for the eventual overthrow of the government, hatred for Israel, admiration for Communist China, blowing up police stations, ending monogamy, and support for ecology.

Two days after the shooting, after searching the body of one of the slain students — Jeff Miller, who was one of the campus radicals — the Highway Patrol found a scrap of paper with a telephone number and the words “communication center.” After tracing the number, the Kent police obtained a search warrant of the address and found a letter from Rubin’s Yip-pie comrade, Abbie Hoffman, to a Kent student, dated April 30, 1970, in which he urged them to “build the conspiracy in your back yard that will defend our growing nation.”

Kent was the focus of many well-known outside agitators, such as Bernardine Dohrn, who had been elected inter-organizational secretary of the national committee of SDS in 1968. Dohrn made multiple appearances at Kent State, urging revolutionary action. When asked what her qualifications were for such a high-ranking post in the SDS, she responded that she was a revolutionary communist. Indeed, she met later that year with leaders of the National Liberation Front, the political arm of the communists in South Vietnam. When speaking at the University of Washington, she warned, “A bunch of us who believe this, and a few well-placed bombs, could stop a lot of the institutions from functioning in this country.” She even praised Charles Manson.

Years later, a young community organizer in Chicago, Barack Obama, would launch his campaign for state senate in the home of Dohrn and her husband, Bill Ayers, who as founder of the group Weathermen embarked on a series of bombings across the country (a man Obama would later defend as “just a guy in the neighborhood”). Ayers was one of many of what the SDS called “regional travelers” (itiner-



ant revolutionaries) who frequented Kent State in the months before the shootings. Michener described Ayers as a man who was well-known for his ability to organize radical groups for “effective action.”

Another regional traveler who made trips to Kent State was Mark Rudd, who was a “hero” to the Kent SDS for his role in temporarily shutting down Columbia University.

And not all the outside agitation was from inside the United States. Two war correspondents for the *Chicago Daily News*, Keyes Beech and Georgie Anne Geyer, investigated the radicalization on American campuses, and their investigation led them to Communist Cuba. “The pattern is clear,” they wrote. “Mark Rudd, Bernardine Dohrn, Angela Davis, and Joudon M. Ford, who led the riots at San Francisco University, all received instruction in Cuba.” American revolutionaries even met with representatives from Communist North Vietnam while in Cuba.

But most of the money to support the radicalization at Kent and other campuses came from domestic sources. The Illinois Crime Investigating Commission discovered a diary and address book left behind by Bernardine Dohrn when she fled her apartment in Chicago. Using the book, they found that a Chicago bank handled over \$200,000 for SDS activities. One large tax-exempt foundation was among the contributors to the cause.

### Nixon Announces the Cambodian Incursion

Clearly, the potential for trouble at Kent State was growing in the spring of 1970 when President Richard Nixon announced in a nationally broadcast television address that he was sending combat troops into Vietnam’s neighbor, Cambodia. Nixon had campaigned on an ambiguous promise to “bring an honorable end to the war in Vietnam.” This turned out to be Vietnamization — turning the bulk of the fighting over to the South Vietnamese army, as U.S. forces were slowly

“I stood ... watching the National Guard clear the commons area. It was then I heard someone shout, ‘Here they come! Chicks up front!’ This was the traditional cry of street fighters who rely on the hope that neither the Guard nor the police will fire at girls.”

withdrawn. The ferocity of the antiwar movement had lessened over the first year and a half of the Nixon presidency, but his announcement that he was pushing into Cambodia to clear out Viet Cong there led to an eruption of charges that he was “widening the war.”

While it has been logically assumed that the burning of the ROTC building on the Saturday following Nixon’s announcement was precipitated by the invasion of Cambodia, Kent’s Fire Chief, Fred Miller, had called his firefighters together *a week*

*before the attack on the ROTC building*, and told them, “Fellows, we have pretty good intelligence that the university kids are going to burn down the ROTC building,” and that it “could be any time.”

But there is no doubt that Nixon’s announcement provided a ready excuse to implement those plans.

The day after Nixon’s speech was May 1, celebrated around the world by communists as a day of “solidarity.” It was also the day that violence erupted not on the campus, but in downtown Kent.

It was the first warm night after what had been a long, hard winter in Ohio, and a larger-than-usual crowd was milling around. At around 10 o’clock, someone threw a beer bottle at a passing car on Water Street, breaking out the back window.

Joseph Bujack, who ran a business on Water Street, later told Michener’s investigators that he was worried. There were several people whom he had never seen before, and they were wearing what looked like uniforms, with red armbands. One protester was waving a Viet Cong flag. Bujack called the police, and as the patrol car made its way along the street, it was hit by a beer bottle. A few minutes later, an elderly couple’s car was pelted with multiple beer bottles. As the couple sped away, someone in the crowd shouted, “Pigs off the street! We won’t go to Cambodia.”

Several merchants reported they were warned by some protesters that they were to either display antiwar slogans in their front windows, or their businesses would be burned down.

Then, at 11:30 trash cans were emptied into the middle of the street and their contents set ablaze.



AP Images

**Builders of the radical base:** Bernardine Dohrn was one of many radicals who traveled to Kent State in the months leading up to the tragic events there. She married Bill Ayers, who was a member of the more violent wing of the SDS, the Weather Underground. Dohrn and Ayers are shown with their son, Zayd Dohrn.

A grand jury later reported, "Fifty-eight Guardsmen were injured by rocks and other objects." Nearby construction workers testified later that about 200 bricks were taken from a construction site.



White House Photo Office

**Misconception:** While many believe the burning of the Kent ROTC building was the result of President Richard Nixon's "incursion" into Cambodia to attack North Vietnamese sanctuaries just inside the border, the truth is that radicals had planned to burn the building even before Nixon's April 30 speech to the nation, telling them of his plans.

This was soon followed by the smashing of store windows up and down the block. Eventually, 47 windows were broken out. Mayor LeRoy Satrom declared a state of emergency, and placed a call to the governor's office, advising one of the aides that he might have to ask for help. Satrom returned to downtown and announced that he was instituting the Ohio Riot Act.

Eventually, calm enveloped the city — and the campus — but the worst was yet to come.

### The Torching of the ROTC Building

The burning of an ROTC building was not unique to Kent State. During 1969 and 1970, almost 200 such buildings came

under attack at both large and small universities across America. They were obvious targets for the antiwar movement.

Kent police chief Roy Thompson told Mayor Satrom that afternoon that he had received information that not only the ROTC building was to be burned, but attempts would also be made to torch the local Army recruiting stations and the local post office.

At 8:10 p.m. on Saturday, Glenn Frank, a popular geology professor at Kent, was watching the growing mob with concern, when he suddenly heard someone from behind Taylor Hall shout, "Down with ROTC!" This was followed by a mob of about 2,000 students surging across the

commons, heading toward the ROTC building. After several abortive attempts to get a fire started inside the building, they finally succeeded in setting the building afire.

Informed of the trouble on campus, Mayor Satrom placed a call to the National Guard, asking for help. By 8:49 p.m., the building was clearly on fire, and someone finally called the fire department. Four minutes later, a fire truck arrived, but without the help of police, they had difficulty getting close enough to the fire to be effective in putting it out.

After a fire hose was hooked to a fire hydrant, some students grabbed the nozzle and took it out of the reach of the firemen. When a second effort was made to attach a hose, the same group attacked the hose with knives and ice picks. Another student used a machete to hack the hose into two pieces. Finally, the firefighters themselves were assaulted, with one being struck with a wooden club, which caused them to give up their efforts. After all, even after all this time, no police, either from the campus or the city, had arrived on the scene to help them.

It was not until about two hours after the first assaults began on the ROTC building that 10 men from the county sheriff's department arrived, followed by a few members from the campus police. Tear gas was used to drive the mob back from the building, but by this time, the fire was already smoldering.

At almost 10:00, shouting was heard that the president's house would be burned next. Another group even attempted to burn the library. Fortunately, by this time, highway patrolmen had arrived at the scene, and additional arson was prevented.

As some units of the National Guard entered the city late that night, they were greeted by pieces of flying bricks and rocks, sending one Guardsman to the hospital for treatment.

Fortunately, the arrival of National Guard troops — placed at strategic points near the campus — using tear gas liberally prevented any more destruction of property. By midnight, General Robert Canterbury was able to report, "The situation at Kent is under control."

Murvin Perry, then head of the School of Journalism at Kent, later recalled the night. "As ROTC burned, I stood on the



walk north of the tennis courts, watching the National Guard clear the commons area. It was then I heard someone shout, 'Here they come! Chicks up front!' This was the traditional cry of street fighters who rely on the hope that neither the Guard nor the police will fire at girls."

This is just one of several examples of *organization* in the Kent State episode. Michener interviewed a young man, Nick Haskakis, who tried to take photographs of the event. Haskakis told Michener, "There was strong leadership of the sort that says, 'Let's do this next.' And when they spoke, people acted."

### Sunday Calm Turns Ugly

The next day — Sunday — was a day of relative calm, until nighttime. As Michener wrote, "Many students, disturbed by the rioting of the two preceding nights, and gratified that the troubles had apparently ended, went to church, where ministers preached against violence and deplored its consequences."

There was even some flirting between coeds and the Guardsmen that Sunday afternoon. A foreign student from India, Ramesh Garg, took the iconic photograph of Allison Krause placing a flower in the muzzle of one of the Guardsmen's guns, with the

words, "Flowers are better than bullets." Ironically, Krause was one of the campus radicals who would die the next day.

Similar fraternization continued throughout the afternoon, but after seven in the evening, the atmosphere changed abruptly. A young blonde-headed man began shouting, "One, two, three, four! We don't want your f\*\*\*\*\*g war." After a few minutes of that, he led a crowd in a second chant: "Two, four, six, eight! We won't live in a fascist state."

A couple hours later, his incendiary rhetoric became more specific: "Let's march to the president's house," and hundreds of students began surging across campus. Soon there were about 3,000 in the mob, led by the blonde-headed radical, shouting, "To the president's house!" as though they were storming the Bastille.

Fortunately, they were stopped by the National Guard, who began tear-gassing them. "Back to the commons," shouted the leaders.

Soon, the leaders decided the mob needed to march on the town, but once again they were intercepted by other units of the National Guard. With that, most of the mob retreated back to campus. But some refused to leave, and staged a sit-in in the middle of the street.

Leaders pushed the mob closer to the

Guardsmen, whose bayonets were glistening from street lights. At 10:23, students with white bands on their arms and large white crosses in the middle of their backs began to taunt the Guardsmen and urge resistance from the crowd.

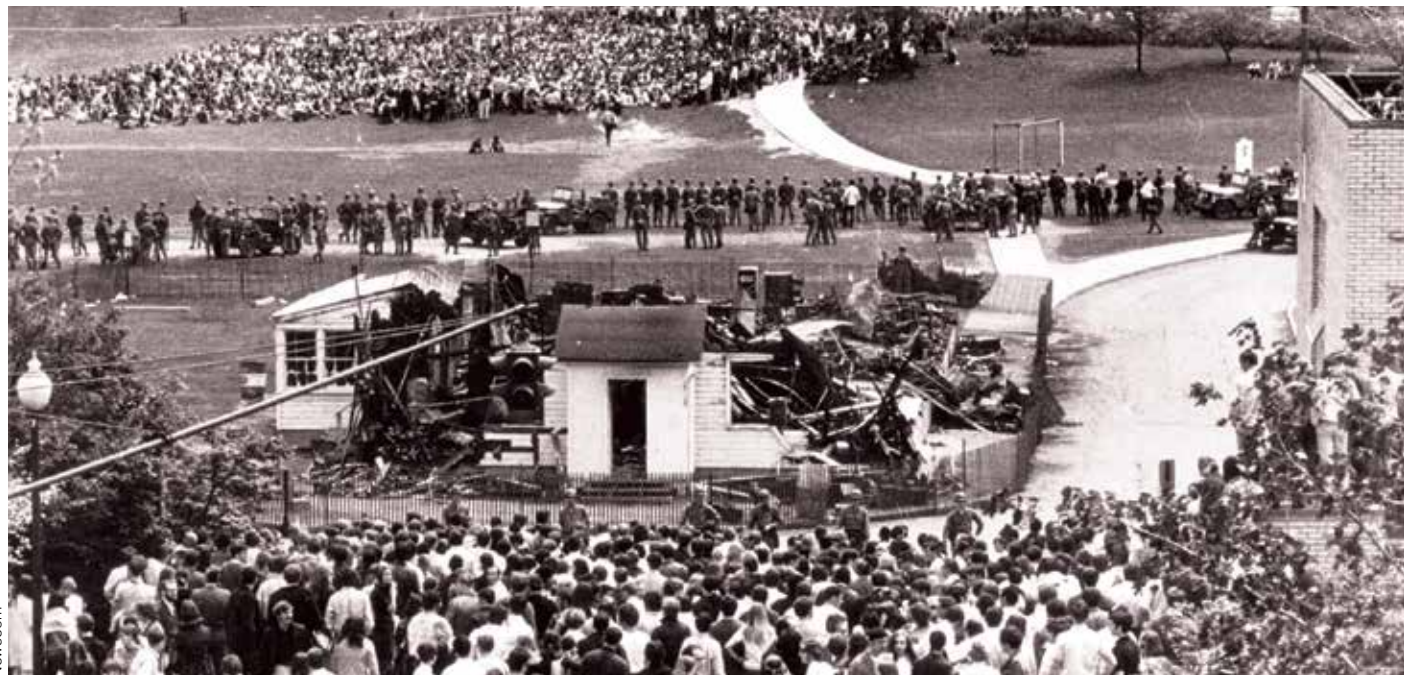
One Guardsman recalled, "Who was leading the riot? There was a hard core of about twelve, with white armbands and crosses on their backs, cutting around in back of us, linking hands at the far edges of the mob and pushing forward, making people crush in on us. 'Move on in!' this determined crowd kept repeating, but they didn't come in themselves."

Finally, the Guard moved forward with bayonets, and the mob dispersed. As bad as the last three days had been, it would get even worse on Monday, May 4.

### The Shootings on Monday

A rally for Monday on the commons had previously been announced on Friday, but Mayor Satrom had declared a state of emergency, outlawing any outdoor demonstrations that day. It is unclear how many students were aware of Satrom's declaration, but General Canterbury was

**Wanton destruction:** The burned ROTC building was fenced off as students and Ohio National Guardsmen filled the commons area around noon on May 4, 1970.



Newscom

prepared to enforce it. At noon, there would be a surge of students in the commons, as one set of classes was dismissed and the next began, and the commons provided a convenient walkway, so to speak, between classes.

At 11:48 a.m., two students climbed on to the brick housing of the Victory Bell that was now ringing, issuing calls to action. At 11:49, Harold Rice of the Kent campus police began shouting into a bullhorn, "Attention! This is an order. Disperse immediately. This is an order. Leave this area immediately. This is an order. Disperse." Unfortunately, it is doubtful many students could hear him.

At 11:55, the order came to the Guardsmen: "If you have not already done so, load and lock. Prepare for gas attack." Then, at 11:59, Canterbury gave the order to move out and "disperse this mob." The plan was to use his small force of less than 100 enlisted men and officers to sweep the commons, driving the demonstrators across the crest of Blanket Hill, keeping Taylor Hall on their left, and the pagoda — a square bench shaded by a concrete umbrella — on the right.

Students began throwing rocks, along

with chunks of wood studded with nails, and jagged hunks of concrete. Lieutenant Colonel Charles Fassinger told the *Cleveland Press*, "I was hit a number of times, once with a triangular shaped rock seven inches on the side and two inches thick." One person even charged a Guardsman with a parking meter. A grand jury later reported, "Fifty-eight Guardsmen were injured by rocks and other objects." Nearby construction workers testified later that about 200 bricks were taken from a construction site. The FBI later collected 175 pounds of rocks, bricks, and wood with nails from Blanket Hill where the Guard were being assaulted. They were also hit with human feces and urine.

As the Guard retreated under the constant barrage, at just before 12:30 p.m., they suddenly turned at the corner of Taylor Hall and fired, leaving four students dead and nine wounded.

Before answering why Guardsmen fired, one must ask why any sane person would surge toward men with M-1 rifles. Multiple witnesses have testified that the students had been told, repeatedly, by the "leaders," that the Guardsmen's rifles were not loaded.

Eventually, the Department of Justice,

then led by liberal Republican Elliot Richardson, opened an investigation that led to a federal grand jury indicting eight members of the Guard for violating the students' civil rights. They were acquitted. Civil actions against them led to out-of-court settlements. The local grand jury cleared the Guardsmen of any criminal liability. In fact, the bulk of the criticism in their report was directed toward the outside agitators.

One could certainly understand a lone Guardsman panicking as an angry mob surged toward him, but why did multiple Guardsmen turn in unison and fire at the same time? For one, they had been told that some of the students had firearms, and two, they had been alerted to beware of snipers.

### Evidence of a Sniper

Michener quoted a Guardsman named Jim Pierce who had told a friend that there were snipers on rooftops on Sunday night. General Canterbury specifically said that he heard a shot that preceded the gunfire by his men. *Cleveland Plain Dealer* writers Joseph Eszterhas and Michael Roberts, writing two days after the event, said, "Ballistics experts were also checking a wall which had allegedly been struck by a bullet or bullets fired toward the Guardsmen." Dr. Joseph Ewing of Akron treated one wounded student at St. Thomas Hospital and told the *Elyria Chronicle-Telegram* less than a week later, "This boy was not injured by a weapon carried by the National Guard. I found no bullets in the x-ray, which means it had to be of small caliber. If the bullet had been either a .45 or a .30 caliber, he would be dead, his spinal cord would have been severed and side of his head blown away."

Too, a student told the *Akron Beacon Journal* the next day that he heard what he thought was a gunshot from atop Taylor Hall, though the Guardsmen were on the ground near the hall, not on the roof. Famed investigative journalist Alan Stang noted in the June 1974 edition of *American Opinion* (forerunner of *THE NEW AMERICAN*) that Guardsmen were also standing near a thick, steel sculpture, which suffered a gunshot from a bullet fired toward the Guardsmen.

He then cited Michener's interview with teacher Elizabeth Runyan, who recalled that she and her students "walked in a kind of daze to that big piece of steel



AP Images

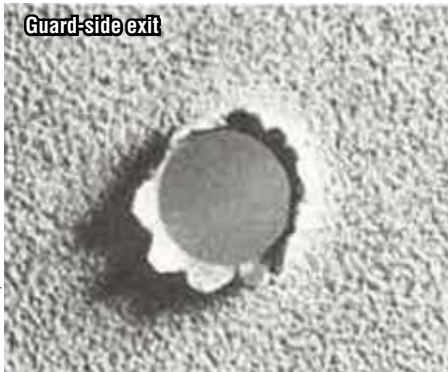
**Backing their story:** Two former Ohio National Guardsmen who were acquitted of charges resulting from the shootings of 1970 look at a photograph taken moments before they suddenly turned and fired on the crowd of students. Many Guardsmen claim that they were responding to sniper fire. Famed journalist Alan Stang, writing in *American Opinion* (forerunner of *THE NEW AMERICAN*) went to the campus and discovered physical evidence that there was indeed a sniper.



Student-side entry



Guard-side exit



**Firing back:** Famed journalist Alan Stang traveled to Kent State and personally viewed the bullet hole in the pictured sculpture. (The photo of the sculpture was taken in 2014; the close-ups of the bullet hole were published in a 1974 article by Stang.) Looking closely at the sculpture, the bullet hole is above the "peace sign," in the middle of the international "no" symbol. Ballistics expert C.H. Mallett confirmed to Stang that the bullet hole demonstrates conclusively that the bullet entered from the student side and exited on the Guard side. This proves that at least one shot was fired at the Guardsmen from the area where students fell in the return volley.

later, we still do not know. But as Stang asserted, he was "most probably" a member of one of the revolutionary terrorist squads trained for the purpose.

When Stang visited Kent campus four years after the incident, the bullet hole was still there, but for some inexplicable reason, the Scranton Commission, set up in 1970 by President Richard Nixon to investigate the shooting, claimed that it found "no evidence" for a sniper.

What we can conclude from this unhappy incident, in which four Kent students were killed and nine others wounded, is that Kent State was targeted by revolutionaries for an incident, and they got it. At every step, revolutionary socialists pushed for martyrs for their cause — not themselves, mind you — but gullible students who were told that the National Guardsmen had empty guns. Radical leaders pushed these students into the line of fire.

The National Guardsmen were also victims, being thrown into a very difficult situation, with inadequate numbers to control the situation. For those who want to play Monday-morning quarterback 50 years after the event, it is easy to create scenarios of what the Guardsmen could have done differently to have avoided the tragic ending. After hours of enduring not just verbal assaults, but physical assaults with rocks, bricks, and pieces of concrete, and an angry mob surging toward them, a mob that could have been upon them in a mere few seconds, just what should they have done when they heard a shot directed at them?

Blame should rest not on the Guardsmen, but upon those revolutionary leaders who worked for months to provoke this incident, certainly one of the saddest in American history. ■

sculpture in front of Taylor Hall and we saw where one of the bullets had cut its way right through the thick steel."

Very importantly, Esztherhas and Roberts discovered a non-military shell casing and wrote, "A preliminary test indicated there was a bullet hole in a 15-foot welded steel sculpture in front of Taylor Hall. The bullet would have been fired in the direction of the Guardsmen."

Stang photographed the bullet hole, which showed one side of the plate is jagged, with shards of extended metal around the circumference of the hole. "That is the side of the plate where the Guardsmen were standing, which means that the bullet that made the hole was fired *at* them, not *by* them. It does not even take a ballistics expert to determine that the afore-said condition of the plate indicates that the bullet exited from it and sped *toward* the Guardsmen."

Stang concluded, "There *was* a sniper!"

But being the careful journalist that he was, Stang sought an expert opinion — and was referred to C.H. Mallett, the chief of the Windham, Ohio, police department. Mallett was a law-enforcement trainer. After Mallett examined the bullet hole in the steel plate for several minutes, using a variety of instruments, Stang asked him which way the

bullet went. He pointed to the spot between the pagoda and the corner of Taylor Hall, where the Guardsmen had been standing.

"How sure are you?" Stang asked.

Mallett responded, "Absolutely positive," adding there was no doubt in his mind.

To Stang, it now all made sense. "It was because of the sniper that the Guardsmen suddenly about-faced and fired. In fact, it is reasonable to speculate that the sniper finally fired when he did because the students had failed to provoke the Guardsmen to retaliate."

As Stang summarized, "When the professional terrorists became afraid that the incident would end without the 'martyrs' they had worked almost two years to get, the sniper opened fired with his weapon. The Guardsmen did what they were trained to do — they fired in the direction from which the sniper's bullet came."

Stang explained that the direction of the bullet's travel shows that the bullet came from beyond the parking lot, in the general area of Prentice Hall, most likely from the green door on the roof leading to the stairwell, from one of the windows, or from the grassy area at one corner of the building.

Stang admitted that he did not know exactly who the sniper was, and 50 years



## EXERCISING THE RIGHT

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

### Disabled & Armed

KHOU reported on March 15 out of Harris County, Texas, about a disabled woman who was targeted by criminals but was able to defend herself because she had a firearm and knew how to properly use it. The incident occurred in the middle of the day when two suspects attempted to burglarize an apartment by breaking in through a patio window. The resident of the apartment was a 53-year-old woman who was home at the time of the break-in and was described by investigators as “disabled.”

She was terrified when the intruders broke the glass, reached through the shattered patio door to unlock it from the inside, and then opened the door to enter the apartment. Fortunately for the woman, she was able to retrieve her loaded firearm before the suspects could enter any further. She fired at the two men and hit the suspect who was standing in front. Both of the burglars fled the apartment, but the wounded suspect did not get far before collapsing on the grass outside the apartment, where he was later pronounced dead by responding authorities.

The woman called the Harris County Sheriff’s Office, who quickly sent deputies to her apartment. The deputies soon apprehended the other suspect, as well as a woman who they believe was acting as a getaway driver. The investigation is still ongoing, but detectives believe the deceased suspect was carrying a pistol at the time of the shooting and the getaway driver tried to hide the gun from police. It is likely that both of the two remaining suspects will face felony murder charges because their accomplice was killed in the commission of a violent felony. Investigators also think that the suspects might have been involved in similar burglaries in the area.

### The Essential Second Amendment

Recent developments show that American gun owners won’t take infringements on their Second Amendment rights without pushing back.

As part of his state’s social-distancing policy, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy

initially did not exclude gun merchants from mandatory closure requirements, but the ensuing uproar from gun-rights advocates got him to reverse his decision. Governor Murphy issued the retraction on March 30, as reported by NJ.com. Gun retailers are now classified as “essential businesses” that can remain open. This move came after the federal government identified gun dealers, ranges, and manufacturers as “essential businesses” in a guide published by the Department of Homeland Security just a few days earlier. It also was preceded by public condemnations from gun-rights advocates such as the National Rifle Association (NRA) and the New Jersey Second Amendment Society. The latter organization even filed a lawsuit against the state to get gun stores reopened.

Murphy, a Democrat, sounded a purely political tune as he tried to hide behind the DHS recommendations so as not to hurt his reputation with his party’s far-left base, which is openly hostile to gun rights. “It wouldn’t be my definition, but that’s the definition at the federal level and I didn’t get a vote on that,” Murphy told reporters at the press conference where he announced his reversal. Still, even though this was a victory, there are strings attached to the “essential business” classification, restricting the operating hours and requiring appointments being booked in advance. While gun shops being open is a welcome development for those of us who cherish our Second Amendment rights, we should not overlook the other restrictions that limit our freedom.

New Jersey was not the only place where draconian restrictions on guns were quickly rescinded after a public outcry. Los Angeles County also re-opened gun shops after initially mandating their closure. Los Angeles County Sheriff Alex Villanueva made national news when he personally ordered a shutdown of gun shops and rationalized the decision by citing the spike in sales in gun shops as a concern from a public-safety standpoint. In a March 23 interview with Fox11, Villanueva was adamant about closing gun stores, and repeated anti-gun propaganda about having more gun owners leading to more gun violence. Villanueva told Fox11 that with all these gun sales

“now you have the mixture of people that are not formerly gun owners and you have a lot more people at home and anytime you introduce a firearm in a home, from what I understand from CDC studies, it increases fourfold the chance that someone is going to get shot.” Villanueva’s tyrannical move led to massive denunciations by gun-rights activists and even a lawsuit at the state level by the NRA, as well as other gun groups, and was dropped.

### New Gun Owners

As this column has previously reported, gun sales are surging during the coronavirus pandemic, and anti-gun activists and their mouthpieces in left-wing media such as *Mother Jones* are clutching their pearls at the prospect of all these newly armed Americans joining the rest of us who own guns. While claiming to be concerned about potential “gun violence,” you can read between the lines to see they’re afraid that people are waking up to the necessity of being armed for self-defense. The number of new gun owners since the coronavirus pandemic began is staggering, and any review of the figures shows the undeniable fact that this country will have a lot more people owning guns long after the pandemic subsides.

*Rolling Stone* reported on April 8 that all “across the country, Americans are buying guns in record numbers. A *New York Times* analysis showed that nearly two million guns were purchased in March, the second-highest month ever for gun sales. In March, the FBI processed over 3.7 million firearm background checks — the highest number in over 20 years — compared to 2.6 million in March 2019 and 2.8 million in February 2020. The week of March 16 alone saw nearly 1.2 million gun background checks, the most in a single week since 1998, according to FBI data. Ammunition website Ammo.com revealed it saw about a 1,000-percent increase in sales in Colorado, Arizona, and Texas since late February.” While these statistics strike fear into the hearts of anti-gun leftists, the rest of us recognize it as a positive trend, as people reject years of gun-control propaganda. ■

— PATRICK KREY





## Pelosi, Progressives Press Federal Mandates on Voting, Including Ballot Harvesting

**ITEM:** House “Speaker Nancy Pelosi said the nation must move to a vote-by-mail system amid the ongoing coronavirus crisis and that she plans to advocate funding for that in the next stimulus measure,” according to Bloomberg. “In terms of the elections, I think that we will probably be moving to vote by mail,” Pelosi told MSNBC’s ‘Morning Joe’ program Tuesday [March 31]. She called it ‘a reality of life’ amid the outbreak.”

“President Donald Trump,” said the Bloomberg article, “criticized efforts by Democrats to expand voter access to November’s presidential election ... in an interview [on March 30] with Fox News. Democrats had pushed for such measures in the \$2.2 trillion rescue package Trump signed last week, but most were removed.”

**ITEM:** Stephen Wolf, elections writer for the Daily Kos, commented on March 9 on that Internet forum: “Thanks in part to Donald Trump lying to downplay the impending crisis for his own self-interest, the virus threatens to create major disruptions in many aspects of life and risk the lives of countless Americans. This is why it’s critical that we take steps as soon as possible to ensure that November’s election runs smoothly, and every state should adopt universal voting by mail.” This piece was reprinted on March 22 (among many such others) by the blog “votingbymail.org.”

**ITEM:** President Trump “explained this week that he doesn’t want to make it easier for Americans to vote because he believes that would hurt the Republican Party,” declared the editors of the Washington Post on April Fool’s Day. Continuing its misrepresentation of what the president said, the editorial went on: “Mr. Trump is hardly the first Republican to embrace voter suppression for political reasons, but usually they’re at least a little embarrassed to acknowledge their motivation. That’s why they make up stories about voter fraud. And, of course, Mr. Trump is not just any Repub-



AP Images

**Drop boxes to drop elections:** Drop boxes and mail-in ballots aren’t usually used because they lead to massive opportunities for fraud and coercion, as the ballots are not always under control of multi-party election officials.

lican; it’s particularly depressing that the president of the United States would give voice to views that are so patently contrary to the spirit of democracy.”

“In recent years,” the Post also maintained, “Republicans have vigorously erected barriers to voting, such as rigid voter identification and registration requirements, to discourage minorities, immigrants, young people and other groups seen as leaning Democratic from going to the polls. But seeking to take advantage of a deadly epidemic to depress turnout is a new low.”

**CORRECTION:** Left-wingers in general and Democrats in particular are misusing the coronavirus crisis in an attempt to weaken ballot security and boost their vote totals. But more than that is at risk: The push is actually an attempt to nationalize elections that are — historically and constitutionally — the purview of the states. The objective is a federal mandate that would permanently change how we vote.

As it is, all states already allow voting by mail for absentee ballots; at current count, 19 states do require an excuse to show the inability to vote in person. Though many of the articles about this issue, as well as Speaker Pelosi’s usual remarks, don’t make it clear, what is really wanted is a universal mandate by the federal govern-

ment to run balloting processes over the wishes and laws of the various states.

Pelosi (unsuccessfully) made this move in the initial coronavirus relief package; she has made it clear that she wants to repeat her drive. Yet, as commentator Hans von Spakovsky explained in P.J. Media: “As a former county election official in two different states, I can guarantee that every election official in the country would consider the current threat posed by COVID-19 to be more than sufficient reason for citizens to avoid the polls and vote absentee instead.” So what’s the purpose of Pelosi’s possible legislation?

The speaker and her cronies have more in mind. Much more. With the first initial relief bill being held as a potential hostage, this is what was first tried (and is still in play as we write), as summarized by columnist David Limbaugh. The Democrats, as he wrote,

added provisions to increase federal control over elections including federal mandates on how and when we vote, and who collects absentee ballots. Conservatives have long believed these progressive proposals — mandatory early voting, mail-in ballots (which would allow ballots to be marked behind closed doors),



## Correction, Please!



AP Images

**Pelosi for freedom or fraud?** House Speaker Nancy Pelosi claims that offering voting opportunities outside the polls is just for those without much mobility, but she likely knows that historically Democrats have used fraud to win elections more than Republicans.

same-day registration and legalized ballot harvesting — are aimed at manipulating election outcomes and facilitating voter fraud.

When the *Washington Post* insists that the president just opposes making voting easier, it is not just stretching the truth, it's dismembering it. Trump has expressed confidence in the general election being held in November; he has opposed, among other points, a requirement to have every state prepare for mail-in voting and make other changes.

Here is a more accurate take on the Democrats' drive for a federal takeover of elections, from Representative Rodney Davis (Ill.), the ranking Republican on the elections-focused House Administration Committee. Below is part of what got pulled from the initial bill (and is still supported by Pelosi); as the congressman said in mid-March, the proposal calls for

several federal mandates for states to adopt within the 7 months leading up to the presidential election, like allowing high school students to be poll watchers, requiring polling locations be within walking distance of public transportation, forcing no-excuse absentee voting without allowing states

to require identification as a condition of obtaining the ballot, allowing ballots to be cast in any location — disregarding the importance of local elections, and nationalizing the controversial practice of ballot harvesting.

The president was not overstating matters when he said of the \$4 billion provisions in the first package: "The things they had in there were crazy." (After hitting resistance, the bill that eventually passed included \$400 million to the states for elections, without adding specific requirements.)

These actions are consonant with the picture painted by House Majority Whip James Clyburn (D-S.C.), who told his Democrat colleagues that the response to the coronavirus crisis presents a "tremendous opportunity to restructure things to fit our vision."

It is also instructive to follow the money. Backers of the vote-by-mail effort (also called Vote at Home, or VAH) include the Brennan Center for Justice, located at NYU School of Law; Brennan has enjoyed the financing of billionaire George Soros's Open Society Foundations (always willing to support radical groups and causes), as have other groups involved with the push.

Another major player is Represent.us.

As summarized by Morton Kondracke (the retired executive editor of *Roll Call* and a former "McLaughlin Group" and Fox News commentator), Represent.us "has joined with other large groups — NYU Law's Brennan Center, Unite America, the National Association of Non-Partisan Reformers, Public Citizen and Common Cause — to mount a multimillion-dollar campaign to spread VAH nationwide, not just for the possibly virus-endangered 2020 election, but *permanently*." (Emphasis added.)

Another election-related effort in the Senate is not as broad in scope, but it too includes federal requirements. As Kondracke put it in *Real Clear Politics*:

Sens. Amy Klobuchar [Minnesota] and Ron Wyden [Oregon], along with more than a dozen fellow Democrats, have introduced a bill to have absentee ballots delivered to all voters and expand in-person early voting for the 2020 general election. The House Democratic coronavirus bill, besides skewing its \$2 trillion-plus relief more to workers than corporations, contained provisions mandating early and absentee voting.

Lest we forget, the operative rule of the Democrats is derived from the mantra of Rahm Emanuel, the former Chicago mayor and Obama chief of staff — to wit, "You never want a serious crisis to go to waste." That parallels the Clyburn convenient virus restructuring "to-fit-our-vision" axiom.

The House Select Committee on the Coronavirus Crisis is also redundant. There was already a Congressional Oversight Committee established to monitor this spending, as well as an independent inspector general, plus a Pandemic Response Accountability Committee with other inspectors general.

If you want to see "ballot harvesting" in action, California is the not-so-comely model. California's Pelosi would like to force all states to follow the Golden State's example. In January of 2019, well before the virus crisis, the *Wall Street Journal*



aply described the process in California. First came the “Voter’s Choice Act,” which allows counties to mail every voter a ballot, even if he or she didn’t request it. After that, noted the *Journal*, a

separate 2016 law pushed heavily by unions ... legalized what’s known as ballot harvesting. This allows any person — union activists, canvassers, community organizers, campaign staff — to show up at homes and collect mail ballots on behalf of voters.

California law also allows counting mail ballots postmarked or delivered on Election Day, as well as same-day registration and liberal use of provisional ballots. This year the Democratic vote totals piled up long after the polls closed. Fred Whitaker, chairman of the Orange County GOP, has estimated that an extraordinary 250,000 mail-votes were dropped off on Election Day thanks to harvesting.

As could be expected, voters at their own homes found themselves confronted by activists, pushing their candidates and causes. As the *Journal* put it:

This creates opportunities for harvesters to “help” voters complete

their ballots, or even pay to finish them, and it’s easy for the unscrupulous to lose ballots they think may go for the wrong candidate. This is why ballot harvesting is illegal in many states, or at least limited to drop-offs by family members.

Vote harvesters, both legal and illegal, have earned special names — such as “*Boleteros*” in Florida.

Meanwhile, Texas has tried (not very successfully) to tighten its mail-in ballot laws. Harvesting votes is supposedly illegal. Nonetheless, Chuck DeVore, the vice president of the Texas Public Policy Foundation, writes for *Forbes* that mail-in ballot fraud “is so pervasive in some parts of Texas that they have a local name for those who broker election victories: *Politiqueros*.” Indeed, he observes, there are “rarely consequences for ballot harvesters or the campaigns who hire them in the Lone Star State.”

This goes well beyond having volunteers encouraging people to vote. As DeVore notes, ballot harvesters “can get aggressive, they can cut corners, and they can guarantee votes for the politician or group that hired them by taking physical possession of ballots and voting in place of the legal voter.”

In California, even the left-wing *Los Angeles Times* has reported about how illegal aliens (so-called Dreamers) have been seen not just delivering the ballots of others, but “helping” them fill out the ballots.

Yet, the *Washington Post* — in promoting a huge, nationalized takeover of our elections — claims that Republicans just “make up stories about voter fraud.” Well, these stories are not fiction.

The Heritage Foundation apparently had no difficulty in compiling 390 pages into a database, arranged by states, of election fraud cases nationwide. It includes, among others, 1,088 proven instances of voter fraud and 949 criminal convictions. It is broken down into categories, such as impersonation fraud at the polls; false registrations; duplicate voting; fraudulent use of absentee ballots; buying votes; illegal “assistance” at the polls; ineligible voting; altering the vote count; and ballot petition fraud.

This is not, as the foundation puts it, “an exhaustive list, but simply a sampling that demonstrates the many different ways in which fraud is committed.”

When the first stimulus package was being put together in Congress, Representative Davis noted that the states were “already working around the clock to keep their elections functioning during this national emergency.” And as the congressman said, “The last thing they need is for the federal government to impose time-consuming mandates.”

Some states have already adopted a number of the changes being pushed, but those were implemented (and not without problems and considerable debate) by those states — not the central government in Washington.

It is a stark showdown. The House speaker supports a federal power grab of our voting processes — overriding state election laws, forfeiting proper chain-of-custody protection, setting no limit to the number of ballots that individuals might turn in, and dramatically increasing the chances of fraud. On the other side is the chief executive, who calls this “crazy.” Hanging in the balance is your vote. ■

— WILLIAM P. HOAR



**Your vote doesn’t count:** Here, an election worker in Washington State collects ballots from a drop box. But with mail-in voting, election workers, postal employees, and others could easily skew the vote. For instance, postal workers could “lose” ballots from certain partisan districts.

## Are COVID-19 Deaths **Better Than Tyranny?**

**W**e've heard much during the Wuhan virus crisis about a "worst-case scenario" of two million dead Americans, a staggering number. But missing from the national conversation is something equally important: What's the worst-case scenario given our present course of action, largely locking down the country and freezing life like an insect stuck in amber?

What if worse coming to worst means a great depression, descent into tyranny, millions more dead from other causes, and a permanently impoverished nation?

Almost the entire virus debate has centered around whether the experts are correct about the infectivity and virulence of the disease and in their projections (which have often been drastically wrong). But even if we assume that the experts having the government's ear — and there are dissenters who don't — are absolutely inerrant in their expressed judgments, there's a problem with just "listening to the health professionals'" prescriptions: Like most everyone else, these individuals have only a narrow range of expertise; they are epidemiologists, virologists, infectious disease specialists, etc.

They are not epidemiologists-cum-philosophers/political scientists/sociologists/economists. So they provide counsel on how to achieve a narrow goal contemplated from a narrow perspective. This is not a put-down. It is their job to do just that.

Congruent with this, these experts consider the health-related consequences of the disease, not the civilizational-health-related consequences of their cure — which may be worse than the disease.

The latter is the job of statesmen, commentators, academics, and the wider population. All these groups, unfortunately, are found wanting in this.

Unemployment claims are at a record high, but I don't have to tell you how the current lockdowns are ravaging our economy. Many businesses and jobs will never come back, yet not only is this concern just the iceberg's tip, it isn't even, as critics may say, just about "money" — because money isn't just about "money."

Money represents resources, people's capacity to obtain food, shelter, clothing, healthcare, education, and everything else that preserves life and makes it worth living. Note here that poverty is associated with a host of negative health and health-related risks, such as a higher incidence of manifold diseases, depres-



sion, anxiety, stress-related disorders, drug and alcohol abuse, suicide, domestic violence, child abuse, and crime.

Yet even more must be considered. Remember now that if the following seems radical, it is a worst-case scenario. And if we can consider the worst-case scenario on one side of the equation, we must for balance and perspective consider the worst-case scenario on the other side as well.

What if locking down the nation means causing a great depression lasting a decade or more?

What if this economic disaster leads, as history teaches it can, to the rise of demagogues and loss of freedom?

What if there are consequently millions more deaths from other causes due to economic malaise and descent toward tyranny?

What if, in other words, we essentially destroy our civilization as we know it?

Will it have been worth it to ensure there'd be fewer Wuhan virus deaths — even two million, shocking though that number is? Civilizational destruction, something permanent, would be a steep price to pay to combat a pandemic, something temporary.

Of course, one lockdown motivation is to slow the virus' spread so that hospitals aren't overwhelmed. But Dr. Anthony Fauci, head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said Wednesday that there won't be a true turning point until a vaccine is developed. Yet some say this could be *18 months away*, an eternity in lockdown terms.

In the meantime, restoring normal commerce and freedom without experiencing increased virus contagion appears unlikely. But since such restoration would be beneficial, focusing on developing herd immunity while pursuing wide-scale testing and the insulating of vulnerable groups may be the wiser course.

Remember, too, that we've been through this before. During the Spanish flu pandemic of 1918-19, 675,000 Americans died; adjusted for today's U.S. population, this amounts to a bit more than two million people — exactly our worst-case scenario number.

We weathered that pandemic, of course. But people were far different then, and, correspondingly, we're far different politically today. This is why we'd better hope for a highly efficacious Wuhan virus treatment — *and fast*. Because if we're going to lock down our nation for months on end, well, we may learn the hard way that we might as well have just thrown away the key. ■

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# FEATURED PRODUCTS



## White House Reds

On the show *Fox & Friends* on May 23, 2019, Donald Trump, Jr. said the 2020 election would be about “communism versus freedom.” He was right. *White House Reds* profiles 10 high-profile contenders for the Democratic presidential nomination — all of them communists, socialists, or national security risks. (2020, pb, 269pp, 1/\$24.95ea; 2-4/ \$23.95ea; 5+/\$21.95ea) **BKWHR**

## The Mainspring of Human Progress

Do interventionist governments hamper human progress by stifling individual initiative? Henry Grady Weaver (1889–1949), a General Motors executive who once made the cover of *Time* magazine, explains in this free market classic that human progress is the result of individual initiative. (1953, 287pp, pb, \$17.95ea) **BKMHP**

## Crimes of the Educators

*Crimes of the Educators* reveals how the architects of America’s public-schools disaster implemented a plan to socialize the United States by knowingly and willingly dumbing down the population, a mission closer to success than ever before as schools are nationalized via Common Core. (2015, 368pp, pb, 1/\$21.95ea; 2-4/\$20.95ea; 5+/\$18.95ea) **BKCEPB**

## Overview of America

This video explains in a simple fashion the different systems of government throughout the world and the different economic principles underlying each type of government — and why freedom means prosperity.

**Sleeved DVD** (2018ed, 29min, 1-10/\$1.00ea; 11-20/\$0.90ea; 21-49/\$0.80ea; 50-99/\$0.75ea; 100-999/\$0.70ea; 1,000+/\$0.64ea) **DVDOOADR**

**Cased DVD** (2018ed, 29min, 1-9/\$5.95ea; 10-24/\$4.95ea; 25-99/\$3.95ea; 100+/\$2.25ea) **DVDOOACDR**

**Spanish Sleeved DVD** (2018ed, 29min, 1-10/\$1.00ea; 11-20/\$0.90ea; 21-49/\$0.80ea; 50-99/\$0.75ea; 100-999/\$0.70ea; 1,000+/\$0.64ea) **DVDSROOA**

**Spanish Cased DVD** (2018ed, 29min, 1-9/\$5.95ea; 10-24/\$4.95ea; 25-99/\$3.95ea; 100+/\$2.25ea) **DVDSROOAC**

## Inconvenient Facts: The Science That AI Gore Doesn't Want You to Know

This autographed book is a common-sense rebuttal to the “climate change” zealots’ arguments that humanity is to blame for the change in the weather and the Earth’s climatic ills. (2017, 158pp, pb, 1/\$19.95ea; 2+/\$17.95ea) **BKIF**

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

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

## The Politically Incorrect Guide to Climate Change

Less freedom. More regulation. Higher costs. Make no mistake: Those are the surefire consequences of the modern global-warming campaign waged by political and cultural elites, who have long ago abandoned fact-based science for dramatic fearmongering in order to push increased central planning. (2018, 285pp, pb, 1/\$19.95ea; 2+/\$17.95ea) **BKPIGCH**

## Saving the Second Amendment

This reprint of three articles from the February 17 issue of *THE NEW AMERICAN* shows how gun owners have responded to the Democrats’ anti-gun legislation in Virginia, how gun owners are responding to similar threats nationwide, and why the latest anti-gun measures are nonsensical. (2020, 12pp, 1-24/\$0.50ea; 25-99/\$0.40ea; 100+/\$0.35ea) **RPSSA**



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