

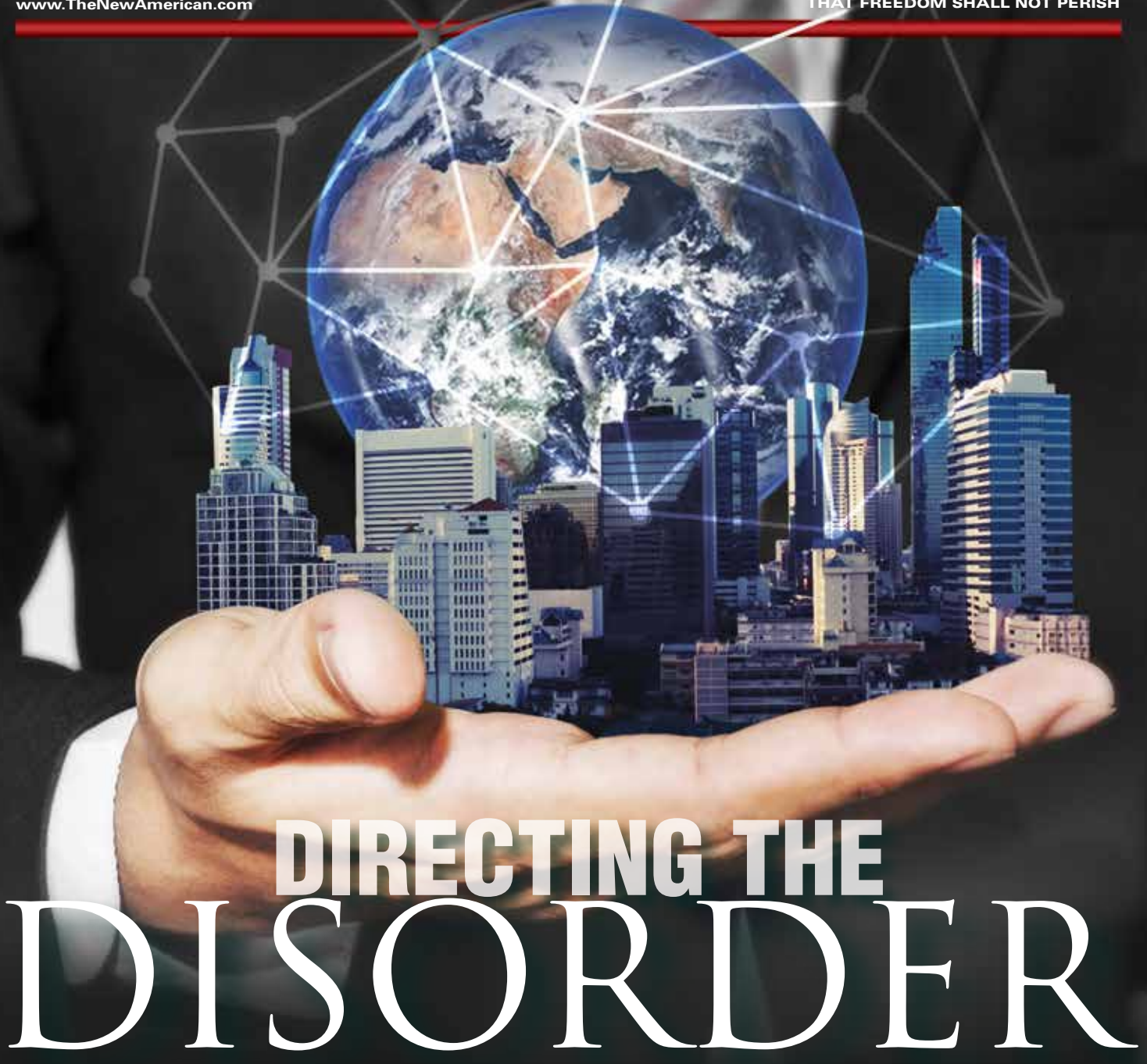
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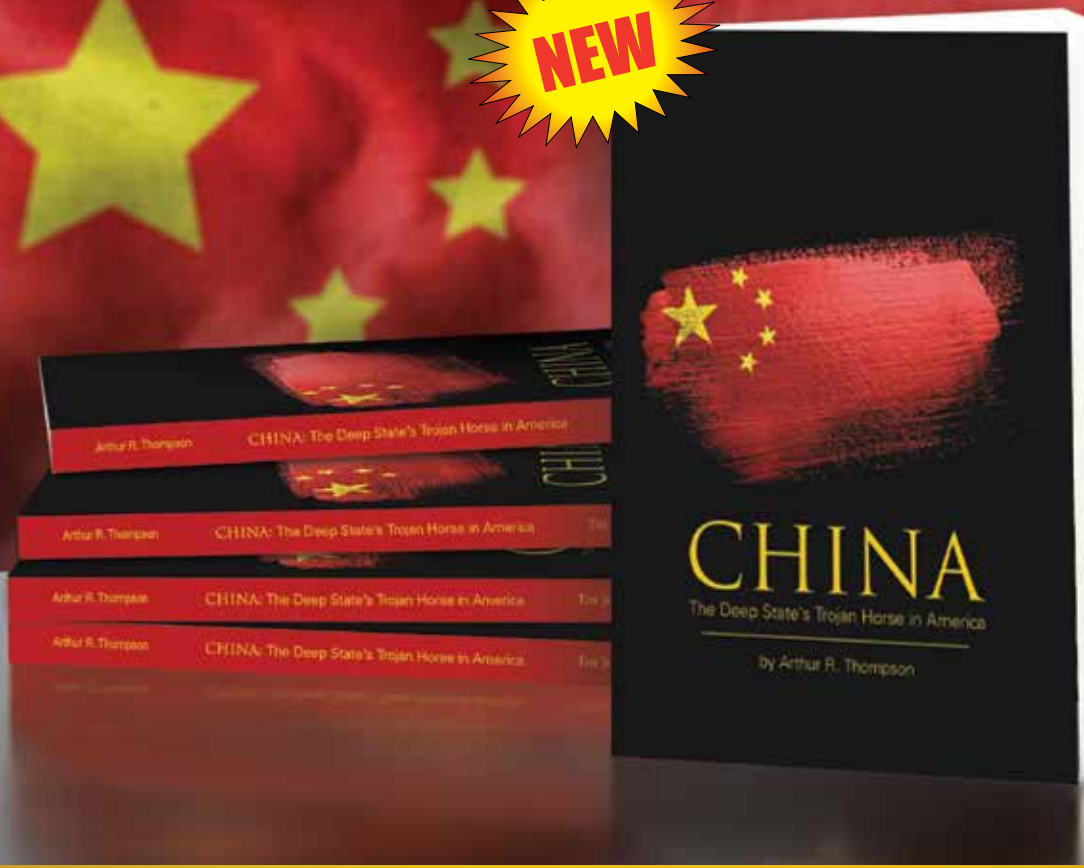
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## DIRECTING THE DISORDER

The CFR is the Deep State powerhouse undoing and remaking our world.

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# CHINA: THE DEEP STATE'S TROJAN HORSE IN AMERICA

This exposé shows that the Chinese Communist plan to subvert America is well underway, and is being aided by the Deep State. Will Americans wake up before the tipping point?

*By Arthur R. Thompson, CEO, The John Birch Society*

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## Directing the Disorder

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Cleveland Ave. (Rt. 41) • Ft. Myers, Florida • Stamra Inc.

**Publisher & Editor**  
Gary Benoit

**Senior Editor**  
William F. Jasper

**Managing Editor**  
Kurt Williamsen

**Web Editor**  
John T. Larabell

**Foreign Correspondent**  
Alex Newman

**Contributors**  
Bob Adelmann • Dennis Behreandt  
Steve Byas • Raven Clabough  
Selwyn Duke • Brian Farmer  
Christian Gomez • Larry Greenley  
Gregory A. Hession, J.D.  
Ed Hiserodt • William P. Hoar  
R. Cort Kirkwood • Patrick Krey, J.D.  
Warren Mass • John F. McManus  
James Murphy • Dr. Duke Pesta  
Llewellyn H. Rockwell, Jr.  
C. Mitchell Shaw • Michael Tennant  
Rebecca Terrell • Fr. James Thornton  
Laurence M. Vance • Joe Wolverton II, J.D.

**Creative Director**  
Joseph W. Kelly

**Senior Graphic Designer**  
Katie Bradley

**Research**  
Bonnie M. Gillis

**Chief Strategy Officer**  
Bill Hahn

**Advertising/Circulation Manager**  
Julie DuFrane

**The New American**

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## Shutting Down Churches

My husband, Judge Roy Moore, receives THE NEW AMERICAN and agrees wholeheartedly with your viewpoints. A recent article entitled “Pandemic Response Makes Liberty Sick in the States” (June 8 issue) reflects a position being litigated in a recent case that he has filed against the governor and various officials in Louisiana for their attempt to shut down Pastor Tony Spell and Life Tabernacle Church in Louisiana. The article was written by Steve Byas.

Because not many organizations for religious freedom take principled approaches to the deprivation of constitutional rights, Judge Moore thought that your organization would be interested in knowing that he and the Foundation for Moral Law, which represents Pastor Spell, have maintained the separation of powers, right of assembly, religious freedom, and separation of church and state as envisioned by our Founding Fathers. We have sued both in state and federal district court in Louisiana, and in the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals. We are preparing to request a hearing “en banc” on a preliminary denial of our request for injunctive relief.

We maintain that no authority has the right to stop church assembly and that the Louisiana governor and subordinate officials have acted in violation of both the U.S. and Louisiana Constitutions.

KAYLA MOORE, PRESIDENT  
FOUNDATION FOR MORAL LAW  
*Sent via e-mail*

## Black Lives in America

A while back I had some work done in my yard and I selected a man who had done some work for my daughter and son-in-law. I was there when their work was done, and I was impressed with his skills, abilities, and attitude. When he arrived at my house that day, I noticed that he was black, and I smiled broadly when he arrived. I hadn’t noticed his race when he did the work at their house. The only thing I remembered was the manner in which the work had been done. What was done at our home was done in the same manner. When you cease to recognize someone’s race, it is when you know racial balance has been achieved.

George Floyd’s death was tragic. The

manner in which he died was heinous, and justice should be served to fit the horrendous nature of that crime. But as a result, extremists are seeking to eliminate law enforcement. There are no professions that don’t have individuals who are unqualified. In fact, it’s likely there are more unqualified politicians than there are qualified. Our focus needs to be on removing the unqualified, not removing a profession.

Peaceful demonstrations that support justice for George Floyd’s death are healthy actions that seek change. The minute that a demonstration becomes a riot it needs to be stopped. Two wrongs do not make a right.

Rioting is not new. Riots broke out in Washington, D.C., at the end of WWI. Army troops were sent in to quell the riots. One riot was quelled by a cavalry unit, and the rioters disbursed rapidly. This was confirmed by my father, who was in that unit. He indicated that they moved to the rioters on horseback with sabers drawn. The disturbance was over in 20 minutes, and no one on either side was seriously injured. When lawlessness is met with strength and resolve, it is put to rest quickly.

Despite the fact that numerous blacks have gained respect through showing they are equal to or better than those who would stand in their way, many want preferential treatment. Preferential treatment says, “You aren’t capable of doing it on your own. We have to make exceptions for you!” We become enablers, and the negative effects of enabling are well known. Preferences also allow the manipulation of segments of society.

Our founding documents state that all men are created equal. When anyone is accorded special treatment, whether it is for good or bad, it defies the intent of those words. The key to unity and justice is for all individuals to be able to play on a level playing field. That, and only that, should be the thrust of our efforts.

BOB LAGASSE  
Bristol, Connecticut

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## Gates-funded Program Tests Biometric ID Vaccinations in Africa

The biometric digital identity platform Trust Stamp, which claims to “evolve as you evolve,” is to be introduced in “low-income, remote communities” in West Africa as part of a partnership between the Bill Gates-supported Alliance of Vaccines and Immunizations (GAVI) and Mastercard, according to a July 15 article at Activist Post.

The new program to be tested in West Africa will see Trust Stamp’s technology integrated into the GAVI-Mastercard “Wellness Pass,” a digital vaccination record and identity system.

GAVI is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, and other elite foundations. Mastercard has stated its commitment to a “World Beyond Cash” and created a suite of services known as “Digital Wellness” to facilitate digital transactions.

The Wellness Pass combines vaccines with Mastercard’s technology “to leverage state of the art technology by bringing the Smart into traditional immunisation programs for optimal impact in terms of reach, adherence, efficiency and centralised record keeping of childhood immunisation.”

By integrating with Trust Stamp, Wellness Pass will be able to track vaccines biometrically even in areas lacking cellular data or Internet connectivity.

Trust Stamp co-founder Gareth Genner explains how it works: “Each time the child gets a vaccine and a new hash is created at the clinic, it is encoded with the updated health information.... The hash evolves over time, just as you evolve.”

Mastercard notes that “Trust Stamp is also exploring new ways to commercialize the hash” and that it is working on ways to allow companies to “identify criminals prior to appointments.”

The question is: Will the definition of “criminals” eventually be extended to include those who refuse to get their vaccines?

The integration of biometric identification technology with digital banking and vaccine records is a dangerous step that could be used to force people to get their shots or else be blocked from making purchases.



hadyryah/iStock/GettyImagesPlus

## Flippy the Robot to Replace White Castle Workers at \$3 an Hour



Wikipedia/Dwstultz

Flippy the robot is a burger-flipping kitchen worker who does his job dutifully, never goes home, doesn’t get sick or take bathroom breaks, and won’t unionize — and can be had for \$3 an hour. He’s also a non-citizen who doesn’t need a visa and doesn’t care if you have a beef with his taking your job.

Buck Jordan, the chief executive of the company that birthed Flippy, Miso Robotics, had stated in February that the robot could appear widely in restaurants as soon as early 2021. But now it appears that the COVID-19 pandemic has improved Miso’s for-

tunes further, as there’s a desire to reduce worker contact with restaurant victuals. (While the chances of contracting the Wuhan coronavirus from food is low, there have been outbreaks affecting restaurant workers and patrons.)

In fact, a major fast-food chain has announced its Flippy embrace. As Fox Business reported July 14,

White Castle announced a pilot program [July 14] to help cook burgers and fries using a robot named Flippy.

The fast-food chain and Miso ... have already been testing the robot’s ability to cook White Castle’s fried foods at one location. If the pilot is successful, White Castle may “hire” Flippy at more locations.

... Flippy is capable of cooking food, cleaning appliances, switching kitchenware or appliances, timing its procedures, recognizing and monitoring items, working up to 10,000 continuous hours and taking orders and training tips from staff.

The *Los Angeles Times* noted in February that Miso could “offer Flippys to fast-food restaurant owners for an estimated \$2,000 per month on a subscription basis, breaking down to about \$3 per hour. (The actual cost will depend on customers’ specific needs.)”

## Biden's "Climate Justice" Plan Includes Jail Time for Big Polluters

Joe Biden intends to spend more than \$2 trillion to transform America's energy infrastructure in order to address "environmental and climate justice," according to a new plan rolled out by his campaign in July.

Influenced by the recommendations penned by a unity task force between his campaign and that of former primary rival Senator Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.), Biden's climate-change plan would impose sweeping (and expensive) regulations, such as seeking to make America "carbon-free" by 2035, instituting a federal green-energy jobs program, and establishing an Environmental and Climate Justice Division to crack down on polluters.

The Biden proposal would "make a federal investment of \$1.7

trillion over the next ten years, leveraging additional private sector and state and local investments to total to more than \$5 trillion."

The former vice president claims he would pay for his program by "reversing the excesses of the Trump tax cuts for corporations, reducing incentives for tax havens, evasion, and outsourcing, ensuring corporations pay their fair share, closing other loopholes in our tax code that reward wealth not work, and ending subsidies for fossil fuels."

Biden's plan to meet a 100-percent clean-energy standard by 2035 would have an undoubted effect on the coal and natural gas industries, which currently produce 63 percent of all electricity in the country.

Additionally, Biden wants to create an Environmental and Climate Justice Division within the Department of Justice for cracking down on those who pollute the environment. The plan reads: "Biden will direct his EPA and DOJ to pursue these cases to the fullest extent permitted by law and, when needed, seek additional legislation to hold corporate executives personally accountable — including jail time where merited."

Biden also pledges to create a New Deal-style "Civilian Climate Corps," which will perform various anti-climate change initiatives such as restoring wetlands, protecting water supplies, and planting trees. He touts it as a way of "creating more than a quarter million jobs immediately to clean up local economies."

Biden's proposals are similar to an "environmental justice" plan released by House Democrats in June.



Flickr/GegeSkimore

## City Council Unanimously Approves Reparations for Black People

The city council of Asheville, North Carolina, voted 7-0 on July 14 in favor of a resolution that will give reparations to "black Asheville" in the form of tax dollars targeted to the city's black community.

The resolution calls for the city to establish a Community Reparations Commission, whose job will be to "make short, medium and long term recommendations that will make significant progress toward repairing the damage caused by public and private systemic racism."

The resolution — titled "Resolution Supporting Community Reparations for Black Asheville" — accuses white America in general and the City of Asheville in particular of unjustly enslaving, segregating, and incarcerating black people.

The resolution's chief proponent is Councilman Keith Young. Young claims that the resolution was necessary to combat the "systemic" racism that he believes exists in America today.

"Reparations is a very complex issue and requires a solution that looks beyond a one-time payment or check," Young told CBS News. "The same systemics that have allowed Confederate statues to go up and disparities in policing to continue are the very same systemics that recycle itself generation after generation."

"It's set up to be something that will live beyond the current council and the current city manager to continually look at these issues that are affecting Black individuals in this country," Young

explained. "We need to be made whole in areas such as health-care, education, employment, criminal justice, business ownership, home ownership and overall equity and, of course, generational wealth."

This new call for reparations is not limited to Asheville. The reparations movement in America has gained steam in the wake of the death of Minneapolis criminal George Floyd while in police custody in May. On July 15, Mayor Jorge Elorza of Providence, Rhode Island, signed an executive order that promises to pursue a "truth-telling and reparations process" in the city. Other cities and states are also considering reparations legislation. ■

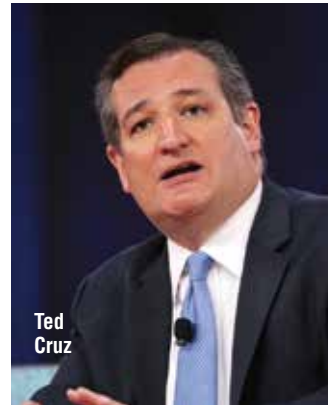


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### Texas Senator Slams President Trump's Citizenship Plan for 700,000 Illegals

"There is zero constitutional authority for a president to create a road to citizenship by executive fiat. It was unconstitutional when Obama issued executive amnesty, and it would be a huge mistake if Trump tries to illegally expand it."

President Donald Trump indicated in an interview that he would create "a road to citizenship" for 700,000 DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) recipients. Senator **Ted Cruz** (R-Texas) strongly objected to such a plan.



Gage Skidmore

### Mayor Urges People to Stay Away From His City's Popular Beaches

"I never thought in my wildest dreams that I'd be telling tourists, 'Don't Come to Our Beaches.'"

In Corpus Christi, Texas, Mayor **Joe McComb** would ordinarily welcome tourists to his city's popular beaches. But fear of spreading COVID-19 dramatically changed his attitude.



AP Images

### California Blacklists Idaho, Where Male Athletes Are Now Barred From Competing as Females

"Where states legislate discrimination, California unambiguously speaks out. The state of Idaho has taken drastic steps to undermine the rights of the transgender community, preventing people from playing sports in school or having documentation that reflects their identity."

California's Attorney General **Xavier Becerra** proudly announced that all of California's state agencies are henceforth forbidden to use state funds to travel to states with "discriminatory" practices, such as barring males who claim to be female from participating in female sporting events.

### Colleges Face Faculty Refusals to Set Foot on Campuses

"Until there's a vaccine, I'm not setting foot on campus. Going into the classroom is like playing Russian roulette."

An emeritus professor of political studies at Pitzer College in California, 70-year-old **Dana Ward** openly stated what many educators are thinking. College administrators are being forced by such a widespread attitude to cancel on-campus studies for the fall.

### Black Lives Matter Leader Wants All Depictions of a White Jesus Taken Down

"I think the statues of the white European they claim is Jesus should also come down. They are a form of white supremacy."

A leader in the Black Lives Matter movement and a pronounced political liberal, **Shaun King** called for trashing all statues and pictures where Christ is portrayed as a white man.

### Former White House Chief of Staff Condemns John Bolton's Book

"Bolton's greatest transgression is not publishing a tell-all book, or even doing so while the president is still in office. Nor is it that he was apparently writing the book while still serving in the West Wing. Bolton's cardinal sin is that he put himself before the president, before service, and before the country. In doing so, he confirmed what those who worked with him already knew: Bolton was eager to advance his own interests to the exclusion of everything else."

Former White House Chief of Staff **Mick Mulvaney** pointed his accusing finger at the fired national security advisor and his book. ■

— COMPILED BY JOHN F. MCMANUS



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QuickQuotes

A hand in a white shirt cuff holds a glowing globe of the Earth. The globe is overlaid with a white network of lines connecting various points. In the background, a cityscape with several skyscrapers is visible. The overall scene is set against a dark background.

# **DIRECTING THE DISORDER**

The CFR is the Deep State powerhouse undoing and remaking our world.

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by William F. Jasper

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The whole world has gone insane and the lunatics are in charge of the asylum. At least it looks that way to any rational person surveying the escalating revolutions that have engulfed the planet in the year 2020. The revolutions to which we refer are the COVID-19 revolution and the Black Lives Matter revolution, which, combined, are wreaking unprecedented havoc and destruction — political, social, economic, moral, and spiritual — worldwide. As we will show, these two seemingly unrelated upheavals are very closely tied together, and are but the latest and most profound manifestations of a global revolutionary transformation that has been under way for many years. Both of these revolutions are being stoked and orchestrated by elitist forces that intend to unmake the United States of America and extinguish liberty as we know it everywhere.

In his famous “Lectures on the French Revolution,” delivered at Cambridge University between 1895 and 1899, the distinguished British historian and statesman John Emerich Dalberg, more commonly known as Lord Acton, noted: “The appalling thing in the French Revolution is not the tumult, but the design. Through all the fire and smoke we perceive the evidence of calculating organization. The managers remain studiously concealed and masked; but there is no doubt about their presence from the first.” One of those revolutionary managers was Duke of Orleans Louis Philippe, the wealthiest man in France, head of the Grand Orient masonic lodge, and cousin to King Louis XVI. Like George Soros, Bill Gates, Michael Bloomberg, and other billionaires of today, Louis Philippe operated through a Deep State network that provided the “calculating organization” that designed and caused the murderous chaos and tumult that engulfed revolutionary France. Since the 2016 U.S. presidential elections, the term “Deep State” has become a popular expression referring to the powerful, murky forces operating throughout the federal government, the major media, the political establishment (of both major

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

The nationalist vs. globalist conflict is not merely an ideological struggle between shadowy, unidentifiable forces; it is a struggle with *organized* globalists who have very real, identifiable, powerful organizations and networks operating incessantly to undermine and subvert our constitutional Republic and our Christian-style civilization.

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**Comrades: Big Tech & Beijing** — Microsoft billionaire Bill Gates meets with China’s communist leader Xi Jinping (right) at the Boao Forum in China’s Hainan province in 2013. In 2017, Gates was inducted into the elite Chinese Academy of Engineering.

parties), the megabanks and corporations, the think tanks, and academia — all with the aim of sabotaging the pro-American agenda of Donald Trump and removing him as president of the United States by any means necessary.

President Trump has correctly described the opposing forces in this conflict as globalists vs. nationalists, and has publicly cast his lot with the nationalists, announcing his “America First” position and a refusal to yield America’s national sovereignty to the United Nations or any of its schemes for world government. However, the nationalist vs. globalist conflict is not merely an ideological struggle between shadowy, unidentifiable forces; it is a struggle with *organized* globalists who have very real, identifiable,

powerful organizations and networks operating incessantly to undermine and subvert our constitutional Republic and our Christian-style civilization. The premier organization leading this globalist effort is the New York City-based Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). It is the “brain trust” and public face of the shadowy Deep State internationalists who have been pushing to submerge the United States (and all other nation states) under a world government for the past century. As the accompanying charts on pages 18-27 demonstrate, the CFR has acquired unparalleled power and influence not only in our government, but also in virtually all of our society’s principal institutions. Unfortunately, many of the critics of the Deep State fail to mention

— whether out of ignorance or fear — the central role of the Council in the Deep State’s actions. But this is like whining about “organized crime” while refusing to mention the Mafia families by name. Or complaining about the evils of the narcotics trade while refusing to identify the drug cartels and their kingpins. We will return further on for a brief history of how the Deep State CFR achieved its deep — and wide — penetration and control. Before doing that, however, we will look at the two revolutions referred to above, and the starring role the Council on Foreign Relations has played in each to topple the American system of government in favor of a socialist order both nationally and globally.

### Tyranny Gone Viral

For the first time in human history, the entire world has been trapped in a global lockdown, at the behest of the United Nations’ World Health Organization. This unprecedented action came about due to the (supposedly unintentional) release of a novel coronavirus by Xi Jinping and the Communist Party leadership of the People’s Republic of China. The result has

been that in a few short months not only the United States of America but the entire world has lurched further into socialist-communist control than could have been imagined by even the most far-sighted political seers.

Governments at every level — local, state, national — have rushed to implement authoritarian (even totalitarian) measures that would be completely unthinkable, except for the claim that these actions are absolutely necessary to save humanity from a uniquely deadly “pandemic.”

Politicians, bureaucrats, and “public health officials” have enthusiastically embraced their new COVID-19 powers to close down virtually all normal human activity; destroy millions of businesses and hundreds of millions of jobs; close completely or greatly shackle religious worship; totally take over and control hospitals and healthcare; spend *trillions* of dollars; order everyone to adopt “social distancing,” “isolation,” face-mask rules, and other social regimentation; cancel or completely reorder elections; hire hundreds of thousands of “contact tracers” and institute Orwellian monitoring and surveillance under the guise of

COVID contact tracing; mandate vaccinations and healthcare tracking in order to work, travel, or engage in any commerce; and much more.

This sweeping revolution would not have been possible without the orchestration provided by the CFR politicians and their academic, business, and media accomplices. They have relentlessly sown fear and hysteria to consolidate and perpetuate this huge power grab, even though the actual findings of science, the real medical facts, show that COVID-19 is nowhere near as deadly or contagious as the fearmongers claim, and certainly not serious enough to justify their dictatorial mandates.

In addition to lionizing Tedros Adhanom, director-general of the UN’s World Health Organization (and one of Beijing’s most dependable cheerleaders), and Dr. Anthony Fauci, lead spokesman of the White House Coronavirus Task Force, the CFR media minions have ceaselessly promoted the propaganda of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Bill Gates, one of the world’s richest billionaires, is a close comrade of Chinese dictator Xi Jinping and has been inducted into the elite Chinese Academy of Engineering, an organ headed by “Premier” Li Keqiang, China’s “Number 2” communist boss.

Besides being the largest nongovernmental funder of WHO, the Gates Foundation has obtained unparalleled influence over global health issues by pouring billions of dollars into national health agencies, medical research centers, institutes, and universities around the globe that are promoting the COVID pandemic hysteria: Harvard, Johns Hopkins, University of Washington, Emory, Yale, Scripps, Cambridge, Oxford, and many more. The foundation claims to be committing “more than \$350 million for work on COVID-19 globally.” Current and former top Gates Foundation officials who are CFR members include Mark Suzman, Margaret Hamburg, and Christopher Elias. Bill Gates has written for the CFR journal *Foreign Affairs*, and his foundation endowed the CFR’s Senior Fellow Chair for Global Health, now occupied by former advisor to the Gates Foundation Thomas Bollyky. Gates is the principal funder of GAVI, the Global Alliance of Vaccines and Immunizations,



Anthony  
Fauci



Tedros  
Adhanom

**Global medical mafia:** Dr. Anthony Fauci, spokesman of the White House Coronavirus Task Force, and Tedros Adhanom, director-general of the UN’s World Health Organization (WHO) are the leading voices and faces of the CFR-UN-Beijing-Big Pharma pandemic dictatorship.



AP Images

headed by CFR member Seth Berkley. The Gates Foundation is also a key funder of the Royal Institute of International Affairs (aka Chatham House), the CFR's globalist sister institute in Britain, as are the Rockefeller, Soros, and Bloomberg foundations, all of which are joined at the hip with the CFR.

The tie-in between U.S. and Chinese universities goes far beyond the Gates health initiatives. AS THE NEW AMERICAN has been reporting for years, CFR members and their corporations and hedge funds have been pouring billions of dollars into both Chinese and U.S. universities, while China's new Chinese Communist Party-approved billionaires have been doing the same, melding together a pro-China "convergence lobby" that promotes the Beijing line throughout academia.

The China Medical Board, founded and funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, is headed by Lincoln C. Chen (CFR), who, incredibly, told the U.S.-China Health Summit in March 2020, "It seems that China has done everything right so far," with regard to COVID-19. The U.S.-China Health Summit is chaired by William Haseltine (CFR). The CFR-Gates-WHO choir dutifully regurgitates and promotes the party line dispensed by Beijing's propagandists, especially concerning what America and the world "must" do to deal

with the virus that the communist regime unleashed on the planet. And, it just so happens, each of these must-dos take us ever closer to resembling the Maoist dictatorship of China's "People's Republic." The enormity and influence of this CFR propaganda operation defies exaggeration. In the space we have here, we can cite only a tiny fraction out of many examples that illustrate the "multiplier effect" of the CFR's strategic clout.

Take, for instance, Thomas J. Bollyky and Charles A. Kupchan, senior fellows at the CFR and professors at Georgetown University. Bollyky, a former advisor to the Gates Foundation and WHO, is much-quoted these days in the CFR-dominant mainstream media. In April 2020, Bollyky and Kupchan teamed up to pen an article for CNN entitled "Trump and Xi must team up to fight Covid-19." That piece echoes (and is echoed by) articles and media appearances by other CFR luminaries that insist the COVID "crisis" must be used to build "global health governance," in unison with communist China.

It is the same message sent by CFR senior fellow (and CCP hack) Yanzhong Huang, in an article for *Foreign Affairs* titled "The U.S. and China Could Cooperate to Defeat the Pandemic: Instead, Their Antagonism Makes Matters Worse." Same

**Revolution from above and below:** While the CFR-led corporate-political-media mob attack our freedoms from their suites, the BLM/Antifa mobs they fund and promote (shown here in Portland, Oregon) advance the agenda with violence in the streets.

also for the *Wall Street Journal* op-ed by mega-globalist Henry Kissinger (CFR) titled "The Coronavirus Pandemic Will Forever Alter the World Order." Ditto for Never-Trumper Max Boot, a CFR senior fellow and one of the Deep State *Washington Post's* window-dressing "conservatives."

Boot has used his *Post* column and his Twitter feed to pound President Trump relentlessly for his alleged leadership failures regarding the virus epidemic — and to promote the Beijing-Gates-WHO line. The same for CFR President Richard Haass, MSNBC commentators Joe Scarborough (CFR) and Mika Brzezinski (CFR), CNN's Dr. Sanjay Gupta (CFR), PBS's Judy Woodruff (CFR), George Soros (CFR), science writer Laurie Garrett (CFR senior fellow), media billionaire Michael Bloomberg (CFR), Blackstone CEO billionaire Stephen A. Schwarzman (CFR), Tom Frieden (CFR senior fellow for global health and former head of the CDC under President Obama), and dozens more of their CFR confreres, who flood the globalist-run media empires with anti-Trump/pro-Beijing COVID indoctrination.

Many of the critics of the Deep State fail to mention — whether out of ignorance or fear — the central role of the Council in the Deep State's actions. But this is like whining about “organized crime” while refusing to mention the Mafia families by name.



AP Images

**Communist-capitalist convergence:** Henry Kissinger (left), a David Rockefeller protégé and a luminary of the CFR-Trilateral Commission-Bilderberg Group globalists, at his secret 1971 meeting with Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai to begin the transformation of Communist China into a global superpower.

### Pressure From Above and Below

While struggling with the fears, uncertainties, disruptions, and devastation brought on by the COVID revolution from above, America and the world were slammed with a second revolution from below: a racial conflagration that used as an igniting pretext the death of George Floyd, a black man, at the hands of a white Minneapolis police officer, on May 25. In response, across America cities burned. Day after day, week after week, in dozens of cities, “protests” turned into violent riots and looting. As usual, the main casualties of the burning, destruction, and looting are the black and minority residents, business owners, and employees of

the communities that the protesters/rioters claim to represent.

The CFR-compliant Fake News media conveniently ignore the fact that the founders and organizers of Black Lives Matter (BLM) boast of being “trained Marxists,” have laced their demands and propaganda with Marxist slogans and theory, and have adopted communist terrorists/revolutionaries (Karl Marx, Mao Tse-tung, Vladimir Lenin, Che Guevara, Assata Shakur, Angela Davis, and Mumia Abu Jamal) as their heroic symbols. Together with their mostly white, violence-prone, anarcho-communist allies of Antifa (who claim to be anti-fascist, while employing textbook

fascist tactics), the BLM revolutionaries have hijacked the outrage they have fomented over America's alleged institutionalized racism to attack America's foundations of Christianity, free-enterprise capitalism, and limited government under a constitutional republic.

In the matter of but a few weeks, the rule of law has been replaced by mob rule, as cowardly and/or traitorous political leaders have ordered police to stand down and allowed riotous thugs to run roughshod over the rights of the law-abiding and threaten the liberty and safety of all. Far from mollifying the rioters, each capitulation before the mob has only encouraged new outrages, as they follow the advice of French Revolutionist Georges-Jacques Danton to his fellow terrorists of Paris in 1792: “We need audacity, and yet more audacity, and always audacity!” The audacious demands of the BLM/Antifa mobs rapidly escalated from “reform the police” to “defund the police” and “abolish the police.” But it hasn't stopped there. Unappeased, the mobs intensified their frenzied attacks and demands: demanding trillions of dollars in race-based “reparations” and tearing down statues and monuments of everyone from Christopher Columbus to George Washington.

But, like the COVID revolution, the BLM revolution could not possibly have succeeded in so rapidly rending our society's fabric asunder without the crucial “calculating organization” of many Deep State operatives. To begin with, the BLM crowds would never have even gotten off the ground except for the tens of millions of dollars from George Soros (CFR) — and many millions more from CFR corporate and foundation spigots. Or consider, for instance, Stewart M. Patrick, who is a CFR senior fellow and director of the organization's International Institutions and Global Governance Program, as well as a prolific blogger, lecturer, and media commentator. In his June 15 article “Black Lives Matter — for Social Justice, and for America's Global Role,” he asserts, “The success of the Black Lives Matter movement is critical, not only to achieve a more perfect union at home, but also to advance human liberty and dignity worldwide.” Moreover, he cites anti-American socialist-communist spokesmen at the UN as if to legitimize



outlandish charges of racism and human-rights violations in the United States.

Or take CFR senior fellow David J. Scheffer, a law professor at Northwestern University and the Bill Clinton administration's main architect of the International Criminal Court, a UN institution aimed at stripping U.S. citizens of their constitutional protections and subjecting them to the "justice" of the UN. He repeatedly slams our country's allegedly ingrained "racism" and argues that we must accept "international law" under UN treaties to be good global citizens. These examples could be multiplied, literally, thousands of times.

One of the CFR's most potent (and disturbing) demonstrations of its clout has been its ability to bring out a string of retired generals and admirals to openly criticize (or outright condemn) President Trump, especially concerning his statements and actions in response to the BLM/Antifa rioting and revolution. Some of them even imply seditiously that they might favor a military coup to remove the president by force. One of the most outrageous appeals in this regard came from retired general John Allen (CFR, and now president of the leftist-globalist Brookings Institution), who wrote a scathing anti-Trump, pro-BLM screed for the CFR-aligned *Foreign Policy* journal. Another came from retired admiral William McRaven in the *New York Times*. More blasts have come from retired admiral James Stavridis (CFR, now an officer in the globalist, immensely wealthy Carlyle Group) in *Time*, as well as retired admiral Michael Mullen (CFR) and retired general Michael Hayden (CFR). Still more blistering attacks have come from generals James Mattis, Barry McCaffrey, and others who are not CFR members but have been given positions to fire their salvos from CFR media platforms. This level of unprecedented seditious and treasonous activity by general officers is beyond outrageous, and indicates that the insiders of the Deep State are pulling out all stops to scuttle not only Donald Trump but the American Republic as well.

### CFR, Club for Revolution

This incredible drama unfolding before our eyes has not come about overnight. It is the work of a "Deep State" cabal of ruling elites that has controlled both the Democratic and Republican parties for decades, and has embedded its operatives



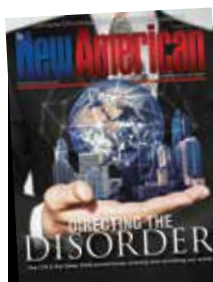
**Tell us what to do and think:** CFR President Richard Haass stands with Hillary Clinton (then secretary of state) in 2013 at one of her many appearances at the CFR, which, she said, is where she and other officials "go to be told what we should be doing and how we should think."

throughout our political, financial, industrial, educational, cultural, military, and intelligence institutions.

The Council began to take shape during World War I. Following that conflagration, the organized globalists attempted to foist the League of Nations on a war-weary world, as their "first try at World Order." When the U.S. Senate balked at ceding sovereignty to the League and refused to ratify the League treaty, the globalists set about the long-term project of creating the necessary organizational infrastructure that could gradually usurp control over America's political levers of power and provide the propaganda needed to overcome Americans' "obsession" with freedom and independence. Formally founded in 1921 with the financial backing of Wall Street titans and globalist ideologues, the CFR worked in the background and remained largely invisible to the general public until the 1970s. Although some of the most famous American fortunes bankrolled the Council (J.P. Morgan, Carnegie,

Rockefeller, Ford), the CFR was practically unknown outside of banking and political circles, even as its journal, *Foreign Affairs*, became the bible for government policy and its members assumed more and more control over our critical institutions. As the charts accompanying this article amply demonstrate, CFR members have disproportionately laid claim not only to our White House Oval Office, but also to our National Security Council, our Departments of State, Treasury, and Defense — and most other top Cabinet posts.

John J. McCloy, a friend and advisor to nine U.S. presidents and known as "the chairman of the Establishment," served as chairman of the CFR from 1953 to 1970. In an interview with the *New York Times*, he recalled the method by which he populated government ranks with CFR members. "Whenever we needed a man we



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thumbed through the roll of the Council members and put through a call to New York," McCloy said.

More recently, Hillary Clinton has paid homage to the CFR's influence. As President Obama's secretary of state, she was a featured speaker at the opening of the CFR's new Washington, D.C., headquarters in 2009. "I have been often to ... the mother ship in New York City, but it is good to have an outpost of the Council right here down the street from the State Department," she said. "We get a lot of advice from the Council," Clinton continued, "so this will mean I won't have as far to go to be told what we should be doing and how we should think about the future." Yes, the Council is much more than a mere "think tank," as it is usually described; it has been picking our public officials and telling them what to think and what to do for quite some time now.

But, gradually, Americans have been getting wise to the CFR's subversive, anti-American agenda. Books such as *Tragedy and Hope* by Georgetown historian Carroll Quigley, *The Invisible Government* by for-

mer FBI agent and constitutional scholar Dan Smoot, *None Dare Call It Conspiracy* by popular author Gary Allen, *The Insiders* by John F. McManus, *Kissinger on the Couch* by Phyllis Schlafly and Admiral Chester Ward, *The Shadows of Power* by James Perloff, and *In the Shadows of the Deep State* by Arthur R. Thompson have lifted the lid on the Council's activities, revealing its unstinting support for communist regimes abroad, as well as support for Big Government programs at home. In addition, the CFR has distinguished itself by dependably training all its big guns to attack and smear anti-communists, particularly Senator Joseph McCarthy, other members of the House and Senate who were investigating communist activities, and patriotic organizations such as The John Birch Society. These individuals and groups were being relentlessly smeared as "racists," "fascists," and "Nazis" long before Donald Trump was subjected to the same vicious label-lynching.

The election of President Trump and his announced intention to reverse the suicidal course on which the globalists had set

our nation has caused the CFR to mobilize all of its immense resources to derail him. Thus, its Fake News media armada (*New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Huffington Post*, *Time*, CNN, CBS, PBS, etc.) and its Big Tech social-media controllers (Google, YouTube, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, etc.) have kept up a nonstop hate fest against Trump, while the CFR's Deep State bureaucrats throughout the federal agencies sabotage the Trump agenda, and the huge CFR-aligned corporations and tax-exempt foundations lavish billions of dollars on left-wing AstroTurf organizations to give the appearance of popular support for the fanatical "protesters."

Freedom has never been in greater peril. The CFR revolution for world control is moving into its endgame phase, but the globalists do not have all of the aces they need. In fact, in their current haste and heavy-handedness they are stirring a sleeping colossus. If enough liberty-minded patriots throw all of their efforts, prayers, and resources into the battle now to awaken, educate, and activate their fellow citizens, we can yet save freedom. ■

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# SHADOWS ACROSS THE LAND

Current CFR dominance over government, media, think tanks, foundations, public health, and industry

## CFR MEMBERS IN EACH BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT

### EXECUTIVE

#### National Security Council

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Deputy National Security Advisor Matthew  
Pottinger  
United States Trade Representative Robert E.  
Lighthizer  
Deputy Assistant to the President, Senior  
Director for African Affairs Elizabeth E. Walsh

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Member John R. Allen  
Member Thad W. Allen  
Member Norman R. Augustine  
Member Jane Harman  
Member James R. Jones  
Member Carrie A. Lemack  
Member Jeff Moss

#### Office of the United States Trade Representative

United States Trade Representative Robert E.  
Lighthizer

#### State Department

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Under Secretary of State for Economic  
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Assistant Secretary of State for:  
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Christopher A. Ford  
• Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization  
Operations Denise Natali  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Levant  
Affairs and Special Envoy for Syria Joel D.  
Rayburn  
U.S. Special Representative for Syria  
Engagement and Special Envoy to the Global  
Coalition to Defeat ISIS James F. Jeffrey  
U.S. Special Representative for Venezuela  
Elliott Abrams

*“The whole world has gone insane and the lunatics are in charge of the asylum. At least it looks that way to any rational person surveying the escalating revolutions that have engulfed the planet in the year 2020. The revolutions to which we refer are the COVID-19 revolution and the Black Lives Matter revolution, which, combined, are wreaking unprecedented havoc and destruction — political, social, economic, moral, and spiritual — worldwide....*

*The premier organization leading this globalist effort is the ... Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). It is the “brain trust” and public face of the shadowy Deep State internationalists.... The CFR has acquired unparalleled power and influence not only in our government, but also in virtually all of our society’s principal institutions....*

*Freedom has never been in greater peril. The CFR revolution for world control is moving into its end-game phase, but the globalists do not have all of the aces they need. If enough liberty-minded patriots throw all of their efforts, prayers, and resources into the battle now to awaken, educate, and activate their fellow citizens, we can yet save freedom.”*

— From the “Directing the Disorder” cover story by William F. Jasper on pages 10-16 of this issue

Bill Jasper has exposed the CFR’s powerful influence behind this year’s COVID-19 and Black Lives Matter revolutions in this issue’s cover story. (See excerpts above.) Now we invite you to examine the following lists and charts and verify for yourself the rising influence and dominance of the New York-based, 5,100-member Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) in government, the military, media, think tanks, consulting firms, nongovernmental organizations, and healthcare.

If we are to restore and secure our God-given rights, and once again live the American Dream, we must widely expose the CFR’s freedom-destroying domination of our nation’s leading governmental and cultural institutions!

**Note:** On the CFR chart for the various presidential administrations from Hoover to Trump (see pages 23-27), we marked people as CFR members if they ever were a member. For example, Herbert Hoover did not join the CFR until after his presidency; nevertheless, because of his later membership, we have chosen to mark him as a member.

U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan  
Reconciliation Zalmay Khalilzad

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Congo — Michael A. Hammer  
India — Kenneth I. Juster  
Kuwait — Alina L. Romanowski  
Madagascar — Michael P. Pelletier  
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Central, Rear Admiral H. Wyman Howard III  
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Commander, Amphibious Force, U.S. Seventh  
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Brian M. Killough  
Commander of Second Air Force, Keesler Air

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# CFR MEMBERS IN EACH BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT (CONTINUED)

continued from page 18

Force Base, Biloxi, Mississippi, Maj. Gen. Andrea D. Tullos  
Senior China Analyst at the Pentagon and Political-Military Affairs Strategist at Pacific Air Force (PACAF), Captain Oriana Skylar Mastro

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Assistant Professor of International Affairs at the United States Military Academy, West Point and Officer in Charge of the West Point Model United Nations team, Major Kerney Scott Perlik

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Rep. Tulsi Gabbard (D-Hawaii)  
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Rep. Seth Moulton (D-Mass.)  
Rep. Stephanie Murphy (D-Fla.)  
Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.)  
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Oak Hill Capital Partners  
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# RISING CFR INFLUENCE: From 1929 to Present

The historic dominance of the Council on Foreign Relations over the government of the United States. CFR members in the last 15 presidential administrations are indicated below by bold italicized type.

	1929-1933	1933-1945	1945-1953	1953-1961	1961-1963	1963-1969	1969-1977	1977-1981	1981-1989	1989-1993	1993-2001	2001-2009	2009-2017	2017-Present
<b>President</b>	<b>Herbert Hoover</b>	Franklin D. Roosevelt	Harry S. Truman	<b>Dwight D. Eisenhower</b>	<b>John F. Kennedy</b>	Lyndon B. Johnson	<b>Richard M. Nixon ('69-'74)</b> <b>Gerald R. Ford ('74-'77)</b>	<b>James E. Carter</b>	Ronald W. Reagan	<b>George H. W. Bush</b>	<b>William J. Clinton</b>	George W. Bush	Barack H. Obama	Donald J. Trump
<b>Vice President</b>	Charles Curtis	John Nance Garner Henry Wallace Harry S. Truman	Alben W. Barkley	<b>Richard M. Nixon</b>	Lyndon B. Johnson	<b>Hubert H. Humphrey</b>	Spiro T. Agnew <b>Gerald R. Ford</b> <b>Nelson Rockefeller</b>	<b>Walter F. Mondale</b>	<b>George H. W. Bush</b>	Dan Quayle	Albert Gore Jr.	<b>Richard B. Cheney</b>	Joseph R. Biden Jr.	Michael R. Pence
<b>CIA Director</b>	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	Sidney W. Souers Hoyt S. Vandenberg Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter <b>Gen. Walter Bedell Smith</b>	<b>Gen. Walter Bedell Smith</b> <b>Allen W. Dulles</b>	<b>Allen W. Dulles</b> <b>John A. McCone</b>	<b>John A. McCone</b> Adm. William F. Raborn Jr. <b>Richard M. Helms</b>	<b>Richard M. Helms</b> <b>James R. Schlesinger</b> <b>William E. Colby</b> <b>George H. W. Bush</b>	<b>Adm. Stansfield Turner</b>	<b>William J. Casey</b> <b>William H. Webster</b>	<b>William H. Webster</b> <b>Robert M. Gates</b>	<b>R. James Woolsey</b> <b>John M. Deutch</b> <b>George J. Tenet</b>	<b>George J. Tenet</b> Porter J. Goss <b>Gen. Michael V. Hayden</b>	<b>Gen. Michael V. Hayden</b> Leon E. Panetta <b>Gen. David H. Petraeus</b> John Brennan	John Brennan Mike Pompeo Gina Haspel
<b>National Security Advisor</b>	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	Robert Cutler <b>Dillon Anderson</b> <b>William H. Jackson</b> <b>Gordon Gray</b>	<b>McGeorge Bundy</b>	<b>McGeorge Bundy</b> <b>Walt W. Rostow</b>	<b>Henry Kissinger</b> <b>Brent Scowcroft</b>	<b>Zbigniew Brzezinski</b>	Richard V. Allen William P. Clark <b>Robert C. McFarlane</b> John M. Poindexter <b>Frank C. Carlucci III</b> <b>Gen. Colin L. Powell</b>	<b>Brent Scowcroft</b>	<b>W. Anthony Lake</b> <b>Samuel R. Berger</b>	<b>Condoleezza Rice</b> <b>Stephen J. Hadley</b>	Gen. James L. Jones <b>Thomas E. Donilon</b> <b>Susan E. Rice</b>	Gen. Michael T. Flynn <b>Gen. Herbert R. McMaster</b> <b>John R. Bolton</b> Robert C. O'Brien Jr.
<b>National Economic Advisor</b>	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	<b>Edwin G. Nourse</b> Leon H. Keyserling	<b>Arthur F. Burns</b> Raymond J. Saulnier	Walter W. Heller	Walter W. Heller Gardner Ackley <b>Arthur M. Okun</b>	<b>Paul W. McCracken</b> Herbert Stein <b>Alan Greenspan</b>	<b>Charles L. Schultze</b>	<b>Murray L. Weidenbaum</b> <b>Martin Feldstein</b> Beryle W. Sprinkel	Michael J. Boskin	<b>Laura D'Andrea Tyson</b> <b>Joseph E. Stiglitz</b> <b>Janet L. Yellen</b> Martin N. Baily	<b>R. Glenn Hubbard</b> N. Gregory Mankiw Harvey S. Rosen Ben S. Bernanke Edward P. Lazear	Christina D. Romer Austan D. Goolsbee Alan B. Krueger <b>Jason Furman</b>	Kevin A. Hassett
<b>Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare/ Secretary of Health and Human Services</b>	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	Ovetta Culp Hobby <b>Marion B. Folsom</b> Arthur S. Flemming	<b>Abraham A. Ribicoff</b> Anthony J. Celebrezze	Anthony J. Celebrezze <b>John W. Gardner</b> Wilbur J. Cohen	Robert H. Finch <b>Elliot L. Richardson</b> <b>Caspar W. Weinberger</b> F. David Matthews	<b>Joseph A. Califano Jr.</b> <b>Patricia Roberts Harris</b>	Richard S. Schweiker Margaret M. Heckler Otis R. Bowen	Louis W. Sullivan	<b>Donna E. Shalala</b>	<b>Tommy G. Thompson</b> Michael O. Leavitt	Kathleen Sebelius <b>Sylvia M. Burwell</b>	Thomas E. Price Alex Azar
<b>Secretary of the Treasury</b>	<b>Andrew W. Mellon</b> <b>Ogden L. Mills</b>	<b>William H. Woodin</b> <b>Henry Morgenthau Jr.</b>	<b>Henry Morgenthau Jr.</b> Fred M. Vinson John W. Snyder	George M. Humphrey <b>Robert B. Anderson</b>	<b>C. Douglas Dillon</b>	<b>C. Douglas Dillon</b> <b>Henry H. Fowler</b> Joseph W. Barr	<b>David M. Kennedy</b> John B. Connally <b>George P. Schultz</b> <b>William E. Simon</b>	<b>W. Michael Blumenthal</b> <b>G. William Miller</b>	<b>Donald T. Regan</b> James A. Baker III <b>Nicholas F. Brady</b>	<b>Nicholas F. Brady</b>	<b>Lloyd Bentsen</b> <b>Robert E. Rubin</b> <b>Lawrence H. Summers</b>	Paul H. O'Neill John W. Snow <b>Henry M. Paulson Jr.</b>	<b>Timothy F. Geithner</b> <b>Jacob J. Lew</b>	Steven T. Mnuchin
<b>Federal Reserve Board Chairman</b>	Roy A. Young <b>Eugene Meyer</b>	<b>Eugene Meyer</b> <b>Eugene R. Black</b> Marriner S. Eccles	Marriner S. Eccles <b>Thomas B. McCabe</b> <b>William McChesney Martin Jr.</b>	<b>William McChesney Martin Jr.</b>	<b>William McChesney Martin Jr.</b>	<b>William McChesney Martin Jr.</b>	<b>William McChesney Martin Jr.</b> <b>Arthur F. Burns</b>	<b>Arthur F. Burns</b> <b>G. William Miller</b> <b>Paul Volcker</b>	<b>Paul Volcker</b> <b>Alan Greenspan</b>	<b>Alan Greenspan</b>	<b>Alan Greenspan</b>	<b>Alan Greenspan</b> Ben S. Bernanke	<b>Janet L. Yellen</b>	<b>Janet L. Yellen</b> <b>Jerome H. Powell</b>
<b>Secretary of Commerce and Labor/Secretary of Commerce</b>	Robert P. Lamont Roy D. Chapin	Daniel C. Roper Harry L. Hopkins Jesse H. Jones Henry A. Wallace	Henry A. Wallace <b>W. Averell Harriman</b> Charles W. Sawyer	Sinclair Weeks Frederick H. Mueller	Luther H. Hodges	Luther H. Hodges <b>John T. Connor</b> <b>Alexander B. Trowbridge III</b> C. R. Smith	Maurice H. Stans <b>Peter G. Peterson</b> Frederick B. Dent Rogers C. B. Morton <b>Elliot L. Richardson</b>	<b>Juanita M. Kreps</b> Philip M. Klutznick	<b>H. Malcolm Baldrige Jr.</b> C. William Verity	C. William Verity <b>Robert A. Mosbacher</b> <b>Barbara H. Franklin</b>	<b>Ronald H. Brown</b> <b>Mickey Kantor</b> <b>William M. Daley</b> Norman Y. Mineta	Donald L. Evans Carlos M. Gutierrez	Gary F. Locke <b>John E. Bryson</b> <b>Penny S. Pritzker</b>	Wilbur L. Ross Jr.
<b>U.S. Trade Representative</b>	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	<b>Christian A. Herter</b>	<b>Christian A. Herter</b> William M. Roth	Carl J. Gilbert <b>William D. Eberle</b> Frederick B. Dent	<b>Alan Wm. Wolff</b> <b>Robert S. Strauss</b> Reubin O'D. Askew	<b>William E. Brock III</b> Clayton K. Yeutter	<b>Carla A. Hills</b>	<b>Michael Kantor</b> <b>Charlene Barshefsky</b>	<b>Robert B. Zoellick</b> Rob Portman <b>Susan C. Schwab</b>	Ronald Kirk <b>Michael B. Froman</b>	<b>Robert E. Lighthizer</b>
<b>Secretary of War/ Secretary of Defense</b>	James W. Good Gen. Patrick J. Hurley	George H. Dern Harry H. Woodring <b>Henry L. Stimson</b>	<b>Henry L. Stimson</b> <b>Robert P. Patterson</b> Kenneth C. Royall <b>James V. Forrestal</b> Louis A. Johnson George C. Marshall <b>Robert A. Lovett</b>	Charles E. Wilson <b>Neil H. McElroy</b> <b>Thomas S. Gates Jr.</b>	<b>Robert S. McNamara</b>	<b>Robert S. McNamara</b> Clark M. Clifford	<b>Melvin R. Laird</b> <b>Elliot L. Richardson</b> <b>James R. Schlesinger</b> <b>Donald H. Rumsfeld</b>	<b>Harold Brown</b>	<b>Caspar W. Weinberger</b> <b>Frank C. Carlucci III</b>	<b>Richard B. Cheney</b>	<b>Leslie Aspin</b> <b>William J. Perry</b> <b>William S. Cohen</b>	<b>Donald H. Rumsfeld</b> <b>Robert M. Gates</b>	<b>Robert M. Gates</b> Leon E. Panetta Chuck Hagel <b>Ashton B. Carter</b>	Gen. James N. Mattis <b>Mark T. Esper</b>
<b>Assistant Secretary of War/Deputy Secretary of Defense</b>	Gen. Patrick J. Hurley <b>Frederick H. Payne</b>	Harry H. Woodring Louis A. Johnson <b>Robert P. Patterson</b> <b>John J. McCloy</b> <b>Howard C. Petersen</b>	Stephen T. Early <b>Robert A. Lovett</b> <b>William C. Foster</b>	Roger M. Kyes <b>Robert B. Anderson</b> Reuben B. Robertson Jr. Donald A. Quarles <b>Thomas S. Gates Jr.</b> James H. Douglas Jr.	<b>Roswell L. Gilpatric</b>	<b>Cyrus R. Vance</b> <b>Paul H. Nitze</b>	David Packard <b>D. Kenneth Rush</b> William P. Clements Jr. <b>Robert F. Ellsworth</b>	<b>Charles W. Duncan Jr.</b> W. Graham Claytor Jr.	<b>Frank C. Carlucci III</b> W. Paul Thayer <b>William H. Taft IV</b>	Donald J. Atwood Jr.	<b>William J. Perry</b> <b>John M. Deutch</b> <b>John P. White</b> <b>John J. Hamre</b> Rudy de Leon	Rudy de Leon <b>Paul D. Wolfowitz</b> Gordon R. England	Gordon R. England William J. Lynn III <b>Ashton B. Carter</b> <b>Robert O. Work</b>	<b>Robert O. Work</b> Patrick M. Shanahan David L. Norquist
<b>Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs</b>	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	John H. Ohly Gen. James H. Burns <b>Frank C. Nash</b>	<b>Frank C. Nash</b> <b>H. Struve Hensel</b> <b>Gordon Gray</b> <b>Mansfield D. Sprague</b> <b>John N. Irwin II</b>	<b>Paul H. Nitze</b>	<b>Paul H. Nitze</b> <b>William P. Bundy</b> <b>John T. McNaughton</b> <b>Paul C. Warnke</b> G. Warren Nuttler	G. Warren Nuttler Robert C. Hill Robert Ellsworth Eugene V. McAuliffe	Eugene V. McAuliffe <b>David E. McGiffert</b>	Francis J. West Jr. Richard L. Armitage	Richard L. Armitage <b>Henry S. Rowen</b> James R. Lilley	Charles W. Freeman <b>Joseph S. Nye Jr.</b> Franklin D. Kramer	<b>Peter W. Rodman</b> <b>Mary Beth Long</b>	<b>Alexander R. Vershbow</b> <b>Derek Chollet</b>	Robert Karem Kathryn L. Wheelbarger
<b>Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman</b>	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	Gen. Omar Bradley	Gen. Omar Bradley Adm. Arthur W. Radford Gen. Nathan F. Twining <b>Gen. Lyman L. Lemnitzer</b>	<b>Gen. Lyman L. Lemnitzer</b> <b>Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor</b>	<b>Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor</b> Gen. Earle G. Wheeler	Gen. Earle G. Wheeler Adm. Thomas H. Moorer Gen. George S. Brown	Gen. George S. Brown <b>Gen. David C. Jones</b>	<b>Gen. David C. Jones</b> <b>Gen. John W. Vessey Jr.</b> <b>Adm. William Crowe Jr.</b>	<b>Gen. Colin Powell</b>	<b>Gen. Colin Powell</b> <b>Gen. John M. D. Shalikashvili</b> Gen. Henry Hugh Shelton	Gen. Henry Hugh Shelton <b>Gen. Richard Bowman Myers</b> Gen. Peter Pace <b>Adm. Michael Glenn Mullen</b>	<b>Adm. Michael Glenn Mullen</b> Gen. Martin Edward Dempsey Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr.	Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr. Gen. Mark A. Milley

# RISING CFR INFLUENCE: From 1929 to Present (continued)

CFR members in the last 15 State Departments are indicated below by bold italicized type.

	1929-1933	1933-1945	1945-1953	1953-1961	1961-1963	1963-1969	1969-1977	1977-1981	1981-1989		1989-1993	1993-2001	2001-2009	2009-2017	2017-Present
<b>Secretary of State</b>	Frank B. Kellogg <b>Henry L. Stimson</b>	Cordell Hull <b>Edward R. Stettinius Jr.</b>	James F. Byrnes George C. Marshall <b>Dean G. Acheson</b>	<b>John Foster Dulles</b> <b>Christian A. Herter</b>	<b>Dean Rusk</b>	<b>Dean Rusk</b>	<b>William P. Rogers</b> <b>Henry A. Kissinger</b>	<b>Cyrus R. Vance</b> <b>Edmund S. Muskie</b>	<b>Gen. Alexander M. Haig Jr.</b> <b>George P. Schultz</b>		<b>James A. Baker III</b> <b>Lawrence S. Eagleburger</b>	<b>Warren Christopher</b> <b>Madeleine J. K. Albright</b>	<b>Colin L. Powell</b> <b>Condoleezza Rice</b>	Hillary R. Clinton <b>John F. Kerry</b>	Rex W. Tillerson Michael R. Pompeo
<b>Under Secretary/Deputy Secretary of State</b>	J. Reuben Clark Jr. <b>Joseph P. Cotton</b> William R. Castle Jr.	<b>William Phillips</b> <b>B. Sumner Welles</b> <b>Edward R. Stettinius Jr.</b> <b>Joseph C. Grew</b>	<b>Dean G. Acheson</b> <b>Robert A. Lovett</b> James E. Webb <b>David K. E. Bruce</b>	<b>Walter B. Smith</b> <b>Herbert Hoover Jr.</b> <b>Christian A. Herter</b> <b>C. Douglas Dillon</b>	<b>Chester B. Bowles</b> <b>George W. Ball</b>	<b>George W. Ball</b> <b>Nicholas deB. Katzenbach</b>	<b>Elliot L. Richardson</b> <b>John N. Irwin II</b> <b>D. Kenneth Rush</b> <b>Robert S. Ingersoll</b> <b>Charles W. Robinson</b>	<b>Warren M. Christopher</b>	<b>William P. Clark Jr.</b> <b>Walter J. Stoessel Jr.</b> <b>Kenneth W. Dam</b> <b>John C. Whitehead</b>		<b>Lawrence S. Eagleburger</b>	<b>Clifton R. Wharton Jr.</b> <b>Strobe Talbott</b>	Richard L. Armitage <b>Robert B. Zoellick</b> <b>John D. Negroponte</b>	<b>John D. Negroponte</b> <b>James B. Steinberg</b> <b>William J. Burns</b> <b>Antony J. Blinken</b>	John J. Sullivan <b>Stephen E. Biegun</b>
<b>Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs</b>	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	<b>Robert D. Murphy</b> <b>Livingston T. Merchant</b>	<b>Livingston T. Merchant</b> <b>George C. McGhee</b> <b>W. Averell Harriman</b>	<b>W. Averell Harriman</b> <b>Eugene V. D. Rostow</b>	U. Alexis Johnson <b>Walter J. Porter</b> <b>Joseph John Sisco</b> <b>Phillip C. Habib</b>	<b>Philip C. Habib</b> <b>David D. Newsom</b>	<b>David D. Newsom</b> <b>Walter J. Stoessel Jr.</b> <b>Lawrence S. Eagleburger</b> <b>Michael H. Armacost</b>		<b>Michael H. Armacost</b> <b>Robert M. Kimmitt</b> <b>Arnold L. Kanter</b>	<b>Peter Tarnoff</b> <b>Thomas R. Pickering</b>	<b>Marc I. Grossman</b> <b>R. Nicholas Burns</b> <b>William J. Burns</b>	<b>William J. Burns</b> <b>Wendy R. Sherman</b>	Thomas A. Shannon Jr. Stephen D. Mull David M. Hale
<b>Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security Affairs</b>	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	Curtis W. Tarr <b>William H. Donaldson</b> <b>Carlyle E. Maw</b>	<b>Lucy Wilson Benson</b> <b>Matthew Nimetz</b>	James L. Buckley <b>William Schneider Jr.</b> Edward J. Derwinski		<b>Reginald Bartholomew</b> <b>Frank G. Wisner</b>	<b>Lynn E. Davis</b> <b>John D. Holum</b>	<b>John D. Holum</b> <b>John R. Bolton</b> Robert G. Joseph John C. Rood	Ellen O'Kane Tauscher <b>Rose E. Gottemoeller</b> Thomas M. Countryman	Thomas M. Countryman <b>C.S. Elliot Kang</b> <b>Christopher A. Ford</b> Andrea L. Thompson <b>Christopher A. Ford</b>
<b>Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs</b>	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	<b>Dean Rusk</b> John D. Hickerson	John D. Hickerson <b>Robert D. Murphy</b> David McK. Key <b>Francis O. Wilcox</b>	<b>Harlan Cleveland</b>	<b>Harlan Cleveland</b> <b>Joseph John Sisco</b>	<b>Joseph John Sisco</b> <b>Samuel De Palma</b> David H. Popper <b>William B. Buffum</b> <b>Samuel W. Lewis</b>	<b>Samuel W. Lewis</b> <b>Charles W. Maynes</b> Richard Lee McCall Jr.	<b>Elliott Abrams</b> Gregory J. Newell Alan L. Keyes <b>Richard S. Williamson</b>		<b>Richard S. Williamson</b> <b>John R. Bolton</b>	<b>Douglas J. Bennet, Jr.</b> <b>Princeton N. Lyman</b> <b>C. David Welch</b>	<b>Kim R. Holmes</b> <b>Kristen Silverberg</b> Brian H. Hook	<b>Esther D. Brimmer</b> <b>Bathsheba N. Crocker</b>	Kevin E. Moley
<b>Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs</b>	DID NOT EXIST	<b>Nelson A. Rockefeller</b>	<b>Nelson A. Rockefeller</b> <b>Spruille Braden</b> Edward G. Miller Jr.	<b>John M. Cabot</b> <b>Henry F. Holland</b> Roy Richard Rubottom Jr. <b>Thomas C. Mann</b>	<b>Thomas C. Mann</b> Robert F. Woodward <b>Edwin M. Martin</b>	<b>Edwin M. Martin</b> <b>Thomas C. Mann</b> Jack Hood Vaughn <b>A. Lincoln Gordon</b> <b>Covey T. Oliver</b>	<b>Charles A. Meyer</b> <b>Jack B. Kubisch</b> <b>William D. Rogers</b> Harry W. Shlaudeman	Harry W. Shlaudeman <b>Terence A. Todman</b> <b>Viron P. Vaky</b> William G. Bowdler	<b>Thomas O. Enders</b> Langhorne A. Motley <b>Elliott Abrams</b>		<b>Bernard W. Aronson</b>	<b>Bernard W. Aronson</b> <b>Alexander F. Watson</b> Jeffrey S. Davidow Peter F. Romero	Peter F. Romero Otto J. Reich Roger F. Noriega Thomas A. Shannon Jr.	<b>Thomas A. Shannon Jr.</b> <b>Arturo A. Valenzuela</b> <b>Roberta S. Jacobson</b>	Kimberly Breier
<b>Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs</b>	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	George W. Perkins Jr.	<b>Livingston T. Merchant</b> James W. Riddleberger C. Burke Elbrick <b>Livingston T. Merchant</b> <b>Livingston T. Merchant</b> <b>Foy D. Kohler</b>	<b>Foy D. Kohler</b> <b>William R. Tyler</b>	<b>William R. Tyler</b> <b>John M. Leddy</b>	<b>John M. Leddy</b> <b>Martin J. Hillenbrand</b> <b>Walter J. Stoessel Jr.</b> <b>Arthur A. Hartman</b>	<b>Arthur A. Hartman</b> <b>George S. Vest</b>	<b>George S. Vest</b> <b>Lawrence S. Eagleburger</b> <b>Richard R. Burt</b> <b>Rozanne L. Ridgway</b>		<b>Rozanne L. Ridgway</b> Raymond G. H. Seitz Thomas M.T. Niles	Thomas M.T. Niles <b>Stephen A. Oxman</b> <b>Richard C. A. Holbrooke</b> <b>John C. Kornblum</b> <b>Marc I. Grossman</b> <b>James F. Dobbins Jr.</b>	<b>James F. Dobbins Jr.</b> A. Elizabeth Jones Daniel Fried	<b>Philip H. Gordon</b> Victoria J. Nuland	A. Wess Mitchell
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<b>UN Ambassador</b>	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	<b>Edward R. Stettinius Jr.</b> Warren R. Austin	<b>Henry Cabot Lodge Jr.</b> <b>James J. Wadsworth</b>	<b>Adlai E. Stevenson II</b>	<b>Adlai E. Stevenson II</b> <b>Arthur J. Goldberg</b> <b>George W. Ball</b> James Russell Wiggins	<b>Charles W. Yost</b> <b>George H. W. Bush</b> <b>John A. Scali</b> <b>Daniel Patrick Moynihan</b> <b>William W. Scranton</b>	<b>Andrew J. Young Jr.</b> <b>Donald F. McHenry</b>	<b>Jeane D. Kirkpatrick</b> Vernon A. Walters		<b>Thomas R. Pickering</b> <b>Edward J. Perkins</b>	<b>Edward J. Perkins</b> <b>Madeleine J. K. Albright</b> <b>William B. Richardson III</b> <b>Richard C. A. Holbrooke</b>	<b>John D. Negroponte</b> John C. Danforth <b>John R. Bolton</b> <b>Zalmay M. Khalilzad</b>	<b>Zalmay M. Khalilzad</b> <b>Susan E. Rice</b> Samantha J. Power	Nikki Haley Kelly D. K. Craft
<b>Ambassador to NATO</b>	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	<b>William H. Draper Jr.</b>	<b>William H. Draper Jr.</b> <b>John C. Hughes</b> <b>George W. Perkins Jr.</b> <b>W. Randolph Burgess</b>	<b>W. Randolph Burgess</b> <b>Thomas K. Finletter</b>	<b>Thomas K. Finletter</b> <b>Harlan Cleveland</b>	<b>Harlan Cleveland</b> <b>Robert F. Ellsworth</b> <b>David M. Kennedy</b> <b>Donald H. Rumsfeld</b> <b>David K. E. Bruce</b> <b>Robert Strausz-Hupé</b>	<b>Robert Strausz-Hupé</b> <b>W. Tapley Bennett Jr.</b>	<b>W. Tapley Bennett Jr.</b> <b>David M. Abshire</b> <b>Alton G. Keel Jr.</b>		<b>Alton G. Keel Jr.</b> <b>William H. Taft IV</b> <b>Reginald Bartholomew</b>	<b>Reginald Bartholomew</b> <b>Robert E. Hunter</b> <b>Alexander R. Vershbow</b>	<b>Alexander R. Vershbow</b> <b>R. Nicholas Burns</b> Victoria J. Nuland Kurt D. Volker	Kurt D. Volker <b>Ivo H. Daalder</b> <b>Douglas E. Lute</b>	Kay Bailey Hutchison
<b>Ambassador to the European Union</b>	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	<b>W. Walton Butterworth</b> <b>John W. Tuthill</b>	<b>John W. Tuthill</b> <b>J. Robert Schaezel</b>	<b>J. Robert Schaezel</b> <b>Joseph A. Greenwald</b> <b>Deane R. Hinton</b>	<b>Deane R. Hinton</b> <b>Thomas O. Enders</b>	<b>Thomas O. Enders</b> George S. Vest J. William Middendorf Alfred H. Kingon		Alfred H. Kingon Thomas M. Niles James F. Dobbins Jr.	James F. Dobbins Jr. <b>Stuart E. Eizenstat</b> A. Vernon Weaver <b>Richard L. Morningstar</b>	<b>Richard L. Morningstar</b> <b>Rockwell A. Schnabel</b> <b>C. Boyden Gray</b> <b>Kristen Silverberg</b>	William E. Kennard <b>Anthony L. Gardner</b>	Gordon Sondland
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<b>Chief U.S. Liaison/ Ambassador to the People's Republic of China (Communist China)</b>	DID NOT EXIST	DID NOT EXIST	NO DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS	NO DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS	NO DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS	NO DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS	<b>David K. E. Bruce</b> <b>George H. W. Bush</b> <b>Thomas S. Gates Jr.</b>	<b>Thomas S. Gates Jr.</b> Leonard F. Woodcock	Leonard F. Woodcock Arthur W. Hummel Jr. <b>Winston Lord</b>		<b>Winston Lord</b> <b>James R. Lilley</b> <b>J. Stapleton Roy</b>	<b>J. Stapleton Roy</b> <b>James R. Sasser</b> <b>Joseph W. Prueher</b>	<b>Joseph W. Prueher</b> <b>Clark T. Randt Jr.</b>	<b>Jon M. Huntsman Jr.</b> Gary Locke Max Baucus	Terry E. Branstad

# INVESTIGATING

## Democrats' Insurance Claims

Democrats claim Trump caused Americans to lose healthcare during COVID layoffs. While he discouraged ObamaCare sign-ups, he also made inexpensive insurance more available.

by Michael Tennant

**G**ary Easley worked as a chef at the Four Points by Sheraton in Charleston, West Virginia, for 25 years. On St. Patrick's Day, he was laid off, a victim of falling revenues. Coronavirus fears had led people to stay home. Others lost their jobs or were unable to travel because of state shelter-in-place orders. Fewer and fewer were visiting the hotel's restaurant.

Along with his paycheck, Easley's health insurance disappeared practically overnight. It was particularly frightening for him because he suffers from a variety of chronic conditions for which he takes nine different prescriptions, which, absent insurance, would cost him about \$2,700 a month, he told the *Washington Post*.

Fortunately, Easley was able to get help from a free clinic. But his story has been replicated all across the country as joblessness has reached levels not seen since the Great Depression. Unlike the 1930s, however, most Americans now get their health insurance through their employers. When jobs go, so does health

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



**Newly uncovered:** Millions of Americans lost their health insurance along with their jobs because of coronavirus lockdowns.

coverage — an unfortunate thing to happen anytime, but especially in the midst of the high unemployment caused by governments' response to COVID-19.

The Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) estimated that as early as May 2, nearly 27 million Americans would have lost their health insurance because of job loss. That number would probably have been higher but for the fact that, according to the *Post*, “the kinds of work disappearing the most — restaurant jobs and others in the service industry — have always been less likely to offer health benefits.”

Still, of those who do lose their health coverage along with their jobs, KFF believes 79 percent are eligible for government-subsidized insurance through such programs as ObamaCare, Medicaid, and the Children's Health Insurance Program. Another five percent should be able to obtain coverage through their spouse's or parent's employer-sponsored plan.

### Democrats Dump on Trump

What, then, of the remaining 4.3 million newly uninsured, not to mention the 27.5 million who, despite ObamaCare, still didn't have coverage prior to the coronavirus panic?

Democrats have a ready answer: It's President Donald Trump's fault.

The Center for American Progress (CAP), a left-wing Washington, D.C., think tank, published a lengthy article with the thesis “President Trump's relentless attacks on the Affordable Care Act [ACA] have depressed enrollment in the health insurance marketplace.”

“Fewer people with marketplace coverage,” CAP continues, “not only means fewer people with health coverage but also fewer people with financial security, timely access to care, and peace of mind — which are all the more important during the COVID-19 pandemic.”

CAP lists several ways in which

Trump has allegedly contributed to lower ACA enrollment.

First, “While the enrollment period for 2017 coverage was still open when President Barack Obama’s term ended, the Trump administration took actions to undermine the ACA within days of taking office, including canceling television ads for the marketplace outreach campaign. By one estimate, Trump’s actions resulted in 500,000 fewer people enrolling in coverage for 2017.”

Next, Trump “slash[ed] the outreach and enrollment assistance budget for the HealthCare.gov portal by 90 percent,” “halved the duration of the [annual] open enrollment period,” “zeroed out the individual mandate penalty,” and “loosen[ed] regulation of short-term junk plans.”

Finally, Trump chose “to stop [the Obama administration practice of] reimbursing insurance companies for their expenses related to complying with the ACA’s financial assistance to low-income enrollees” because Congress had not appropriated the reimbursement funds. Insurance companies attempted to make up for the lost revenue by hiking premiums on their benchmark “silver” plans, which made them unaffordable for many people who were not eligible for subsidies.

CAP “estimates that at least 1.26 million more people would be enrolled in marketplace coverage today if not for the Trump administration’s attacks on the ACA, and total enrollment would have at least held steady near its 2016 level instead of falling.”

### ObamaCare Not as Advertised

Trump, of course, has correctly maintained all along that ObamaCare is bad law, and even now he continues to vocally back its being struck down by the Supreme Court. His decisions to weaken the law and to spend fewer taxpayer dollars on it, therefore, are in keeping with both his public pronouncements and his oath to uphold the Constitution.

CAP is probably correct that cutting outreach budgets and shortening the open enrollment period tend to depress enrollment. However, one must ask why, if ObamaCare is such a wonderful program, people need to be constantly reminded to participate in it. Shouldn’t they be rushing to enroll and encouraging all their friends

and family to do likewise? Or is it just possible that, as KFF points out, there are still “challenges in navigating the application and enrollment process,” and some people “may find marketplace coverage ... unaffordable even with subsidies”? In fact, Congress’ recent boost to unemployment benefits may raise some out-of-work folks’ incomes enough that they don’t qualify for much in the way of subsidies, putting ObamaCare coverage completely beyond their grasp.

While the repeal of the individual mandate probably induced some people to drop coverage, the total reduction in ACA enrollment has been small (about three percent since 2018). Although many observers expected healthy people to forgo expensive ACA coverage that they could always buy later if they needed it, the ratio of healthy to sick people with exchange coverage seems not to have changed

much. If anything, it has tilted more in the direction of the healthy. Another KFF study found that “the average number of days individual market enrollees spent in a hospital in 2019 was slightly lower than inpatient days in the previous four years,” suggesting that “the individual market has not become significantly less healthy” as a result of the individual-mandate repeal.

### The President’s Trump Card

Trump’s changes to short-term insurance regulations, which extended such policies’ maximum terms, may turn out to be his biggest contribution to insuring people during the coronavirus panic. CAP, with its unlimited faith in government, derides these policies as “junk plans” because they are the closest thing to free-market insurance available under the ACA.

Former Trump advisor Brian Blase wrote in a Forbes.com piece:



**Schlock exchange:** Six years after the ObamaCare exchanges opened, people are still struggling to navigate them and to pay for their “affordable” care, says the Kaiser Family Foundation.

In fact, Congress’ recent boost to unemployment benefits may raise some out-of-work folks’ incomes enough that they don’t qualify for much in the way of subsidies, putting ObamaCare coverage completely beyond their grasp.

Short-term plans are affordable and flexible since they are not subject to Affordable Care Act requirements. They provide value for a lot of people who expect a short coverage gap — maybe a few months — because of job loss. COBRA [the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985] allows many people to remain on their employer plan for up to 18 months [after losing their jobs]. But because workers typically bear its entire cost, averaging more than \$7,000 a year for individuals and \$20,000 for families, most cannot afford it.

According to an analysis by Chris Pope of the Manhattan Institute, short-term plans often provide better value than ACA plans. For equivalent insurance protection, short-term plan premiums are much lower — in some cases about half the cost. Moreover, short-term plans generally cover far more providers.

The Obama administration, disdainful of the market and desirous of stamping out ObamaCare's competition, reduced the term for which short-term insurance poli-

cies could last, from 364 days to just three months. The Trump administration restored the 364-day limit and allowed renewals for up to three years. Thus, declared Blase, "The President can largely take credit for the availability of this coverage."

Consumers have certainly been taking advantage of the availability of short-term insurance in recent months. "One company that offers short-term plans, Pivot Health, saw a 165% increase in enrollment between February and March of this year," noted Blase. "According to its survey, nearly 90% of new members were previously uninsured."

Americans who do want short-term coverage had better buy it before they need it. While most plans cover coronavirus testing and treatment, because they are genuine insurance (unlike ObamaCare), they won't cover preexisting conditions any more than homeowner's insurance bought the day *after* your house burns down will pay to rebuild it.

### Enrollment Exchange

Besides Trump's real or imagined attacks on ObamaCare, Democrats are also chiding him for refusing to create a special

enrollment period for those who have recently lost their jobs. On April 7, 28 Senate Democrats sent a letter to Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar saying that since Congress had provided Azar with the authority to reopen ACA enrollment because of "extenuating circumstances," "it is inexcusable for you not to exercise that authority during perhaps the largest extenuating circumstance of our lifetimes, and to choose to lock out millions of Americans from the ACA exchanges because they failed to predict a sweeping global pandemic."

Yet the decision as to whether to reopen enrollment didn't have to fall on Azar. "Congress," *Vanity Fair* observed, "declined to include the enrollment period in their recent stimulus package, throwing the matter into the Trump administration's hands" — and giving Democrats a convenient scapegoat for their own oversight.

Regardless, as Azar explained in an April 3 press conference, a special enrollment period isn't really needed. The loss of employer-sponsored insurance automatically entitles a person to enroll in ObamaCare. "The special enrollment period," penned *Vanity Fair*, "would have enabled Americans who have lost their jobs to obtain new health insurance more easily and with less paperwork at an urgent time, however, as well as give those who have already been uninsured another chance to purchase insurance as the pandemic ramps up." But letting the previously uninsured enroll now, especially if they have contracted COVID-19, runs counter to the logic, such as it is, of ObamaCare: Since insurers are forced to cover preexisting conditions, people must in turn be forced to buy insurance at set times rather than waiting until they are sick so insurers aren't stuck with expensive claims backed by meager premiums.

Perhaps if ObamaCare hadn't been such a mess from the beginning, Americans wouldn't be stuck with this one-size-fits-all approach. The 11 states plus the District of Columbia that have their own exchanges have chosen to open special enrollment periods. The ACA's disastrous rollout, though, caused the remaining states to default to the federal exchange, leaving decisions regarding enrollment periods and other significant



AP Images

**Affordable Care Act:** Trump's extension of short-term insurance terms has enabled many Americans to obtain inexpensive health coverage just when they may need it most.

matters centralized in Washington, where they are subject to presidents' whims. For that, Democrats have only themselves to blame.

### Negative Stimulus

None of this is to say that Trump is entirely blameless when it comes to health-care in the age of COVID-19. Some of his actions have, in fact, made matters worse.

In early April, Trump announced that his administration would use \$100 billion Congress appropriated in the coronavirus "stimulus" law to reimburse hospitals for treating uninsured COVID-19 patients, an approach that *Politico* described as "essentially a narrow single-payer system." Critics argue that while this may help certain hospitals and patients, making it easier for people to sign up for ObamaCare might ultimately have been less expensive because it would have enabled them to obtain free or inexpensive testing and treatment for the virus in its early stages, possibly obviating the need for hospitalization. In addition, many of the hospitals that most need the money

have seen few coronavirus patients. Ordered by state and local authorities to abandon their "nonessential"-but-lucrative other services, many have been forced to lay off staff.

By signing the stimulus law, Trump also boosted Medicaid payments to states by as much as \$50 billion and forced insurers to cover COVID-19 testing and treatment. The administration expanded Medicare to cover telemedicine and expedited Medicare payments to providers, too.

"President Trump is probably now overseeing one of the biggest expansions in government health spending in one year ever," Larry Levitt, KFF executive vice president for health policy, told *Politico*.

Furthermore, whatever damage Trump has done to ObamaCare enrollment — and it appears to be slight — may be undone by both the coronavirus and one of his own policies.

According to *Politico*, the mounting job losses caused by governments' ham-handed responses to the virus are actually driving insurers back to the ACA exchanges that many of them had abandoned. "The insur-

ers are portraying Obamacare as a safe harbor as economic fallout from the pandemic threatens job-based health plans that drive their biggest profits," says the website.

On top of that, Trump's decision to let employers use tax-free health reimbursement arrangements to buy ObamaCare plans for their employees may spur further enrollment. "Though businesses didn't rush to embrace the idea at first," wrote *Politico*, "they're now openly discussing it — while insurers see it as a way to get a big influx of customers."

In sum, Democrats' charges that Trump is directly responsible for people's inability to get health insurance during the pandemic are mostly baseless political posturing. The president can, however, be faulted for failing to convince Congress to repeal ObamaCare in full, perhaps by offering a replacement that would have rolled back other federal programs and mandates that put care and coverage out of reach of so many, and for signing massive deficit spending into law. But don't expect to hear any of that from the party of Nancy Pelosi and Chuck Schumer. ■



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# RETHINKING DISCRIMINATION

The Supreme Court has ruled that more types of actions represent illegal discrimination, but laws about discrimination are both haphazardly applied and nonsensical.



**Bending the law:** In a 6-3 decision on three cases regarding employment discrimination, the Supreme Court ruled that the prohibition in the Civil Rights Act against discrimination on the basis of sex should be expanded to include sexual orientation and gender identity.

by *Laurence M. Vance*

Does discrimination on the basis of sex include discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity? For several years now, federal agencies and courts have been split on the issue. Last year, the Supreme Court agreed to hear three cases to settle the matter. And now the court has finally ruled: Discrimination on the basis of sex includes sexual orientation and gender identity.

There is much misunderstanding about discrimination — even among conserva-

*Laurence M. Vance is an associated scholar of the Mises Institute.*

tives and libertarians. But first, to understand the court's decision, we must go back to 1964.

## The Civil Rights Act

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on July 2, 1964. It claimed to be:

An act to enforce the constitutional right to vote, to confer jurisdiction upon the district courts of the United States of America to provide injunctive relief against discrimination in public accommodations, to authorize the Attorney General to institute suits to protect constitutional rights in public facilities and public educa-

tion, to extend the Commission on Civil Rights, to prevent discrimination in federally assisted programs, to establish a Commission on Equal Employment Opportunity, and for other purposes.

The Civil Rights Act was divided into 11 titles. Relevant to the subject of discrimination are Titles II (Injunctive relief against discrimination in places of public accommodation) and VII (Equal employment opportunity).

Title II prohibits discrimination in public accommodations. According to section 201:

(a) All persons shall be entitled to the full and equal enjoyment of the



goods, services, facilities, and privileges, advantages, and accommodations of any place of public accommodation, as defined in this section, without discrimination or segregation on the ground of race, color, religion, or national origin.

A “public accommodation” under the law could be an “inn, hotel, motel, or other establishment which provides lodging to transient guests” or “any restaurant, cafeteria, lunchroom, lunch counter, soda fountain, or other facility principally engaged in selling food for consumption on the premises,” including “any motion picture house, theater, concert hall, sports arena, stadium or other place of exhibition or entertainment.”

However, generally, “The provisions of this title shall not apply to a private club or other establishment not in fact open to the public.”

Title VII prohibits discrimination in employment. According to section 703:

(a) It shall be an unlawful employment practice for an employer —

(1) to fail or refuse to hire or to discharge any individual, or otherwise to discriminate against any individual with respect to his compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment, because of such individual’s race, color, religion, sex, or national origin; or

(2) to limit, segregate, or classify his employees in any way which would deprive or tend to deprive any individual of employment opportunities or otherwise adversely affect his status as an employee, because of such individual’s race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

(b) It shall be an unlawful employment practice for an employment agency to fail or refuse to refer for employment, or otherwise to discriminate against, any individual because of his race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, or to classify or refer for employment any individual on the basis of his race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

Title VII also established the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

Why is it that consumers can discriminate against merchants for whatever reason they want — no matter how irrational, illogical, or unreasonable — and on any basis they want — no matter how racist, sexist, or homophobic — but not the other way around?



Wikipedia/O.J.Rapp

**Breaking the law through making law:** The Civil Rights Act of 1964, signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson on July 2, greatly infringed property rights, free enterprise, freedom of assembly, freedom of association, and freedom of contract.

(EEOC) to enforce anti-discrimination laws relating to employment.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 has been supplemented over the years by various laws designed to prohibit even more forms of discrimination in employment. According to the EEOC, the Equal Pay Act of 1963 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in compensation for substantially similar work under similar conditions; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 “protects applicants and employees 40 years of age or older from discrimination based on age in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment”; the Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978 made it illegal to discrimi-

nate against a woman because of pregnancy, childbirth, or a medical condition related to these things; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 protects “qualified individuals from discrimination on the basis of disability in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment”; and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 “protects applicants and employees from discrimination based on genetic information in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment.” These laws also “prohibit covered entities from retaliating against a person who files a charge of discrimination, participates in a discrimina-



**The legislature said no:** Although Congress failed to pass any legislation to protect the rights of LGBTQ workers, the Supreme Court ruled that “an employer who fires an individual merely for being gay or transgender defies the law.”

tion proceeding, or otherwise opposes an unlawful employment practice.”

### Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

For years now Democrats have been trying to redefine the prohibition in the Civil Rights Act against discrimination on the basis of “sex” to include discrimination on the basis of “sexual orientation” or “gender identity.” In 2013, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, or ENDA (S.815), passed the Senate with the help of 10 Republicans. It was designed “to prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.” The bill was never voted on in the House. In 2019, the Equality Act (H.R.5) passed the House with the help of eight Republicans. It is a bill “to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes.” It would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 “to include sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity among the prohibited categories of discrimination or segregation in places of public accommodation” and expand the Civil Rights Act’s categories of public accommodations. The Senate has sat on the bill for over a year.

The EEOC has itself, without any legislation passed by Congress and duly signed into law by the president, expanded the definition of sex discrimination. As it states on its website, the EEOC is the federal agency “responsible for enforcing federal laws that make it illegal to discriminate against a job applicant or an employee because of the person’s race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, gender identity, and sexual orientation), national origin, age (40 or older), disability or genetic information.”

Also relevant here is the Civil Rights Act of 1968. Title VIII instituted the Fair Housing Act (FHA). It originally prohibited discriminatory acts regarding the sale, rental, and financing of housing based on race, color, religion, and national origin, but has been amended to include discrimination based on sex (1974) and disability or familial status (1988). Like the EEOC, the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO) in the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has unofficially expanded the definition of sex to include sexual orientation and gender identity. “Persons who identify as LGBTQ who believe they have experi-

enced housing discrimination may be able to pursue a claim” with the federal government under the Fair Housing Act or HUD’s Equal Access Rule. HUD is “committed to investigating violations of the Fair Housing Act against all individuals regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.” And the HUD rule “requires equal access to HUD programs without regard to a person’s actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.”

### The Supreme Court Cases

Government departments have unilaterally defined discrimination without the imprimatur of Congress, and so lawsuits have been lodged to clarify the issues.

In 2013, a funeral director in Michigan informed his employer that he was transitioning into a woman and would soon start to dress in female business attire at work consistent with “her” gender identity as a woman. Shortly thereafter, he was fired by the funeral home. He then filed a complaint with the EEOC, which then brought a lawsuit against the funeral home. A federal district court granted summary judgment to the funeral home, but in 2018, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit reversed the lower court decision. The man, who lived the rest of his life as a woman, died just a month before the Supreme Court decision in question.

In 2013, an employee of Clayton County, Georgia, joined a “gay” softball league and promoted his participation in it, for which was criticized in the workplace. Soon afterward, he was investigated for mispending funds and fired. He filed a complaint with the EEOC, and then, in 2016, a lawsuit against his former employer. A federal district court dismissed the lawsuit. He appealed, but in 2018, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit affirmed the lower-court decision.

In 2010, a homosexual man who worked as a sky-diving instructor was accused of inappropriately touching a female client during a tandem skydive after informing her about his sexual orientation. In response to the accusation, he was fired. He then filed a complaint with the EEOC, which issued a non-binding memo in 2015 stating that sexual orientation was covered by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act. However, before this, the man filed a lawsuit

against his former employer, but died in a sky-diving accident in 2014. His family continued the case, but were ruled against by a federal district court. In 2017, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit affirmed the lower court decision, but then in 2018, meeting *en banc*, it reversed the prior ruling and held for the plaintiff.

In *R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Homes Inc. v. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission*, the issue was whether Title VII of the Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination against transgender people based on (1) their status as transgender or (2) sex stereotyping. In *Bostock v. Clayton County, Georgia*, the issue was whether “discrimination against an employee because of sexual orientation constitutes prohibited employment discrimination ‘because of ... sex’ within the meaning of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.” In *Altitude Express Inc. v. Zarda*, the issue was whether “discrimination against an employee because of sexual orientation constitutes prohibited employment discrimination ‘because of ... sex’ within the meaning of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.” The latter two cases were consolidated, and oral arguments before the court in all of the cases were heard on October 8, 2019.

On June 15 of this year, the Supreme Court issued an opinion that covered all three cases. It concluded:

In Title VII, Congress adopted broad language making it illegal for an employer to rely on an employee’s sex when deciding to fire that employee. We do not hesitate to recognize today a necessary consequence of that legislative choice: An employer who fires an individual merely for being gay or transgender defies the law.

Or, in other words: discrimination on the basis of sex includes sexual orientation and gender identity. “Conservative” justices Neil Gorsuch and John Roberts joined with Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor, and Elena Kagan in the 6-3 decision. Gorsuch wrote the majority opinion. Justice Samuel Alito filed a dissenting opinion in which he was joined by Justice Clarence Thomas. Justice Brett Kavanaugh also filed a dissenting opinion.

The dissenting opinion by Alito and Thomas sums up in one word what the court did: “legislation.” What Congress was unable to do (pass legislation to define discrimination based on sex as including discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity), the court has now done. The court’s decision will be analyzed and evaluated for weeks and months to come. However, the question of the constitutionality and legitimacy of anti-discrimination laws themselves will never be raised, although but this is the real issue.

### The Meaning of Discrimination

Discrimination in and of itself is neither a dirty word nor an evil deed. We used to laud a man for having discriminating taste. Discrimination involves choosing between options. Any time we choose one thing instead of another, we are discriminating against the thing not chosen. Consciously or unconsciously, everyone discriminates every day. When someone buys a Ford, he is discriminating against a Chevy. When someone shops at Walmart, he is discriminating against Target. When

someone orders steak, he is discriminating against chicken. When someone drinks a Coke, he is discriminating against Pepsi. When a man puts on a black suit, he is discriminating against blue suits. When a family vacations in Florida, they are discriminating against California.

And it’s not just *things* we discriminate against; we discriminate against people as well. When a man asks for a particular barber when he goes to get a haircut, he is discriminating against all of the other barbers in the barbershop. When a woman asks for a particular manicurist when she goes to get her nails done, she is discriminating against all of the other manicurists in the nail salon. When a student selects a course taught by a particular teacher, he is discriminating against all of the other teachers who teach the course. When we pick our friends, we discriminate against the people we reject. The biggest decision that most people make in life is also the biggest case of discrimination. When a man asks a woman to marry him he is discriminating against every other woman in the world. When a woman accepts a man’s marriage proposal, she is



**Injustices:** “Conservative” Supreme Court justices Neil Gorsuch and John Roberts joined with the liberals on the court to declare that discrimination on the basis of sex includes sexual orientation and gender identity.

discriminating against every other man in the world. We can't go through the day without discriminating.

Churches discriminate all the time — and even advocates of discrimination laws in general are usually willing to make an exception for them. Churches practice discrimination in employment and membership based on religion, sex, marital status, and sexual orientation. A church of a particular denomination is free to limit offers of employment and membership to people of that particular denomination and discriminate against all others; a church that considers homosexuality to be a sin is free to hire and accept as members only heterosexuals and discriminate against homosexuals; a church that believes in having only men in leadership positions is free to hire only men and discriminate against women; and a church that believes in having an unmarried priesthood is free to employ as priests only those who are unmarried and discriminate against those who are married.

Regardless of anyone's religious views — or absence of religious views — this is what we expect when it comes to any religious organization. We expect a Jewish

community center to be staffed by Jews, we expect a Catholic mass to be said by an unmarried male priest; we expect the minister of a theologically conservative church to be a heterosexual; we expect a Baptist church to have a pastor who is a Baptist; and we expect a Christian school to have Christian teachers.

Even when it doesn't concern religion, some degree of discrimination by employers in hiring is accepted and expected. People with physical disabilities are discriminated against by owners of coal mines. People without engineering experience are discriminated against by owners of engineering firms. People without driver's licenses are discriminated against by owners of taxi companies. People without typing skills are discriminated against by executives looking for secretaries. People without college degrees are discriminated against by companies that require a college degree.

Discrimination is not hatred. When someone chooses a Ford over a Chevy, this doesn't mean that he hates Chevys, wants all Chevys to break down, and desires to see all Chevy dealerships go out of business. When a family vacations in

Florida, this doesn't mean that they hope California has an earthquake or wildfires that will keep tourists away. When someone prefers a particular barber, manicurist, teacher, friend, or spouse over other barbers, manicurists, teachers, friends, or potential spouses, this doesn't mean that he wishes ill will to any of them.

Discrimination is not even racism — a term that is never defined or explained, but merely employed by liberals, progressives, and social-justice warriors to smear and neutralize conservative and libertarian opponents of various government programs and social movements. To say that discrimination is racism and that proponents of the freedom to discriminate long for the return of the Jim Crow era is a gross misrepresentation. Jim Crow laws, which banned white businessmen from serving black customers, are just as wrong as anti-discrimination laws. These government-mandated and government-enforced laws denied the fundamental right of whites to freely associate with and engage in commerce with blacks as they saw fit. They were the antithesis of the voluntary association found in a free society. The real problem with past segregation and discrimination is that they were de jure, not de facto; mandatory, not voluntary; public, not private.

Discrimination is not aggression, force, coercion, threat, or violence. Discrimination is therefore a crime in search of a victim. Every real crime needs a tangible victim with measurable damages. Thus, discrimination *should never be* a crime. To ban discrimination is to ban freedom of thought and freedom of association. In a free society, everyone has the natural right to think whatever he wants to think about any individual or group and to choose to associate or not associate, in both personal or business relationships, with any individual or group on the basis of those thoughts. His thoughts may be erroneous, illogical, irrational, unreasonable, or nonsensical; his opinions may be based on stereotypes, conjectures, prejudice, bigotry, or racism — but in a free society everyone is entitled to his own thoughts and opinions. The law should be concerned with conduct and actions, not thoughts and opinions. Thoughts and opinions, like motives and desires, are the realm of morality and religion. Although



**Fined for having moral scruples:** An Oregon bakery was ordered to pay \$135,000 in damages to a lesbian couple “for emotional suffering stemming directly from unlawful discrimination” after the bakery refused to bake a cake for the couple's wedding.

AP Images

acts of discrimination may be arbitrary, capricious, subjective, unfair, or unjustified, this doesn't change the fact that no one has the right to any particular job, club membership, residence, product, or service.

Refusing to sell a product, provide a service, or rent an apartment has everything to do with property rights and freedom of association. Since no potential customer has a claim on the property of any business owner, he should have no legal recourse if the owner of the property refuses to do business with him. Public accommodations are still private businesses. Just because they serve the public by offering to sell them goods or services doesn't mean that they should be regarded as public libraries, public parks, and public buildings that have to accept all members of the public. There is a big difference between the government's protecting "constitutional rights in public facilities" such as libraries and courthouses and the government's providing "injunctive relief against discrimination in public accommodations" such as restaurants and gas stations. The former is a legitimate purpose of government; the latter is an illegitimate purpose. One protects rights; the other violates rights. The first ensures that the government grants the public equal access and equal opportunity to what is public; the second dictates how a private business should operate. The former is a legitimate purpose of government; the latter is an illegitimate purpose. One protects rights; the other violates rights. The first ensures that the government grants the public equal access and equal opportunity to what is public; the second dictates how a private business should operate.

If a property owner cannot restrict whom he employs, whom he engages in commerce with, whom he rents or sells to, whom he admits, and whom he associates with, then he has no property rights. Why is it that customers can legally discriminate against businesses by favoring one over another but businesses cannot legally discriminate against customers? Why is it that consumers can discriminate against merchants for whatever reason they want — no matter how irrational, illogical, or unreasonable — and on any basis they want — no matter how racist, sexist, or homophobic — but not the



AP Images

**Blatant hypocrisy:** Leftists cheered when President Trump's former press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders (shown) was forced to leave a restaurant because of her political beliefs, even though it was a blatant act of discrimination that they claim to be so opposed to.

other way around? In a free society, the practice of discrimination must be an option for both buyers and sellers, property owners and patrons.

Keep in mind, too, that in a free market consumers can make or break a business by where they spend their dollars. This is as it should be. The liberal premise that (say) a business that will only serve white customers can thrive in America today is ludicrous. Those who think that racial desegregation can occur only through government mandates should consider how baseball was *voluntarily* desegregated through the on-field exploits of Jackie Robinson — without any court orders or laws.

### Ill-favored Groups

The hypocrisy of the Left on discrimination is appalling. When then-White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders went out for dinner with her family at a restaurant in Virginia, she was asked to leave in the middle of dinner by the owner of the restaurant. Leftists generally cheered the actions of the restaurant's owner — even though they involved discrimination and refusal of service based on political beliefs. But if

someone was refused service at a restaurant, gas station, or department store, and asked to leave because of the color of his skin, his religion, or his sexual orientation, then leftists would be calling for federal intervention, lawsuits, fines, boycotts, and protests.

In a free society, the right to discriminate is essential and absolute. A free society must include the freedom to discriminate against any individual or group for any reason and on any basis. A free society may or may not be free of discrimination, but a free society is certainly free of discrimination laws. By their very nature, the rights of private property, freedom of assembly, freedom of association, free enterprise, and freedom of contract include the right to discriminate.

The cases of *R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Homes Inc. v. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission*, *Bostock v. Clayton County, Georgia*, and *Altitude Express Inc. v. Zarda* should never have gone to the Supreme Court, any lower federal court, or even any state court. Since discrimination is not aggression, force, coercion, threat, or violence, the government should never prohibit it, seek to prevent it, or punish anyone for doing it. ■



## THE GOODNESS OF AMERICA

### Land of the Free, Home of the Brave

Janis Shinwari had been serving the U.S. military as an Afghan interpreter for eight years before coming to the United States in 2013. This past Fourth of July, Shinwari and his family celebrated their first Independence Day as American citizens.

According to CNN, Shinwari decided to side with the United States after seeing the Taliban's terror campaign. He knew the best way he could serve was by acting as a translator, despite the enormous dangers it posed. "If the Taliban catch you, they will torture you in front of your kids and families and make a film of you and then send it to other translators as a warning message to stop working with the American forces," Shinwari explained.

CNN reported that Shinwari's contribution to the military in Afghanistan was massive. Not only did he save multiple American lives, but he also killed several Taliban members, landing himself on the Taliban "kill list."

Shinwari told NPR he was not supposed to fight as an interpreter, but he found himself in a position in 2008 in which he felt he had no choice. "I saw [Captain] Matt Zeller, that he was alive in a ditch and there were two Taliban behind him to kill him," Shinwari recalled. "I shot the two Taliban and I saved Matt Zeller's life."

Zeller recalled seeing Shinwari standing above him and warning, "I'm Janis. And I'm one of your translators. You're not safe." Zeller and Shinwari have been close ever since that fateful day.

But Shinwari's actions placed him in grave danger, and he was kept hidden on a U.S. military base near Kabul for his safety, which meant he could not see his family, including his children.

Zeller wanted to do something to help Shinwari and his family. He told CNN he "asked anyone who would listen" if they could help. By 2013, he was able to help Shinwari and his family obtain visas to come to America. Zeller also launched a GoFundMe page to raise money for Shinwari and his family to help them get situated, but Shinwari refused the money, instead using it so that he and Zeller could set up

No One Left Behind, a nonprofit that works to bring interpreters to the United States. That organization has helped more than 5,000 translators and their families come to the United States.

Meanwhile, Shinwari said he is beyond grateful for his new life in America. "Once you are here, you're free," he said. "You don't have to worry, you can sleep well."

But he said he will continue to work tirelessly to help rescue his coworkers still in Afghanistan and Iraq get to safety. "It doesn't matter how long does it take," he vowed. "But I will fight for them."

On June 29, acting Homeland Security Deputy Secretary Ken Cuccinelli administered the oath of allegiance to Shinwari and his wife in Fairfax, Virginia, CNN reported. "During his service, he saved the lives of five American soldiers," Cuccinelli said, according to NPR. "That is not something many people can say."

### Let Freedom Ring

There is perhaps no better example of what Independence Day is all about than actions California citizens took on the Fourth of July.

California and its cities have enacted a number of draconian measures in response to the coronavirus pandemic, including a lengthy shelter-in-place order and a ban on public fireworks displays, which affected July 4 celebrations, the *OC Register* reported.

But it seems California citizens are fed up with the restrictions and double standards, particularly since California officials said nothing against the massive protests and riots following the in-custody death of George Floyd in May. "For those of you out there protesting, I want you to know that you matter," California's Democratic Governor Gavin Newsom said on June 1. "To those who want to express themselves ... God bless you. Keep doing it. Your rage is real."

But as Independence Day approached, officials suddenly became concerned that large group gatherings would cause COVID-19 rates to spike. "One of the areas of biggest concern as it relates to the spread of COVID-19 in this state remains family gatherings," Newsom said at the start of July.

"I really cannot impress upon you more — the tendency to invite friends, neighbors over that you haven't seen is there. Perhaps you've already done that," he added. "I hope you'll reconsider those gatherings with people you do not live with that are not in your immediate household."

Los Angeles County announced a fireworks ban and beach closures ahead of holiday celebrations. Despite these bans, video after video appeared online featuring the Southern California sky illuminated with fireworks on the Fourth of July as individuals chose to shirk the bans and celebrate America's birthday.

And the city of Lancaster outright defied the Los Angeles County fireworks ban by hosting a public fireworks show, City News Service reported. "The city has considered all risks and feels confident in our ability to safely host a show," Lancaster Mayor R. Rex Parris wrote on the city's Facebook page days ahead of the celebration. "A show our residents deserve after a year of continuing challenges."

Mayor Parris added officials should not be taking a cookie-cutter approach to the health crisis. "When you look around here, this city is the safest city in Los Angeles County," he told KTLA-TV. "If you look at the number of hospital admissions and our death rate — we are the safest city."

Mayor Parris, who said he was fed up with the politics, set off the fireworks himself so that he could assume responsibility and relieve anyone else of guilt.

"It's lost all sense of principle, it's lost all sense of public safety. I would suggest that that's what's wrong with America — that we've become so polarized by 'who's the bigger bully.' What the people of Lancaster want is to celebrate Independence Day and that's what we're going to do. And we'll deal with the fallout later," he said moments before he set off the fireworks.

To prevent virus spread, officials asked people to either remain in their vehicles to watch the display, or wear a mask if they wanted to stand outside.

It's nice to see a decidedly blue state assert its freedoms in the face of government overreach. ■

— RAVEN CLABOUGH

# The Chinese Communist Murder of John Birch 75 YEARS LATER

At the end of WWII, Army Intelligence Officer John Birch was killed by Chinese Communists. If his murder hadn't been hidden from the American people, it is likely China never would have become communist.



by Steve Byas

**A**fter Emperor Hirohito announced the surrender of Japan in August 1945, Captain John Birch, a young American intelligence officer in the U.S. Army stationed in China, was directed by General Albert Wedemeyer and others to get to Japanese bases in China as quickly as possible.

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

sible. Once there, they would arrange for the surrender of Japanese forces before Chinese Communist forces could take advantage of the situation.

Birch was ordered to Suchow, located near the Pacific coast, and he set out on August 20, less than a week after Hirohito's capitulation. On August 25, Birch was brutally murdered by Chinese Communists before he could reach his destination. He was first shot in the leg, then bayoneted to death.

Captain Birch was killed by a supposed ally while on a peaceful Army mission, and that fact was buried in a massive coverup by forces within the U.S. government who did not want the American people to know the truth — the communists under Mao Tse-tung were not simply “agrarian reformers,” and they were not our allies. Adeline Gray, a newspaper reporter, wrote Birch's parents that “had not the truth been suppressed, Captain Birch's death would have headlined every newspaper in the United States.”

Had the fact that an American intelligence officer and Baptist missionary was murdered by Chinese Communists been widely known in the United States, it might very well have derailed the effort by conspirators inside the U.S. government to hand China — the world's most populous nation — over to the totalitarian dictatorship of Mao Tse-tung.

Instead of dealing with the hostile China of today, Americans might very well be celebrating decades of friendship with that nation — if only John Birch's murder had not been covered up.

In 1962, the pop group known as the Chad Mitchell Trio released a song poking fun at the anti-communist John Birch Society (parent organization of *THE NEW AMERICAN*), in which the singers pose as goofy JBS members. In the song, they proclaim, “We only hail our hero from who we got our name. We're not sure what he did, but he's our hero just the same!”

The light-hearted song was actually very popular with Birchers, even being performed at the Society's youth camps for several years, but it raises a very good question.

So what did John Morrison Birch actually do to be honored by having his name used for an organization dedicated to the concept of “less government, more responsibility, and — with God's help — a better world”?

His early life certainly gave no indication that his name would become associated with a society dedicated to educat-

Captain Birch was killed by a supposed ally while on a peaceful Army mission, and that fact was buried in a massive coverup by forces within the U.S. government who did not want the American people to know the truth — the communists under Mao Tse-tung were not simply “agrarian reformers,” and they were not our allies.



**Imagining the communists were our friends:** General Claire Chennault awarded Captain John Birch the Legion of Merit medal. Despite Birch’s having been murdered by the Chinese Communists, the U.S. government refused to award him a Purple Heart. They argued that Birch had not been killed in combat, but had instead been slain by our supposed allies.

ing Americans about the philosophy of limited government — although that was without a doubt the philosophy held to by Birch. His parents were poor missionaries on a mission in India when Birch was born, on May 28, 1918. Bouts with malaria suffered by Birch’s father, George, forced the family to return to the United States when John was only about two years old, and they went into the fruit-growing business, among other things.

John was a very bright boy. By the age of seven, he had read John Bunyan’s Christian classic, *Pilgrim’s Progress*, and was a regular reader of *The Saturday Evening Post* and *National Geographic*. He even built his own radio when he was 17.

The Birches had been Presbyterians, but when their church got a “modernist” preacher, they left and joined a Southern Baptist congregation in Georgia. John trusted Christ as his savior, and was bap-

tized at seven. At age 11, he felt the call to be a missionary.

John’s exceptionally good grades landed him a scholarship to attend a Southern Baptist college, Mercer, located near his home in Georgia. He had expected it to be a fundamental Baptist school, but he was shocked when many of the professors espoused views that were like the liberal views that had caused his family to leave the Presbyterian Church. Birch was nevertheless a star on the debate team and was an actor in the Mercer Players. His English professor urged young Birch to pursue a career as a professional writer. Dean John B. Clark recommended him for consideration as a Rhodes Scholar. He graduated *magna cum laude*.

But the school’s liberalism troubled him. In a 1939 sermon, he recalled, “I knew there was modernism at Mercer, that they were teaching the Bible was not infallible. I knew I ought to protest, but I kept my mouth shut.”

He eventually spoke out against what he considered to be heretical teachings at the Southern Baptist college, and he chose not to seek a missionary appointment from that denomination, but rather attended the newly formed Fundamental Baptist Bible Institute in Fort Worth, Texas, founded by J. Frank Norris. Norris had been a prominent Southern Baptist pastor, but he eventually split from them. Independent Baptist and Bible Baptist churches sprang from his movement. Anxious to get to the mission field, Birch finished the two-year coursework in only one year.

### **Birch Arrives in China**

It was as an independent Baptist missionary that Birch traveled to China, which had been fighting off the Japanese invasion for nearly a decade. Once in China, he launched into the difficult task of learning the Chinese language, which did not have an alphabet. Instead, there were thousands of different pictographic characters. Despite the difficulty, within six weeks, he could successfully converse with Chinese people, and he eventually became an expert in Mandarin Chinese.

Birch’s missionary work quickly produced a huge harvest of souls. His first sermon in China garnered 15 converts. He preached and shared the gospel every



chance he had, even converting soldiers in the Nationalist Army of Chiang Kai-shek. Despite letters from Norris admonishing John to be careful in the war-torn country, Birch sneaked past Japanese lines to preach the gospel to the Chinese.

He had a meager income of only \$50 a month, so friends and family would sometimes send him additional money — which he used to purchase New Testaments to give to Chinese soldiers, food for fellow Christian believers, and other expenses associated with evangelism efforts. He did buy himself a radio, on which he could listen to KGEI out of San Francisco. One night, he was delighted to hear his parents speak about his work in China.

China's government at the time was quite open to the gospel. The ruler of China, Chiang Kai-shek, was a convert, who had written a book about it, *Why I Believe in Jesus Christ*. Had the country been at peace, and had the communists not been threatening the survival of the Nationalist government, China might have become one of the world's leading Christian nations, with Birch among a multitude of missionaries.

But the war made it increasingly difficult for the young missionary, as it caused his already limited funds to often be cut off. He suffered bouts of malaria, as well as homesickness. He briefly became engaged to a Scottish nurse, but broke the engagement for fear he was endangering her life.

### Birch Meets Doolittle

Then, in April 1942, Birch decided to eat in a Chinese inn in a small village. While eating his spartan meal of boiled red rice, green bamboo shoots, and a meat scrap, a Chinese man sat down across from him, and asked in a whisper, "You American?"

Birch nodded, and the man asked for him to follow him. After quickly finishing the meal, Birch followed the man to the nearby Lan River. They came to a sampan river boat, at which time the Chinese man hopped on board. John followed. The man turned and said quietly, "Americans."

Birch was skeptical, but knocked on the door of the boat and asked, "Are any Americans in there?"

He was surprised when he heard an

American voice. "No Japanese could make up an accent like that!" in response to Birch's Southern accent.

Inside, he saw five men stuffed into a little hold. The commanding officer introduced himself. "Colonel James H. Doolittle, United States Army Air Force. The boys and I just delivered a little present to Tojo, and we're having a bit of trouble getting back home."

The famous Doolittle raid over Tokyo had done little damage on the Japanese capital, but it had strongly boosted morale inside the United States and among American fighting men in the Pacific. It had also enraged the Japanese, who wanted to track down and execute those who had carried out the bombing mission on their nation's capital city.

Doolittle explained that after bombing Japan, they had no place to land, and after running out of fuel, had to bail out. Birch told him that the Japanese had spies all around the area, and were no doubt looking for them. He offered to take them to Lanchi, where he knew some Chinese officers who could then get them to Chun-

gking. Over the next several days, Birch worked feverishly to find more of Doolittle's raiders and get them to safety.

The rescue efforts that John Birch performed for Colonel Doolittle eventually brought him into contact with General Claire Chennault of the famed Flying Tigers. By this time, Birch reasoned that his missionary efforts to the Chinese would be futile unless the Japanese invaders were expelled, so he tried to enlist in the military as a chaplain to help the American war effort. But because of his knowledge of the Chinese language, he was used as a translator for Doolittle, and later became an intelligence officer for Chennault.

Writing in *20th Century Heroes*, a collection of essays from this magazine by various authors, Steve Bonta noted, "But Birch's contribution to the war effort in China went beyond the accurate and reliable intelligence [that he would often offer later, as an intelligence officer]. The brave young missionary also set up a network for rescuing fliers shot down behind enemy lines. About 90 percent of



**Stellar soldier:** Captain Birch (second from the left) was highly respected by his fellow American soldiers, and our Nationalist Chinese allies, for his intelligence activities on behalf of the war effort — and for his exemplary personal character.



**The first killed — far from the last:** Captain John Birch was buried with full military honors on a hillside on the outskirts of Hsuechow, China. He was the first American killed by our communist enemies in the Cold War. A few years later, candy manufacturer Robert Welch named his anti-communist, freedom-loving organization — The John Birch Society — after this great patriot.

Chennault's downed fliers were rescued by Birch's system."

Chennault noted that this success was "the highest percentage of any war theater." He added, "I cannot praise his work sufficiently." Chennault was not the only American officer to praise Birch. Lieutenant Arthur Hopkins recalled of Birch: "Without reservation, I will say that he was the most brilliant, finest, most able, bravest officer I ever met."

Birch's abilities in the intelligence field were so great that he was offered a position in the war-time intelligence arm of the U.S. government, the Office of Strategic Services, the forerunner of the Central Intelligence Agency. But Birch had no desire to work for the OSS, so it was arranged that he would serve as "officially on loan" to the agency, as opposed to being formally transferred.

So Birch became part of the U.S. Army as an intelligence officer, with the rank of lieutenant, being later promoted to captain. He was sent to the coast to organize Chinese intelligence to aid the Ameri-

can war effort, particularly the Army Air Force. Bravely going behind Japanese lines, he disguised himself as Chinese, and preached on Sundays, when and where he could. This was increasingly difficult, as the Japanese made it a practice to burn any buildings used by Christians.

He recruited Chinese people into his intelligence network, which often required great physical stamina. He once rode a Mongol pony 60 miles through a snowstorm, in a 300-mile trek to the battle front. Once at his destination, he radioed information back to Colonel Wilfred Smith, using the prearranged code words, "I've got the table laid for the banquet. When can I spread the cloth?"

That night, Birch and Chinese guerrillas spread white strips of cloth on the ground pointing to the target, which was soon bombed by a P-40, which Birch coded as a white Pontiac.

Birch's intelligence operation provided invaluable defensive operations, as well. Another time, after a Chinese lookout ran up the *jing bao* ball on the flag pole —

meaning that Japanese planes were headed in the direction of Hengyang to attack American forces — Birch and others ran to their operations shack. They radioed that 14 Japanese bombers were on their way, with 16 Zeros escorting them. Four P-40s were able to intercept them, and catch them totally by surprise. The Japanese bombers turned tail, and the P-40s went after the Zeros. After a brief dogfight, the Zeros also flew away.

Despite this and many other daring and successful intelligence exploits, Birch longed for the end of the war, so he could return to his calling of preaching the gospel. But he was concerned that even after the defeat of Japan, China would not be safe. He feared that the Chinese Communists were more interested in fighting the Nationalist government of China than the Japanese invaders, and he was not bashful in saying so to just about anyone who would listen. Five days before his death, Birch wrote in a letter to Lieutenant Bill Drummond, "Sooner or later we'll have to fight them."

### The Murder of John Birch

In his essay "The War Weary Farmer," written in April 1945, Birch said, "I want to reach the sunset of my life sound in body and mind, flanked by strong sons and grandsons, enjoying the friendship and respect of neighbors, surrounded by fertile fields and sleek cattle, and retaining my boyhood faith in Him who promised a life to come."

But it was not to be. On his way to Suchow by railroad handcar, he encountered a hostile band of communists. Although Lieutenant Tung of the Nationalist Chinese army (who was with Birch) attempted to negotiate with the Communist Chinese, he was unsuccessful, and Birch was murdered.

Americans, however, would not learn of this until years later, as communist sympathizers inside the U.S. government classified the documentation. A letter from Major General Edward Witsell to Birch's mother said only that he was killed "as the result of stray bullets fired by communist forces." But General Wedemeyer had already — only five days after the murder — confronted Mao Tse-tung about the incident. Mao promised to punish the guilty parties (though it is extremely unlikely this ever happened).

Then, on September 5, 1950, Senator William Knowland, a Republican from California, took to the Senate floor to denounce the coverup, blaming pro-communists inside the State Department. Robert Welch, a strongly anti-communist candy manufacturer (Sugar Daddies, Sugar Babies, and Junior Mints), after reading with indignation about Birch's murder and its subsequent coverup by the U.S. government, proclaimed Birch the first American casualty of the Cold War.

He soon wrote the book *The Life of John Birch* and later named his anti-communist organization — The John Birch Society — in his honor. Though some have speculated that Birch would not have approved of the use of his name for the group, the evidence is overwhelming that he would have been deeply honored. A review of his life; the anti-collectivist philosophy expressed in his short essay "The War Weary Farmer"; his own words in his letters and to others, voicing his concern about communism; and the fact that his parents not only approved, but became life members of the

JBS, would indicate that Birch would have been an enthusiastic supporter of the organization that bears his name.

Birch's views seem to match perfectly with the society that bears his name. In his "War Weary Farmer" essay, Birch wrote, "I want of government only protection against the violence and injustices of evil or selfish men." This seems to line up closely with the JBS motto, "Less Government, More Responsibility, and — With God's Help — a Better World."

In a letter Birch wrote to an aunt in 1942, he certainly had concerns about the collectivist and globalist direction in which the world was headed. He told her that "the world stage" was being set for "the rise of the anti-Christ." It is almost certain that Birch would have heartily endorsed the program of The John Birch Society, which has fought against "the federations" of the evil world system he denounced in 1942. While Birch's life was summarily ended through what could only be described as an execution by communists in 1945, this writer and

other believers familiar with the life of John Birch have no doubt he is presently enjoying the fruits of what he anticipated in "The War Weary Farmer," of reaching the end of his earthly life, "retaining [his] boyhood faith in Him who promised a life to come."

All that Birch's mother, Ethel, ever received back from China by the government he served was his limited personal effects — a well-marked Scofield Reference Bible, a Chinese Gold Air Hero medal (the highest award that could be awarded to a foreigner), and a few other personal items. Despite her asking for it, his own nation denied him even a Purple Heart, arguing that he was not killed in battle by the enemy, but rather by "our allies."

The body of John Morrison Birch lies in the soil of the China he sought to lead to Christ, but his spirit is with his Lord. And the society that bears his name continues to carry on the goals of that earthly life, fighting for a government limited to "only protection against the violence and injustice of evil or selfish men." ■

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## Armed Couple Defends Home & Goes Viral

Until late June, Mark and Patty McCloskey of St. Louis, Missouri, lived a relatively peaceful life as successful personal-injury attorneys who spent decades restoring a famous mansion in the city. *St. Louis Magazine* reported on the restoration of the mansion in 2018, and the McCloskeys' hard work and attention to detail was praised as an admirable act of historic preservation. But on June 28, the McCloskeys became household names across the nation when their brave reaction to a dangerous mob of trespassing leftists went viral. The McCloskeys certainly did not want this newfound fame, but it was thrust upon them when Black Lives Matter (BLM) protesters decided to break down the steel gated entrance to their community and illegally enter onto their private property. Some of the BLM protesters were armed and made violent threats as they forced their way into the gated community, and the McCloskeys knew there was no time for hesitation. The McCloskeys quickly retrieved their personal firearms, with Mark carrying an AR-15 and Patty carrying a handgun. The couple rushed out on their front patio to tell the trespassers to leave. The entire confrontation was livestreamed on Twitter by the intruders who intentionally mischaracterized the situation as “racist gun-owners” threatening “peaceful protesters.”

A duplicitous media that is all too willing to spread lies and disinformation if it furthers a leftist agenda then parroted this false narrative. Fortunately for the McCloskeys, in addition to being well equipped to defend their homes, they also had the cognitive ability to verbally defend themselves in the court of public opinion. Mark McCloskey immediately began giving media interviews where he explained what actually transpired and refuted the false narrative propagated by the mainstream media and left-wing activists on Twitter.

In an appearance on Tucker Carlson's Fox News program, Mark explained what he and his wife witnessed and their mindset at the time of the horrifying ordeal.

“By the time we looked up and we saw the marchers coming down Kings Highway and getting loud, we looked over the gate, and there's no police there. Our private security wasn't there. Nobody's there.” Mark said the protesters then broke the steel gate and forced their way onto their private property, while making violent threats to the McCloskeys. “People start coming in. And then a flood of people start coming in.... They are angry, they're screaming, they've got spittle coming out of their mouth they're coming toward the house.... I turned to my wife and I said, ‘Oh my God, we're absolutely alone. There is nobody here to protect us.’ ... When I saw that mob coming through the gate with their rage and their anger, I thought that we would be overrun in a second.... By the time I was out there with my rifle, the people were 20 or 30 feet from my front wall.... I was literally afraid that within seconds they would surmount the wall and come into the house, kill us, burn the house down and everything that I had worked for and struggled for the last 32 years.... I saw it all going up in flames and my life destroyed in an instant, and I did what I thought I had to do to protect my hearth, my home, and my family.”

Police investigators corroborated what Mark told Tucker Carlson, and stated that the intruding protesters yelled violent threats at the couple and that the incident is being investigated by police as “a case of trespassing and assault by intimidation against the couple by protesters.” This infuriated the media and left-wing activists, who were clamoring for the McCloskeys to be charged for brandishing their weapons. St. Louis Prosecutor Kimberly Gardner, a leftist radical who received campaign donations from George Soros and has been throwing out charges brought by police against people arrested for rioting, is pressing charges against the McCloskeys for exhibiting “in the presence of one or more persons, any weapon readily capable of lethal use in an angry or threatening manner,” a felony. She proclaimed, “We must protect the right to peacefully protest,” though, again, the mob was threatening the McCloskeys, and her credibility has already been ruined because she

also protected violent protesters with her actions. With the couple being very aware of the repeated looting, killing, beatings, and arson that have been committed by so-called protesters — added to the fact that threats were being made to the McCloskeys and that the crowd didn't move past the house for nearly 15 minutes — the couple should prevail in this case.

Before the charges were issued, the McCloskeys' attorney, Albert Watkins, told Fox News that under Missouri law, a person has “the absolute unmitigated right to protect his or her castle or family while on their property.” Watkins added that the protesters were the ones who broke the law by forcing open the gate and trespassing, and “damaging and destroying private property and acting in a threatening and hostile fashion.... If Kimberly Gardner wants to press charges against two attorneys who are protecting their home and their family and themselves on their own property, I will tell you that it will be nothing short of the proverbial clusterf\*\*\* with the ensuing assertions that she's doing this for political purposes.” Watkins added that he doesn't think Gardner is smart enough to know the law. “I just believe she probably has a difficult time reading the English language,” Watkins derisively said to Fox News.

The Left has continued with its attacks, including organizing a protest outside the McCloskeys' home on the day before the Fourth of July. The *Daily Mail* reported on July 5 that the McCloskeys retained a private security firm to protect their home while protesters lined up outside their gated community. The protest ended without incident as the McCloskeys watched from their balcony. It's not clear if protesters will continue to harass these people or if the mob will move on to tormenting others, but we can hope that the worst is over for the McCloskeys. Finally, we should realize the alarming truth that if the current alliance of left-wing mobs and journalists could do something like this to people who are wealthy enough to own a mansion, imagine how much easier it would be for them to destroy middle-class gun-owners who don't have the same means and resources to fight back. ■

— PATRICK KREY



## Wishes Notwithstanding, Ever-larger Deficits Won't Cure Pandemic-hampered Economy

**ITEM:** *The Washington Post* recounted in its July 7 print edition how Congress passed “four bipartisan [coronavirus] relief bills in March and April totaling about \$3 trillion for individual stimulus checks, unemployment insurance and support for the health-care system, state and local governments, and more.... Congressional Republicans have recognized that another relief package will pass but are hoping to take a more limited approach in what they view as the final legislation.”

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) “has privately stressed to top administration officials that the price tag on the next bill should not exceed \$1 trillion. Many Democrats view that as a paltry sum. The Democratic-led House passed a sweeping coronavirus response bill in May called the Heroes Act that cost more than \$3 trillion.”

**ITEM:** ABC News for June 28 carried an article about the virus outbreak and subsequent economic lockdowns. The pandemic, according to ABC News, “has only exacerbated income inequality, experts say, stretching the racial wealth gap in the United States and making the richest wealthier while leaving many of the poorest without jobs.” The account cited a report from the Institute for Policy Studies. That IPS study also generated similar stories in CNBC, Business Insider, CNN, Reuters, Newsweek, and the New York Post, among others.

Between “March 18 and June 17, as the pandemic raged, the combined wealth of the 614 U.S. billionaires increased by \$584 billion, according to an analysis released late last week by the Institute for Policy Studies, a progressive think tank based in Washington, D.C.”

**ITEM:** Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer has paired with Senate Committee on Finance Ranking Member Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) on yet another stimulus bill. Their bill, according to a Democratic



AP Images

**Getting more Americans on the government dole:** Democratic Senators Chuck Schumer (left) and Ron Wyden want to extend the federal \$600 weekly benefit until unemployment numbers go down, but most people receiving the weekly check make more on welfare than they would working.

press release dated July 1, is named the *American Workforce Rescue Act*. The press release called it “bold, new legislation that would establish ‘automatic stabilizers’ to ensure unemployment benefits remain available for working families during periods of persistent unemployment, a priority for Senate Democrats in the next COVID-19 bill. Specifically, Leader Schumer and Ranking Member Wyden’s proposal would extend the \$600 increase in weekly UI [unemployment insurance] benefits, which Senate Democrats secured in the CARES Act, beyond July 31st, 2020 until a state’s three-month average total unemployment rate falls below 11%. The benefit amount then reduces by \$100 for every percentage point decrease in the state’s unemployment rate, until the rate falls below 6%.”

**CORRECTION:** COVID-19 lockdowns have slammed the economy. Washington’s already enacted and proposed “stimulus” responses to the virus outbreak threaten to worsen and extend the damage.

We are supposed to be tempered by a government of checks and balances, but crisis-driven fiscal exuberance has generated outsized checks and staggering deficits.

Swamping the economy with deficit spending doesn’t provide long-term relief. Then you wind up with not only a public-

health emergency but also an enduring public-debt crisis. (The federal deficit is the annual difference between government’s spending and revenue; the federal debt is the accumulation of past deficits, minus surpluses — if any.)

When the Democrats believe they can make a credible case that a potential GOP trillion-dollar “stimulus” package — the fourth or fifth such package, depending on who is counting — is “paltry,” we are on the road to ruin.

And we’re well down that path. Craig Eyermann, a research fellow at the Independent Institute, ran the numbers in early July:

Starting from March 15, 2020, just before the coronavirus pandemic gave politicians a reason to open the federal government’s spending floodgates, the national debt stood at a nearly even \$23.5 trillion. Three months later, on June 15, the debt had increased to nearly \$26.2 trillion. In between, Uncle Sam borrowed \$2.7 trillion — an average of more than \$884 billion a month — just to support the spending binge.

Put another way, the amount of national debt the U.S. government has accumulated in the past three months is over 2.4 times the \$1.1 trillion the



## Correction, Please!

U.S. government planned to borrow during its entire 2020 fiscal year when it was already going to run a record budget deficit.

The budget deficit in June totaled \$863 billion, according to the Congressional Budget Office; that's almost as much in one month as the deficit for all of fiscal year 2019. And much more spending is being negotiated as we write — with plans ranging from that “paltry” \$1 trillion to the nearly \$3.5 trillion on the Democrats’ table.

Even the already approved totals are staggering. The budget deficit earlier this year was estimated at 19.3 percent of the Gross Domestic Product. As pointed out by Veronique de Rugy, a senior research fellow at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University, this is “nearly double the peak deficits during the Great Recession and second only to the deficits during World War II.” That projected spending, over a decade, would add nearly \$8 trillion to the National Debt, “pushing the debt held by the public to \$41 trillion, or 128 percent of the annual GDP, within a decade. This debt-to-GDP ratio will exceed even that at the height of World War II.” It will get worse if even portions of the huge spending programs in play are passed.

The Democrat-backed HEROES Act, championed by Speaker Nancy Pelosi and approved by the House, was not realistically expected to be passed by the Senate and make it to the president’s desk. It is indeed a left-wing wish list (as critics put it) and a placeholder for negotiating with congressional Republicans and the White House. (The Congressional Budget Office has estimated the HEROES Act would cost more than \$3.4 trillion through 2030, with the vast majority of the cost coming this year and next.)

Of course when the House Democrats’ bid tops \$3.4 trillion, it makes it easier to describe Republican legislation, costing taxpayers \$1 trillion, a “paltry” effort. A few Democrats in the Congress, perhaps fearing having to defend the bill, were publicly uncomfortable with some of their party’s patchwork legislation. This included many aspects that have nothing to do with the coronavirus, such as a requirement that federal banking regulators deliver regular reports on “the availability of access to financial services for minority-owned and women-owned cannabis-related legitimate businesses.”

Voting for the next economic stimulus may well be taking place when readers see this in print. Most observers think at least

some aspects of the HEROES Act are in play. That is how the political Left works: Take advantage of a crisis and throw out an asinine \$3.4 trillion proposition. Then settle for a half-asinine proposal that would have been laughable in saner times. You can always return for more.

Under the federal coronavirus legislation enacted in March, those out of work are eligible to receive as much as \$600 per week (in addition to state unemployment benefits). Critics point out the clear disincentives: The jobless are less likely to look for work if they can receive more from the government not to work than when they were employed. According to a University of Chicago study, after federal pandemic unemployment benefits were included in a stimulus bill earlier this year, it was more profitable for 68 percent of recipients not to work.

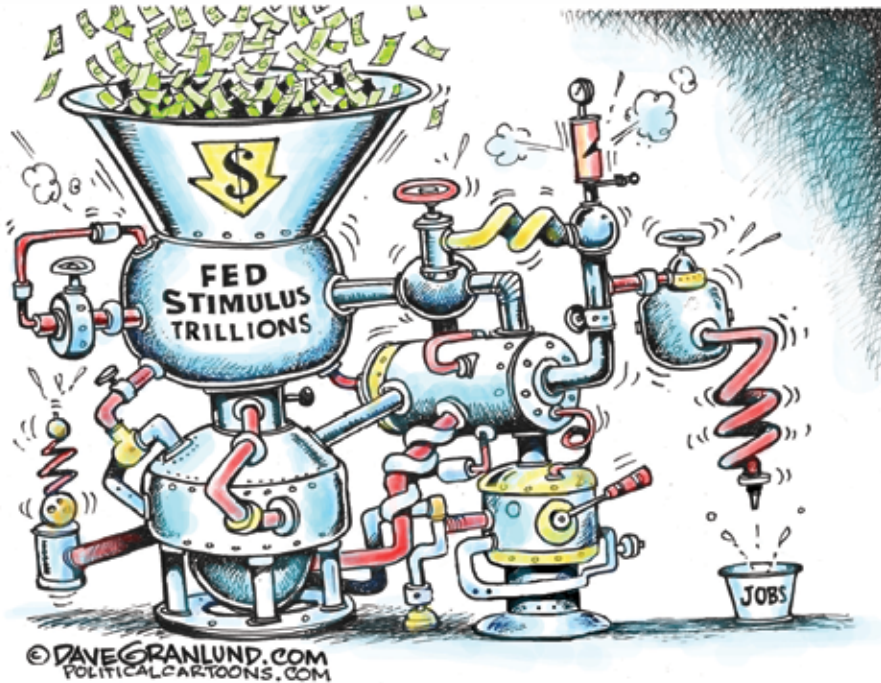
Employers have been complaining that their former employees were not willing to return. If a \$600 weekly additional federal benefit were in place beyond the end of the year (another six months after its planned expiration at the end of July), according to the Congressional Budget Office, a whopping five of six would receive more to remain unemployed than to return to their previous jobs. (Thwarting an economic recovery is a political bonus for the Democrats. They have noticed that.)

The HEROES bill that passed the House, as well as several pieces of legislation offered by top Democrats in the Senate, would retain the \$600/week supplemental payment. (Some “moderate” plans suggest lowering the payments under specific circumstances.) HEROES also calls for the federal government (read: taxpayers) to bail out profligate state and local governments.

An analysis by Casey Mulligan (a professor of economics at the University of Chicago) and Stephen Moore (a member of President Trump’s Economic Recovery Task Force) estimates that Pelosi’s HEROES plan “would eliminate 10 million jobs and increase the unemployment rate by 6 to 8 points (after adjusting for misclassification errors). That would depress GDP for the rest of the year by roughly 5%. Our estimate is lower than those of



**Savior or slayer?** House Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s (D-Calif.) Heroes Act would cost nearly \$3.5 trillion. Sooner or later all this deficit spending will cause massive inflation, impoverishing the very people Pelosi claims to care about.



some other researchers — for example, a Heritage Foundation study that put job losses at 13.9 million.”

When it comes to an additional federal bailout, consider the source of the money. Keep in mind that some states wised up and tucked away emergency funding after the Great Recession. Some did not. A number of states, as noted in a policy brief from the Mercatus Center, did not take advantage

of nine years of revenue growth to prepare for an inevitable economic downturn. For example, Illinois, Kansas, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania have little or nothing socked away while Alaska, New Mexico, North Dakota, and Wyoming have reserves in excess of 20 percent of general fund spending. It is fair to ask, then, why taxpayers in states like New Mexico should be responsible for covering for the insufficient planning of states like Pennsylvania.

The Schumer-Wyden would-be Senate relief effort (cited above) is a Democratic variation — with its own downsides. As pointed out by the *Wall Street Journal*, Chuck Schumer and Ron Wyden

want to tie enhanced jobless benefits to a state’s unemployment rate, but this would maintain the incentive not to work in states with already high jobless benefits and retard the national recovery.

Most politicians feign empathy for the unemployed. However, here’s what really drives them: The politicians don’t want to join their ranks.

Meanwhile, the coronavirus has opened the door for propagandists to spread disinformation or lies. The Institute for Policy Studies (see above) is more than a “progressive” or “liberal” think tank; its leaning, not to put too fine a point to it, is Marxist. The study pushed by the IPS (and echoed by the mainstream press) is entitled “US Billionaire Wealth Surges to \$584 Billion, or 20 Percent, Since the Beginning of the Pandemic.”

Brian Riedl, a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute, has blown wide holes into this disinformation and sent it to the bottom. The IPS, Riedl explains, “seems to have deliberately narrowed the pandemic timeframe to support a dishonest claim.” As he explained, the S&P 500 (or Standard & Poor’s 500) stock market index began the year 2020

at 3,230, before peaking at 3,380 on Thursday, February 20. The following Monday, pandemic fears slammed the stock market (CNBC: “Dow plunges 1,000 points on coronavirus fears”), and the S&P continued falling to 2,436 by the close of March 17. A few days later, it began rebounding to 3,113 through June 17, after which it dipped back to 3,009 through June 26.

A fair analysis of the stock market and the pandemic would roughly cover the time from February 20 to the present. Instead, IPS completely ignored the pandemic-driven 944-point drop between February 20 and March 17 and counted only the 677-point rebound that occurred between March 18 and June 17. There is no intellectual justification for manipulating the timeframe in this way.

But Marxists prefer to smear capitalism and evil plutocrats.

The co-authors of the IPS screed, as Riedl observed,

manipulated the timing window to build the dishonest narrative that the pandemic has made America’s billionaires \$584 billion wealthier. It is the equivalent of saying the Cleveland Browns went 6–0 last season if you don’t count the ten losses. The pandemic pushed up stock values if you don’t count the collapsing part. The rich got richer if you don’t count the downturns. That is not how wealth-building works.

The point, noted Riedl, “is not to pity these billionaires. Rather, it is that so many reporters blindly accepted a partisan analysis that is so misleading as to border on intellectual fraud.”

That, sadly, is not a rare exception.

Leftists always offer promises. This one goes: Even though we are broke, we can spend (and tax) our way to prosperity. In their dreams. ■

— WILLIAM P. HOAR

## Total War **and the Global Mafia**

The world is being prepped for COVID 2.0, the much-hyped “resurgence” or “second wave” of the coronavirus “pandemic.” According to the propaganda of the day, the threat from this new outbreak, which allegedly is already upon us, is so dire that we must allow ourselves to be subjected to new lockdowns, mask mandates, quarantines, isolation, censorship, de-platforming, contact tracing, and much more.

Law Professor David Scheffer, a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), even suggests that the COVID-19 “crisis” may indicate it’s time to begin criminally prosecuting public officials as well as private individuals for “public health malpractice” and “crimes against humanity.” In his article “Is It a Crime to Mishandle a Public Health Response?” Scheffer proposes that the Rome Statute (which he helped write) of the UN’s International Criminal Court (which he and the CFR vigorously promoted) could provide a model for prosecuting those accused of “intentionally causing great suffering, or serious injury to body or to mental or physical health.” He puts forward the need for “new tort or criminal law covering acts or omissions by public officials, corporate and religious leaders, and school administrators that exacerbate an emerging epidemic or pandemic.”

Naturally, President Trump is the primary target. “Donald Trump may have criminal exposure for some level of negligent homicide or voluntary/involuntary manslaughter for the way he’s mishandled the Coronavirus crisis,” says former federal prosecutor and MSNBC legal analyst Glenn Kirschner. Of course, there is no mention of prosecuting Democratic governors across the country who forced nursing homes to accept COVID-positive residents, causing the deaths of tens of thousands.

The globalist elites are marching arm-in-arm with Beijing’s communist elites in using the coronavirus to savagely attack Trump — and all others that stand in the way of their tyrannical edicts. Their demands for “global health governance” include unlimited new powers to transform society, and to punish all who dare oppose their efforts. That includes anyone who voices criticism of China’s COVID responsibility, the UN’s World Health Organization, WHO chief Tedros Adhanom, the Centers for Disease Control, Dr. Anthony Fauci, or Bill Gates, the Daddy Warbucks of “global health” funding.

When Trump referred to COVID-19 as the “China virus,” *China Daily* and other official organs of the Chinese Commu-



AlexLMX/iStock/GettyImagesPlus

nist Party (CCP) immediately decried the reference as “racist.” The globalist media here and around the world followed suit, adopting the CCP line. Although some in the media have tepidly criticized the Beijing regime for “fumbling,” “bumbling,” and “mishandling” the COVID outbreak, almost none have publicly contemplated the possibility that Xi Jinping and his CCP comrades actually planned this global viral attack.

But since Scheffer, Kirschner, and their confreres are anxious to prosecute those responsible,

shouldn’t they focus at least some of their ire on Xi and company? As prosecutors they are certainly familiar with the legal maxim in criminal cases made famous by the great Roman lawyer-statesman Cicero: “Cui bono?” (In English, “Who benefits?”) The CCP has certainly benefited hugely from the global outbreak. Consider: In a matter of months the entire world has adopted Mao-style “governance” to a degree few would have imagined possible.

The plutocrat world-government enthusiasts at the CFR are cheering on the totalitarian transformation. No surprise there, as the globalists have been building toward this capitalist-communist “convergence” (as they call it) for the past several decades, intertwining our economic, political, and social institutions to the point where we become totally interdependent.

Hence, Stewart Patrick, who heads the CFR’s Global Governance Program, penned an article entitled “Leaving the WHO Is No Way to Deal With a Pandemic,” one of many such print, broadcast, and online commentaries pushing the CCP-WHO-CDC-CFR-Gates party line.

On July 14, the CFR’s State and Local Officials Initiative held a conference call/webinar with state legislators, county commissioners, and school officials led by CFR Global Health senior fellow Thomas Bollyky. Entitled “Resurgence of COVID-19,” it aimed to get local officials on board with the WHO-CDC program for a second wave of lockdowns. *The Atlantic*, a longtime CFR-led organ, endorsed China-style censorship in a COVID-related article entitled “Internet Speech Will Never Go Back to Normal.” It carried the subtitle: “In the debate over freedom versus control of the global network, China was largely correct, and the U.S. was wrong.”

The Chinese Communist Party is waging Total War against America. But it is the traitors in our own country who are helping them who are our greatest threat. ■



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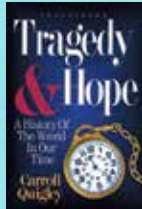
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