

★★★★FREEDOM INDEX★★★★

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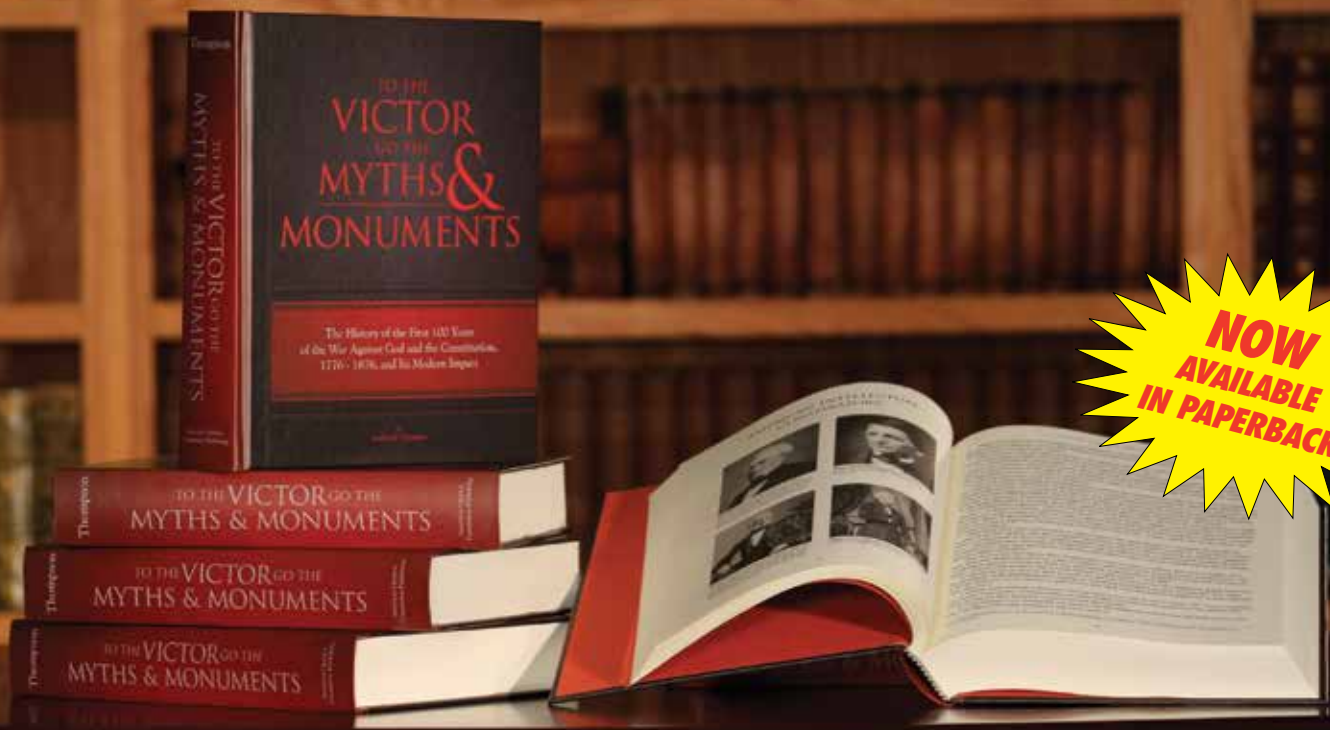
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THAT FREEDOM SHALL NOT PERISH



## FINAL DAYS OF CNN?



**To the Victor Go the Myths & Monuments:**  
*The History of the First 100 Years of the War Against God and the Constitution, 1776-1876, and Its Modern Impact*  
By Arthur R. Thompson, CEO, The John Birch Society  
(2016ed, 492pp, pb, 1/\$14.95ea; 2-14/\$13.95ea; 15+/\$12.95ea) BKTVGMMPB

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## Don't Renegotiate NAFTA Reprint

While running for the oval office, President Trump noted to crowds how destructive NAFTA was to individuals, businesses, and states. Now he says he may keep NAFTA. This eight-page reprint by Charles Scaliger originally appeared as the cover story in the July 10, 2017 issue of TNA — pgs. 10-16. (2017, 8pp, 1-24/\$0.50ea; 25-99/\$0.40ea; 100-999/\$0.35ea; 1000+/\$0.30ea) **RPDRNGUO**



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## Talking Term Limits

In your Letters to the Editor section in the June 5, 2017 issue, you claimed, “Term limits would make congressional sessions essentially non-stop lame-duck affairs, likely with a third or more of congressmen each term completely free to vote against the wills of their constituents.”

I disagree, with reasons.

First, the JBS has always believed and preached to the members that the goal of the JBS is to educate the electorate, and so the electorate will solve the problem by electing the right people to Congress. Then, supposedly, congressmen will obey their oath of office to defend the U.S. Constitution, and that will correct the problem by reducing government.

Not likely.

I have been trying to educate the electorate for more than 52 years, yet have witnessed the continued dumbing down of the electorate at an ever-increasing rate over the years. With the forces that are out to destroy the nation in complete control of the education system, the media, the entertainment industry, and the government, the goal of educating the electorate and expecting them to correct the problem is no longer possible.

Second, when a person is elected to Congress, usually his only objective is to get reelected, and to do that he needs the support of his party. To get that support, he must obey the party leaders or face being a one-term congressman.

Currently we see people campaigning for office who say they will uphold the Constitution. But that line is only to get elected. Once elected, they give in to the pressures of the party leaders to get reelected. The best example of this is Indiana Congressman Jackie Walorski. I witnessed Jackie Walorski stand up during a campaign speech, holding the U.S. Constitution, and swear that she was going to support that Constitution. We learned very quickly what a lie that was.

Term limits would take away the power of the party to dictate how a congressman votes. It would permit a conservative to resist the pressure of the party leaders and vote correctly because he is not concerned about getting reelected. His only concern is to correct the problem by obeying his oath of office.

What the JBS has been preaching from

its inception is not working. It is time to consider something else.

WILLIAM B. BAKER  
Elkhart, Indiana

*It is worth considering what the world would be like today if The John Birch Society (the parent company of this magazine) had never been founded. Would American freedom and national sovereignty have been completely eliminated? The reason more has not been accomplished is not because the JBS program is not effective, but because more pullers at the oars are needed to implement the program. — The Editor*

## Back to the Beginning

In your history article entitled “The Great Depression: Why It Started, Continued, and Ended” (December 5, 2016 issue), it appears that students of the Great Depression do not look far enough back for important causes — especially in following the money.

On April 10, 1922, a conference convened in Genoa, Italy, that took the first major step away from the gold standard. The European countries were broke from fighting the very expensive WWI, and they needed money to pay their bills. So the politicians changed the law as it pertains to monetary accounting.

Countries could now count their gold twice, once as gold and once as gold-backed currency. This let them double the amount of their currency, and the subsequent wild spending ignited the “Roaring Twenties.” The system name changed from the “Gold Standard” to the “Gold Exchange Standard.” That currency inflation was punished by 1930s deflation, as more and more goods had to be traded for the same amount of gold.

Today, the Fed fools people by re-naming currency inflation as “Quantitative Easing.” It’s still not working. Has the Fed learned nothing over 85 years? Or is this their way of destroying all private fortunes?

JOHN SHIPPEE  
Lafayette, Indiana

Send your letters to: THE NEW AMERICAN, P.O. Box 8040, Appleton, WI 54912. Or e-mail: editorial@thenewamerican.com. Due to volume received, not all letters can be answered. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.



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## Freedom From War — 7277

Official policy of the United States, this alarming document reveals the plans of the American government to transfer its military forces to the United Nations. (State Department Document, 1961, 1-99/\$1.00ea; 100+/\$0.50ea) **BKLTFFW**

## U.N. Me

In a film that exposes the incompetence and corruption at the heart of the United Nations, filmmaker Ami Horowitz takes us on a harrowing, yet often hilarious, trip through the farcical world of the United Nations. (2012, 93min, cased DVD, 1-4/\$14.95ea; 5-9/\$12.95ea; 10+/\$11.95ea) **DVDUNM**

## The United Nations and You

Join with JBS to *Get US Out!* of the UN by creating sufficient understanding among voters, business owners, and other community leaders to persuade Congress to approve the American Sovereignty Restoration Act, which would “end membership of the United States in the United Nations.” (2013, four-color trifold pamphlet, 1-99/\$0.20ea; 100-499/\$0.15ea; 500-999/\$0.13ea; 1,000+/\$0.10ea) **PUNAY**

## Getting US Out of the UN for Good!

The UN is consistently anti-Semitic and anti-Christian, avowedly totalitarian (and is largely composed of dictatorships), anti-American, and corrupt — as whitewashes of repeated rape, pedophilia, and murders by UN troops show. With Democrats and Republicans acknowledging these facts, it's time to get out. (2017, 8pp, 1-24/\$0.50ea; 25-99/\$.40ea; 100-999/\$.35ea; \$1,000+/\$.30ea) **RPGUOFG**

## America and the United Nations

This analysis of the United Nations traces its history from its forerunner, the League of Nations, to the present, and compares the basic foundational documents of the UN with those of the United States with regard to the protection of human rights. (2013, 45pp, pb, booklet; 1-9/\$2.95ea; 10-24/\$2.00ea; 25-49/\$1.50ea; 50-99/\$1.00ea; 100+/\$0.95ea) **BKLTAAUN**

## The UN Founding and Founders

At the end of WWII, globalists — mainly socialists and Marxists — used the specter of a third world war to convince the world to begin the United Nations. But the end goal was always world government — as they admitted. (2017, 8pp, 1-24/\$0.50ea; 25-99/\$.40ea; 100-999/\$.35ea; \$1,000+/\$.30ea) **RPUNF**

## Inside the United Nations

A brief, readable introduction to the United Nations, and to the people who created it and support it. *Inside the United Nations* goes beyond the public-relations campaign of the UN to examine the hard reality of the UN system — and its dangerous objectives. This version is footnoted, elevating the book from “conspiracy theory” to “conspiracy fact.” (2013ed, 135pp, pb, 1-4/\$9.95ea; 5-19/\$8.95ea; 20-59/\$7.95ea; 60+/\$6.95ea) **BKIUN**

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## Report Explodes Global-warming Alarmism

A new blockbuster study that examines the most relied-upon global temperature data sets could start a chain-reaction demolition of global-warming alarmism. The peer-reviewed study by two climate scientists and a statistician challenges the “adjustment” process used to produce the global average surface temperature datasets (GAST) that have dominated media headlines and political debate for the past two decades.

The new study, “On the Validity of NOAA, NASA and Hadley CRU Global Average Surface Temperature Data & The Validity of EPA’s CO<sub>2</sub> Endangerment Finding,” co-authored by Drs. James P. Wallace III, Craig D. Idso, and Joseph S. D’Aleo, was released on June 27. It was peer-reviewed by a distinguished group of seven scientists, including Dr. Alan Carlin (retired senior analyst and manager, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency), Professor Anthony R. Lupo (expert reviewer for the UN’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), and Dr. George T. Wolff (former chair of the EPA’s Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee).

The “conclusive findings” of their research, say the study co-authors, are that inappropriate “adjustments” have been made to the temperature record, with the result that “the three GAST data sets are not a valid representation of reality.” “In fact, the magnitude of their historical data adjustments, that removed their cyclical temperature patterns, are totally inconsistent with published and credible U.S. and other temperature data. Thus, it is

impossible to conclude from the three published GAST data sets that recent years have been the warmest ever — despite current claims of record setting warming.”

The new Wallace/D’Aleo/Idso study is likely to provide additional fuel to President Donald Trump’s efforts to undo the Obama administration’s EPA “endangerment finding,” which made the incredible claim that carbon dioxide is a “pollutant” that must be severely regulated by the EPA to prevent catastrophic global warming. After noting the three GAST data sets “are not a valid representation of reality,” the authors state that “since GAST data set validity is a necessary condition for EPA’s GHG/CO<sub>2</sub> Endangerment Finding, it too is invalidated by these research findings.”



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## Majority of Republicans Now Distrust Colleges and Universities



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A survey released July 10 by the Pew Research Center reveals that just 36 percent of Republicans polled believe that higher education has a positive effect on the nation, while 58 percent feel it has a negative effect. The only institution the Republicans in the survey distrust more than academia is the mainstream media.

As a result, some colleges with conservative leanings are noticing an increase in admissions as parents are looking to send their children to schools that will not undermine everything they’ve taught them. For example, David Whalen, provost of Hillsdale

College, which has a reputation for conservatism, told the *Washington Times* July 12 that he has noticed an uptick in admissions. Whalen attributes this to the pervasive culture on college campuses that ridicules conservative thought.

“The educational environment has become so distempered that, in many cases, parents are now looking elsewhere,” Whalen said. “In fact, more and more parents tell us at Hillsdale that they had assumed their children would go to this or that institution, but they are deeply grateful to find Hillsdale instead.”

Whalen contends it’s not simply indoctrination of their children that parents are hoping to avoid, but also violence and bullying of their children who may disagree with leftist ideologies. “Higher education has been progressively radicalizing for a long time, but recent events have brought the extent of it into high relief,” Whalen said. “It’s virtually beyond parody. Campus violence, suppression of speech and intellectual inquiry, and the rather haughty presumption of moral superiority undercut confidence that much of real value is going on there.”

“I expect the consequences of all this will be many and far-reaching.... Legislatures will restrict funding, endowments will be regulated, disciplines known for being radicalized will be taken less and less seriously while the flight to nonideological fields of study will increase, the attention paid to so-called experts in academia will continue to slide and the academic bubble will grow increasingly unreal,” Whalen continued.

## Robots May Take Two-thirds of Las Vegas Service Jobs

Two college professors from the University of Redlands, California, looked at the occupations at the highest risk of being automated or replaced by robots, analyzed 100 American cities with working populations over 250,000, and listed those cities most at risk. They included Bakersfield and Riverside, California; El Paso, Texas; and at the top of the list, Las Vegas. In a report published at marketwatch.com July 5, the professors predict that over the next two decades, at the present rate that robots are replacing workers, 65 percent of the jobs in Las Vegas will be done by robots.



AP Images

The professors didn't say whether robots would replace blackjack dealers; however, one of them, Johannes Moenius, director of Redland's Institute for Spatial Economic Analysis (ISEA), did state, "The replacement of jobs by machines has been happening continuously since the [start of the Industrial Revolution, around 1760], but it's expected to significantly accelerate in the coming 10 or 20 years. Pretty much everyone will be affected, but some metropolitan areas will see a lot more jobs vanish than others."

Those occupations most at risk, according to two Oxford University professors who published their results in 2013, include loan officers (98 percent chance of being replaced by a robot), receptionists and information clerks (96 percent), paralegals and legal assistants (94 percent), retail sales people (92 percent), taxi drivers and chauffeurs (89 percent), and fast food cooks (81 percent). At the bottom of the list are elementary-school teachers and physicians and surgeons (0.4 percent chance), lawyers (four percent), musicians and singers (seven percent), and reporters and correspondents (11 percent).

But a free market will adapt, shift, offer new opportunities, and move with, and often in advance of, changes. We shouldn't be afraid that millions of people will be laid off and wind up starving in the streets. Instead, those being displaced will find other work — often in higher-paying and more satisfying jobs. In other words, thanks to robotics, people will enjoy a higher standard of living in safer environments, holding jobs that they enjoy.

## Trump Discusses Border Wall With Solar Panels, See-through Openings

Speaking with members of the press aboard Air Force One on July 13, President Trump shared some of his ideas for the construction of a wall along the Mexican border.

Among the ideas he discussed was having openings in the wall so that border agents on the U.S. side of the wall could see what was immediately on the other side. "One of the things with the wall is you need transparency. You have to be able to see through it," said the president. "So it could be a steel wall with openings, but you have to have openings because you have to see what's on the other side of the wall."

Trump went on to explain his reasons for being able to see through the wall: "As horrible as it sounds, when they throw the large sacks of drugs over, and if you have people on the other side of the wall, you don't see them — they hit you on the head with 60 pounds of stuff? It's over. As crazy as that sounds, you need transparency through that wall.... We have some incredible designs."

Trump also mentioned placing solar panels atop the wall — an idea that some observers thought was meant as a joke. However, Trump was serious: "No, not joking, no. There is a chance that we can do a solar wall.... We have major companies looking at that. Look, there's no better place for solar than the Mexico border — the southern border. And there is a very good chance we can do a solar wall, which would actually look good."



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The *Washington Post* on June 27 cited statements made by Ronald Vitiello, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's acting deputy commissioner, that his agency plans to select four to eight firms in the coming weeks to build the prototypes for the president's much-discussed border wall. The *Post* reported that the prototypes — including a reinforced concrete barrier wall and another made of an alternative material with see-through capability — will be built in San Diego. ■



### Volvo Plans to Make Only Electric Autos

“Our customers are asking more and more about electric cars. A much bigger risk would be to stick with internal combustion engines.”

*The chief executive at Volvo, **Håkan Samuelsson**, said that, beginning in 2019, the company’s autos would be powered by electricity, not the internal combustion engine. Though based in Sweden, Volvo is actually owned by Geely Automobile Holdings of China.*



AP Images

### New Citizen Explains Why He Wanted to Be an American

“I like the system here. I like the rule of law. You know what to expect and what to not expect, so you can plan. That was the major part of why I wanted to be part of America.”

*Formerly from Iran, software engineer **Mahmoud Esmaeli** became a citizen at an Independence Day swearing-in ceremony held on the lawn of George Washington’s Mount Vernon home in Virginia.*



AP Images

### Attorney General Charges 412 With Healthcare Fraud

“Too many trusted medical professionals like doctors, nurses and pharmacists have chosen to violate their oaths and put greed ahead of their patients. Amazingly, some have made their practices into multi-million dollar criminal enterprises.”

*Calling the criminal activity the largest of its kind in U.S. history, Attorney General **Jeff Sessions** indicated that those charged had been improperly prescribing and distributing opioids and other narcotics and billing Medicaid and Medicare for their costs.*

### Good Question Hasn’t Been Answered

“I wonder what was told to Hillary in those 30,000 emails that were erased from her private, secret and unauthorized email server.”

*New York Times letter-writer **Antonia Tamplin** voted for Trump without being influenced by any Russian spy. She wonders about possible Russian spying within Hillary’s campaign.*

### After Recovery From ISIS Control, Mosul Is Still a Beleaguered City

“I will leave Mosul because it has become a destroyed city. In every corner of it, there is memory and blood. There are still many people who assist ISIS, and the acts of violence will never end.”

*A teacher who lived through the years of ISIS domination, **Aisha Abdullah** sees no hope for a return to tranquility.*

### Former Aide to New Jersey Governor Chris Christie Bares Details of Bridge Scandal

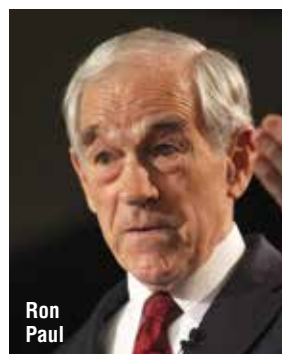
“I willingly drank the Kool-Aid of a man I’ve known since I was 15 years old. I thoughtlessly followed his hubris and I must now accept the consequences.”

*For his helpful testimony about the unnecessary lane closures that caused huge traffic problems at the busy George Washington Bridge, **David Wildstein** was sentenced to three years probation, 500 hours of community service, and more than \$20,000 in fines and restitution. Governor Christie has yet to be formally implicated in the scheme.*

### Janet Yellen Labeled an Unreliable Prophet of Prosperity

“Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen’s prediction [that there would be no further economic crises in our lifetimes] should send shivers down our spines, as there are few more reliable signals of an impending recession — or worse — than when so-called experts proclaim that we are in an era of unending prosperity.”

*Former Congressman **Ron Paul** also pointed to then-Fed Chair Ben Bernanke’s repeated assurance that there was no housing bubble just prior to the 2008 economic catastrophe brought on when the housing bubble burst. ■*



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— COMPILED BY JOHN F. MCMANUS



The Cable News Network (CNN) has long disseminated left-wing slanted news — and even fake news — with impunity, but now it may have gone too far.



by C. Mitchell Shaw

CNN holds a few distinctions. Founded by globalist Ted Turner in 1980, CNN — which stands for Cable News Network — was the first all-news television channel in the United States, as well as the first 24-hour cable news channel. For many years, the liberal news network enjoyed something of a primacy among news media, boasting high ratings and an undeserved sense of credibility — even while surreptitiously propagating one false narrative after another.

Then something happened that put CNN in a position to overextend itself in its manufacturing of fake news: Donald Trump ran for (and was elected to) the presidency of the United States, and CNN declared war on him. In an apparent effort to discredit Trump and bring him down, the titanic news network seems to have overestimated the maximum dosage of fake news the American viewer can consume. One outlandish story after another has been pumped out and has backfired on CNN. The result is that it is CNN, not President Trump, that has been discredited and is headed for failure.

As of this writing, CNN has been rocked with one fake news scandal after another. It issued a major retraction that resulted in the “resignation” of three CNN employees responsible for that story, and it was the centerpiece of a series of undercover videos showing that CNN knows its reporting on alleged connections and collusion between Trump and Russia is “bulls\*\*t,” the whole Russia thing “is just a big nothingburger,” and that CNN practices selective editing to promote a false narrative to deceive American voters who a CNN producer said are “stupid as s\*\*t.” Added to that, CNN reacted to a (probably) tasteless but (certainly) harmless video meme of Trump punching CNN in the face by using intimidation to force an apology and a promise of reform from the creator of that meme.

It’s been a bad few months for CNN.

The network that has spent 37 years building an empire producing fake news and mostly getting away with it is in the process of learning the hard way that it gambled badly by pitting itself against

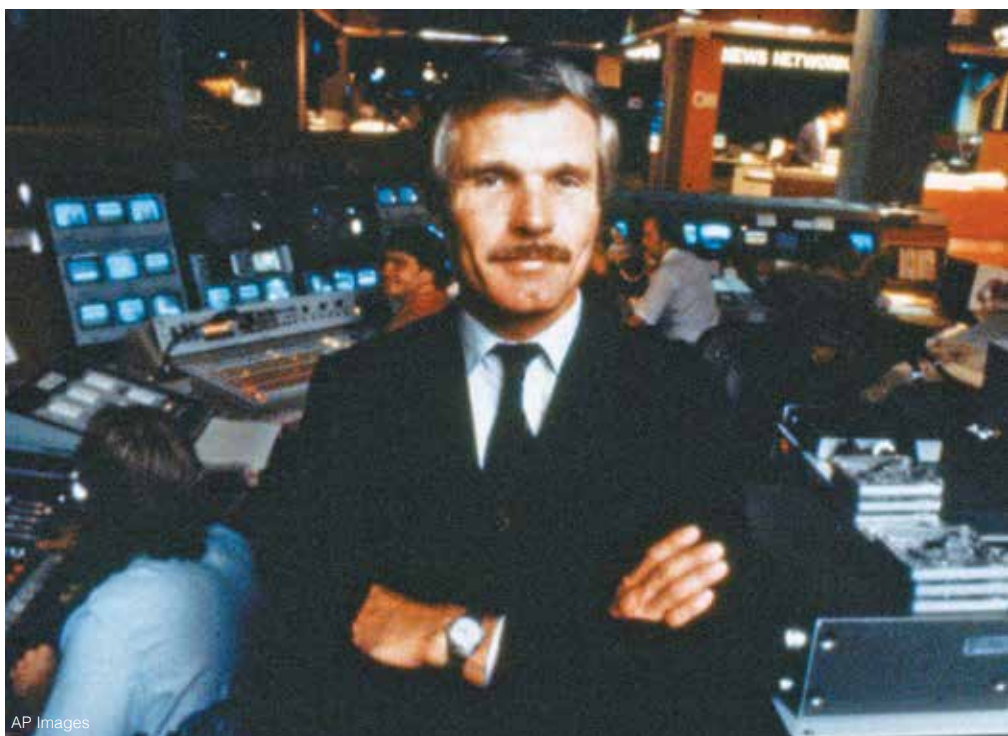
Something happened that put CNN in a position to overextend itself in its manufacturing of fake news: Donald Trump ran for (and was elected to) the presidency of the United States.

Donald Trump and the American people. CNN appears to have lost its collective mind in a race to boost ratings while at the same time attempting to delegitimize Trump’s presidency.

CNN — which had taken several potshots at Trump during the primaries — escalated the anti-Trump coverage once Trump had secured the Republican nomination. While some of that coverage could be characterized as merely slanted, other portions of it can only be called outright false. For instance, after the first presidential debate between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, CNN reported that the debate “highlighted Trump’s tendency to make false claims,” including “his contention that Clinton was behind the so-called birther conspiracy.”

Of course, the fact is that the Clinton campaign in 2007 and 2008 had circu-

lated information that Barack Obama was born outside the United States and was therefore ineligible to run for president. In fact, it was the Clinton campaign that — on any scale that matters — got the birther ball rolling. It started with a March 19, 2007 memo written by Hillary’s chief strategist, Mark Penn. That memo discussed strategies for beating Obama in the primaries and said, “I cannot imagine America electing a president during a time of war who is not at his center fundamentally American in his thinking and in his values,” and advised Clinton to make sure all of her speeches “contain the line that you were born in the middle of America to the middle class in the middle of the last century.” The memo also said, “Let’s explicitly own ‘American’ in our programs, the speeches and the values. He doesn’t.”



AP Images

**Globalist brainchild:** Founded by globalist Ted Turner in 1980, CNN — which stands for Cable News Network — was the first all-news television channel in the United States, as well as the first 24-hour cable news channel.

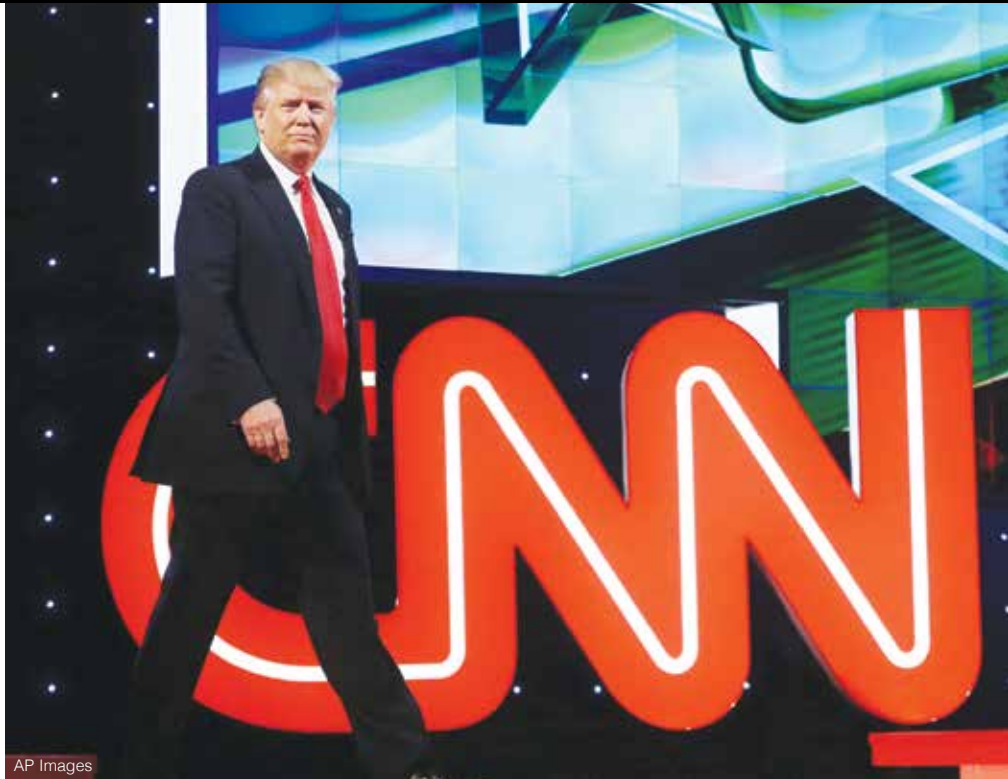
Following that advice, in late 2007 and continuing into early 2008, an e-mail was circulated by the Clinton campaign to the effect that Obama was not an American-born citizen and was not eligible to run for president. Documented evidence that Clinton was at ground zero of the birther movement is easy to find, and for CNN to claim that Trump was making “false claims” about it says more about CNN than it does about Trump.

CNN’s support of Clinton over Trump (both open and undercover) has served as a springboard for other dishonest actions and has lacked anything resembling journalistic integrity. As the leaked Podesta e-mails published by WikiLeaks in July 2016 showed, in March 2016, Donna Brazile — who was at the time a CNN contributor — e-mailed the Clinton campaign a question about the death penalty that Clinton would be asked the following day at a town hall hosted by CNN. In the midst of the scandal caused by the Podesta e-mails, Brazile left CNN to take over as the DNC chair. It would appear that leaking questions to Clinton and the DNC has its rewards.

The second debate between Trump and Clinton was co-hosted by CNN’s Anderson Cooper, who went considerably out of his way to paint Trump into a corner on several points of the debate while allowing Clinton to give non-answer after non-answer. Many of the questions that Trump was hammered with came at times in the debate when Clinton appeared to need a way out of questions about the leaked Podesta e-mails that were so damning to her campaign.

As the election drew close and it was obvious that Trump was within striking distance of the Oval Office, CNN cranked up the fake-news machine to full production. Just before the election, CNN reported that Trump had encouraged voter fraud by telling supporters to vote more than once. What Trump had *actually* said

As the 2016 presidential election drew close and it was obvious that Trump was within striking distance of the Oval Office, CNN cranked up the fake-news machine to full production.



**Fake News Network:** President Donald Trump has repeatedly called CNN “Fake News.” The revelations of recent months have proven that he is correct.

was, “In some places, [Democrats vote] four or five times, but we don’t do that.” CNN later quietly edited the story in an obvious attempt to hide that fake reporting.

Starting with its reports coming out of the second and third presidential debates, CNN helped Clinton spread the false Trump/Russia narrative. In one report after another, CNN not-so-subtly implied (without offering a shred of evidence) that — as Clinton had put it — Trump is “Putin’s puppet.”

Then, once Trump had completely upset the liberal apple cart by a surprising electoral victory, CNN spent the weeks between the election and the inauguration being even less subtle (if that were possible) and trading implication for what can only be called slander by publishing a so-called dossier purported to be

the product of a former British intelligence agent. The “dossier” — which was so error laden and burdened with poor grammar, bad spelling, worse formatting, and self-contradictions that it could only be fake — claimed that Trump was at the same time the victim of Russian blackmail (by which the Kremlin would control him) and the recipient of Russian espionage on the Clinton campaign (by which the Kremlin was able to assure his victory). The “dossier” was so spurious that even the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post* wouldn’t touch it. But CNN “broke” the story, setting the stage for Buzzfeed to publish the “dossier” *in toto*. The document has since been completely discredited.

While reporting on that document, CNN claimed that a two-page summary of it had been “presented” to Trump by the intelligence community. After several sources — including Trump himself — disputed that he had been given a copy, CNN quietly changed the story to say Trump was told about it.

In February, James O’Keefe of Project Veritas — which was responsible for scuttling ACORN, the left-wing get-out-the-vote group that was caught advocat-



ing illegal behavior, with a series of undercover videos in 2009 — released more than 100 hours of secretly recorded audio from CNN’s Atlanta headquarters. The audio was provided to Project Veritas by a former employee. As Project Veritas explained at the time it published the audio clips, the recordings — made in 2009 — include “soundbites from current and previous CNN employees Joe Sterling, Arthur Brice, and Nicky Robertson, as well as numerous others” that demonstrate, among other things, the lack of journalistic integrity at CNN, which lends itself to producing reports so skewed and lacking in honesty that they can only be described as “fake news.”

The release of that audio should have been enough to put CNN on notice that Project Veritas was ready to strike at the heart of CNN’s fake news, but apparently the folks over at CNN are a little slow on the uptake. One Project Veritas journalist after another has managed to get up close and personal with CNN personnel and get them to admit things they certainly would later regret.

The hidden-camera videos that came out of those encounters contain some pretty damning stuff.

As mentioned above, CNN has spent the past several months propagating the myth of a Trump/Russia connection and collusion between Trump (or at least those close to him) and Putin. If the folks over at CNN actually believed that myth, they could perhaps be excused as merely stupid. (Again, there is no proof that this is true, and even former FBI Director James Comey — who has an axe to grind against Trump for firing him — testified that neither his agency nor others that he knew of had any evidence showing collusion.) Since the hidden-camera videos published by Project Veritas show that CNN knows the myth is false, the network is without excuse. Stupidity is occasionally excusable; deliberate lying never is.

The first of those videos, released June 27, captures CNN Medical and Health producer John Bonifield on hidden camera admitting that the Trump/Russia narrative is “mostly bulls\*\*t right now” because “we don’t have any big giant proof.” Bonifield goes further, admitting that Trump “is probably right to say,

like, look, you are witch hunting me.” So why do CNN producers and reporters keep beating the Trump/Russia drum if it’s “mostly bulls\*\*t”? Bonifield said the direction to “keep digging” into that line of reporting comes all the way from the top — CEO Jeff Zucker — and it’s all about “ratings.”

Before the dust could even settle from that video, CNN political commentator (and avowed communist activist) Van Jones was shown in another hidden-camera video released the next day saying that the whole “Russia thing is just a big nothingburger.” It is worth noting that Jones’ remark was not restricted simply to the fallacious claim that Trump is colluding with Russia. He was asked, “What do you think is going to happen this week with the whole Russia thing?” His answer — in that broad context — was that the whole Russia thing amounts to “just a big nothingburger.”

Two days later, Project Veritas struck again. Jimmy Carr, associate producer for CNN’s *New Day*, was shown on a hidden-camera video admitting that CNN hates President Trump (no big surprise there)

and that he and his co-workers think American voters are “stupid as s\*\*t.” The video also shows that CNN practices selective editing to promote a false narrative.

After saying that Trump “is a clown,” is “hilariously unqualified for this, he’s really bad at this and that he does not have America’s best interests,” and is “just f\*\*\*ing crazy,” Carr is asked on the video about how that reflects on the intellect of American voters. His answer is, “They’re stupid as s\*\*t.”

Nice.

It appears that since American voters are “stupid as s\*\*t” and elected a “clown” who is “just f\*\*\*ing crazy,” it is perfectly alright to lie to those voters to promote a false narrative. Because that is exactly what Carr’s show did. *New Day* is hosted by Chris Cuomo (the brother of New York Governor Andrew Cuomo) and Ali-syn Camerota. On March 30, *New Day* contained a segment showing Camerota interviewing a panel of six Trump voters to get their “grades” and “impressions” of the Trump presidency after “sixty-plus days.” The video segment shows a



**Covering up for Clinton:** Despite CNN’s claims to the contrary, documented evidence that Clinton was at ground zero of the “birther” movement is easy to find.

CNN viewers have responded to the realization that the network would be better described as Concocted News Network by switching the channel.

Trump voter named William Baer, who appears unable to answer a simple question about Trump's claim of voter fraud in the election. Baer winds up looking like a conspiracy kook. Unfortunately for CNN, Project Veritas obtained a leaked copy of the raw audio from that segment. That uncut audio shows that the producers of *New Day* — which would include Carr — selectively edited that segment. In the uncut audio, Baer can be heard giving a complete and reasonable answer about his own firsthand knowledge as a poll watcher in New Jersey where he saw voter fraud, including people using other people's names to vote and not being asked for proof of identification and provisional ballots that are never challenged. CNN simply edited the segment to make it appear to say what the producers and reporters wanted it to say, instead of what the panel actually said.

When selective editing is not an option, CNN is not above creating a story out of thin air. Those videos came on the heels of CNN's retraction of investigative reporter Thomas Frank's June 22 article claiming the Senate Intelligence Committee was investigating Trump campaign team executive Anthony Scaramucci for ties to the Kremlin-controlled Russian Direct Investment Fund. The story — based on the claims of a single, unnamed source — turned out to be a complete fabrication. After it was published, Scaramucci pushed back against the story, and CNN retracted it, deleted it from its website, and replaced it with an editor's note saying:

On June 22, 2017, CNN.com published a story connecting Anthony Scaramucci with investigations into the Russian Direct Investment Fund.

That story did not meet CNN's editorial standards and has been retracted. Links to the story have been disabled. CNN apologizes to Mr. Scaramucci.

Even CNN couldn't publically white-wash that mess. After CNN replaced the bogus story with a weak retraction, the online site BuzzFeed reported that a CNN source said the story was a "massive, massive f\*\*\* up" and that "people will be disciplined." The following day, three CNN employees — writer Thomas Frank, unit editor Eric Lichtblau, and unit executive editor Lex Haris — "resigned" from CNN.

In a statement on his resignation, Haris said, "On Friday, CNN retracted a story published by my team. As Executive Editor of that team, I have resigned." He added, "I've been with CNN since 2001, and am sure about one thing: This is a news organization that prizes accuracy and fairness above all else. I am leaving, but will carry those principles wherever I go."

It should be noted that an endorsement of "accuracy and fairness" from a man who was just caught making up a story doesn't carry much weight. And — as the Project Veritas videos show — the cancer at CNN seems to have metastasized and infected the system from the top down. Disciplining three employees by "resignation" will not fix what is wrong at CNN.

Neither will overreacting to an Internet meme. But overreacting is the best word to describe CNN's actions after President Trump Tweeted an edited version of a clip from *WrestleMania 23* in 2007 when Trump went up against WWE CEO Vince McMahon during a "Battle of the Billionaires" match in which Trump slammed McMahon to the floor and punched him in the face. A user on the social news aggregation site Reddit edited the video by superimposing the CNN logo over McMahon's face so the clip showed Trump "taking down fake news." CNN began by releasing a statement saying, "It is a sad day when the President of the United States encourages violence against reporters."

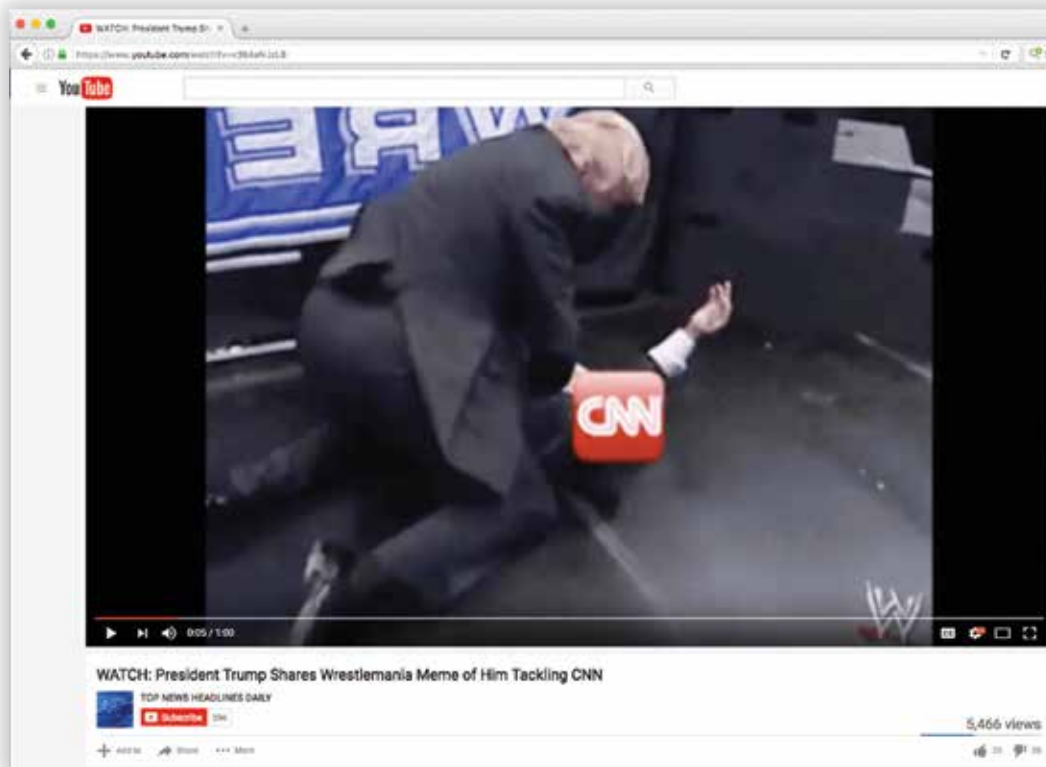
If CNN had stopped there, the network might have just looked like a crybaby.



AP Images

**In the tank:** Anderson Cooper was instrumental in running interference for Clinton during the election. Now, 40-year-old reruns of *Yogi Bear* on Nick at Nite get more viewers than his prime-time "news" show running in the same time slot.





**Smack down:** CNN can dish it out, but can't take it. The network's overreaction to an Internet video meme showing Trump punching the network in the face has certainly contributed to the beating CNN is taking in ratings.

But, alas, CNN went further and wound up looking like a bully. The network tracked down the anonymous redditior and threatened to expose his identity — even though he is concerned that CNN doing so would endanger him and embarrass his family. In fact, CNN reported that the truth-battered network did not publish his name only “because he is a private citizen who has issued an extensive statement of apology, showed his remorse by saying he has taken down all his offending posts, and because he said he is not going to repeat this ugly behavior on social media again. In addition, he said his statement could serve as an example to others not to do the same.”

CNN added, “CNN reserves the right to publish his identity should any of that change.”

It is a federal crime under 18 U.S. Code Section 241 for two or more people to conspire to use intimidation to prevent someone from “the free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured to him by the Constitution or laws of the United States, or because of his having so exercised the same.”

What could have fixed what is wrong

at CNN would have been a complete (top down) house cleaning. And — with ratings already beginning to tank — that may be the only solution CNN has left short of closing up shop.

In an industry driven by ratings and advertising income (which depends, to a large degree, on ratings), losing viewers in large numbers is a sign of pending demise. CNN viewers have responded to the realization that the network would be better described as Concocted News Network by switching the channel. In fact, between May (when the fake news revelations began) and June, CNN lost 20 percent of its viewership, dropping from 821,000 viewers per hour throughout the entire day and 1.12 million total viewers during the prime-time hours to 666,000 viewers per hour throughout the day and 882,000 viewers during prime time.

That amounts to a ratings drop that — as of this writing — has CNN in the 13th place in cable TV ratings — with 40-year-old reruns

of the *Yogi Bear Show* on Nick at Nite drawing more viewers than CNN's prime-time evening shows hosted by Anderson Cooper and Don Lemon in the same time slots.

Added to that loss of viewers is the pending loss of advertising dollars. Based strictly on viewership, advertisers would be more likely to spend their advertising budget on a network that is not busy committing suicide. Perhaps Nick at Nite.

In the wake of CNN threatening to reveal the identity of the creator of an Internet meme that embarrassed the network, the #CNNBlackmail hashtag began trending on social media, with many tagging CNN advertisers and promising to spend their money with other companies that don't advertise on CNN.

If those advertisers respond in their own best financial interests, CNN can't survive.

Given the fact that CNN is doubling down on its fake news instead of cleaning house, the formerly successful — and ostensibly credible — news empire may have already passed the point of no return.

Ted Turner — who is not much involved in the actual operation of the network these days — famously stated that CNN would never cease transmission, saying, “We won't be signing off until the world ends. We'll be on, and we will cover the end of the world, live, and that will be our last event.” He added, “We'll play ‘Nearer, My God, to Thee’ before we sign off.” “Nearer, My God, to Thee” is believed by many to be the last song the band on the *Titanic* played as the ship was sinking. Given the rate at which the ship of CNN is taking on water, perhaps it's time to cue the band. ■



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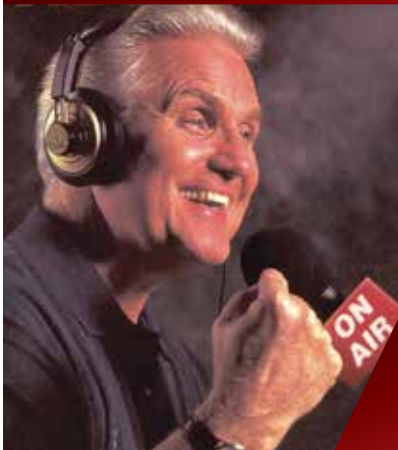


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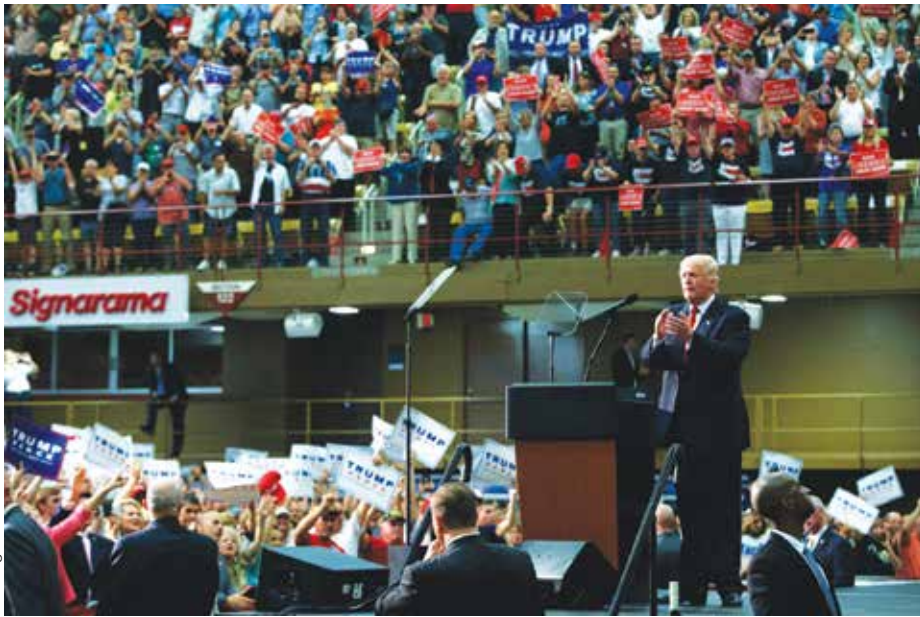
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# MEDIA DUPLICITY ON CIVILITY

Highly placed Democratic operatives have been caught in hidden-camera sting operations telling how they encourage violence at Trump rallies, yet the media blames Trump fans.



AP Images

**Media ambush:** Presidential candidate Donald Trump addressed a rally in Asheville, North Carolina, on September 12, 2016, but media accounts fixated on protesters/provocateurs there to disrupt.

by William F. Jasper

“Video shows aftermath of 69-year-old woman punched at a Trump rally.” So ran the headline at the *Los Angeles Times* on September 14, 2016. The liberal-left website TPM (Talking Points Memo) headline was more incendiary: “Trump Supporter Cold-Cocks 69-Year-Old Protester Outside Rally.” Suddenly, Shirley Teeter, a heretofore unknown elderly woman, was thrust into the global limelight as a media darling and an heroic symbol standing against Donald Trump and his violent bully minions. That was the story that played for days all across the Fake News media. Unfortunately, the fact that it turned out to be

a false story didn’t prevent it from being the model for innumerable similar reports in the anti-Trump media in the months that followed.

“I’ve gotten depressingly familiar with protester beatings at Trump rallies,” Josh Marshall at TPM wrote concerning the incident. “69 year old Shirley Teeter, who wears an oxygen mask and lugs around a tank to support it, was protesting outside a Trump rally in North Carolina when a feral Trump backer turned on her and punched her right in the face. Cold-cocked her, as Shirley put it.”

Marshall was awestruck by Teeter’s heroism because immediately after the alleged beat-down, she popped up on local media to deliver an anti-Trump, pro-Hill-

ary political message. “Now here’s the kicker that makes me absolutely love this woman,” says Marshall, who then enthusiastically reports: “She gets punched hard in the face, knocked down and bruised. She gets driven home by the police. But damn, Shirley pops right back up and *she’s on message*.... She asks if people find a Trump supporter punching her in the face deplorable. How can you not love that?” (Emphasis in original.)

Indeed, how can one not? — except that this lovely narrative is false; it is a prime example of not only genuinely fake news, but fake news based upon a fake incident, a deliberate provocation and fabrication. How do we know this? Well, there is solid evidence: eyewitnesses, video of the incident, Teeter’s later revision and “walk-back” testimony concerning her allegation, and a videotaped sting interview in which the instigator of the provocation admits that Teeter was acting on behalf of operators for the Hillary Clinton campaign and the Democratic National Committee.

However, at first, all most of us had was a he said/she said situation. The man accused of assaulting Teeter (spelled Teter in some stories), Richard Campbell, told a much different story, one in which he was the victim of Teeter. Whom to believe?

According to Campbell’s attorney, Ruth Smith, Campbell is a 73-year-old retired electrical engineer who has lived his entire life in South Carolina. He suffers from cataracts, is legally blind, and is on various medications including heart medication. On the weekend of September 10, 2016, Campbell and his wife traveled to Asheville, North Carolina, to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. According to Smith, the Campbells “decided to extend their vacation in Asheville when they learned that Donald Trump was coming to the civic center. The couple attended the Trump rally peacefully. As

they exited the rally, approximately 1,000 protesters were allowed to surround the exits of the Civic Center. Many of these protestors hurled profanities and other insults at the Rally attendees as they left. Mr. Campbell and his wife observed what they believed to be saliva on their clothing as they passed through the crowd, presumably from protestors.”

Smith stated that “Mr. Campbell was led by the left hand by his wife as they exited the building and made their way single file through the crowd. As they left, Ms. Shirley Teeter approached Mr. Campbell from behind and grabbed him on the left shoulder. Mr. Campbell reflexively moved his arm to release himself from Ms. Teeter’s grip. Ms. Teeter then fell backwards onto the ground.”

Shirley Teeter gave several media interviews claiming that she was “punched in the face,” “sucker punched,” and “punched in the jaw.” She also claimed she suffered severe injuries requiring treatment at Mission Hospital. In addition, she repeatedly denied ever touching Campbell and claimed that she had engaged Campbell in a discussion about living in Russia and he “sucker punched me.”

“Fortunately, witnesses have come forward which have disputed Ms. Teeter’s account and have stated that she was in

fact the aggressor by first grabbing Mr. Campbell,” Smith stated. “Video has also surfaced which shows Mr. Campbell walking through the crowd led by his wife by the hand. He stumbles at one point due to his poor vision. The video shows Ms. Teeter approaching Mr. Campbell from behind and reaching up her arm to grab his left shoulder from behind. The video clearly shows that Ms. Teeter did not engage Mr. Campbell in any conversation prior to the incident despite her claims.” The video to which she refers is available on Facebook, YouTube, and many websites, and does bear out Campbell’s description of the event.

In a subsequent interview with TV station WLOS, Teeter back-pedaled, suggesting that perhaps Campbell didn’t “cold-cock” her. According to WLOS, she now says “it’s possible that he could have struck her with his backhand.”

Despite her claim of injuries, Teeter was later photographed at the rally smiling with other protesters. She does appear to have a bandage on her left elbow. However, as Smith points out, “Multiple video and photographic evidence of Ms. Teeter’s face the following day show no bruising or other trauma to Ms. Teeter despite her claim that she was ‘punched in the jaw.’” Smith adds that “photographs of Mr. Campbell’s hands also show no sign

of trauma. As Mr. Campbell is on blood thinner, he bruises easily and with little pressure applied.”

But the slam-dunk on this whole affair came with the release of an undercover video interview with a notorious Clinton/DNC dirty-tricks operative, Scott Foval. In the now-infamous interview, entitled “Rigging the Election — Video I,” conducted by Project Veritas, Foval boasts about his unethical (and often illegal) operations involving protests, staged incidents, and incitement to violence. Foval brags that Teeter “is one of our activists” who carried out a very successful “bird-dog” operation. He then proceeds to explain in elaborate detail that “bird-dogging” involves an intricately choreographed operation of hundreds of paid and volunteer activists trained to create “anarchy” and media-exploitable events at Trump rallies.

And the Shirley Teeter “bird-dog” stunt was but one of *many* admitted provocations staged by Foval and his associates Bob Creamer, Aaron Black, Zulema Rodriguez, Cesar Vargas, and others.

Bob Creamer, whom Foval approvingly describes as “diabolical,” is a top Democratic Party operative who, incredibly, visited the Obama White House 342 times and had 47 meetings directly with President Barack Obama himself! Creamer is on tape confirming that Hillary Clinton was personally involved in ordering the anti-Trump chaos that he and Foval were producing.

So, did any of the “I’m With Her” Hillary shills of the Fake News thought cartel rush out to demand explanations from Clinton, Obama, and the DNC over these explosive admissions? Did any of them revisit and correct the Teeter-Trump-Campbell story? Did any of them put Scott Foval or Bob Creamer on the hot seat over their damning admissions? Did any of them apologize to the Campbells for ruining their wedding anniversary, violating their rights, and subjecting Mr. Campbell to arrest and malicious defamation? The answers to those questions are shameful, but not surprising: no, no, no, and no.

In fact, the same Fake News Hillary shills have done their worst to deep-six the Project Veritas videos and discredit their producer, James O’Keefe. And why not? After all, they already had their talking points: Hillary is good, Trump is bad;



**“Victim” exposed:** Shirley Teeter shot to global fame by claiming she had been brutally “cold-cocked” by a Trump supporter. She was exposed as a trained anti-Trump provocateur.





**Planned chaos, violence:** Democratic Party operative Scott Foval (shown), caught on video infamously boasting of causing chaos and violence, bragged that Shirley Teeter was one of his agents.

Hillary supporters are heroically virtuous, Trump supporters are evil and violent.

TPM's Josh Marshall summed up the preferred "Trump-violence" meme in his concluding comments: "But seriously, why is there so much violence around Trump rallies? It's almost as if there's some violence somehow embedded in the message itself." And that charge of "Trump violence" is the message that the Fake News media have repeated and reinforced innumerable times, while either ignoring or sniffing and scoffing at numerous, real violent attacks on Trump supporters and threats of violence and assassination against President Trump himself.

Now, apologists for the Fake News cartel might argue that, OK, the fact that the major media failed to expose the Foval-Creamer hands behind the Shirley Teeter stunt and other evidence exculpating Richard Campbell shows irresponsibility and/or blatant anti-Trump bias on the part of the media. But, the apologist argument would continue, it is unfair to criticize the press for publishing the initial stories of the incident because it was "news," and they had no way of knowing at the time that this was a faked event.

There are at least two things wrong with attempts like this to exculpate the media. First, the Teeter case is a screamingly ob-

vious example of the anti-Trump media grabbing and running with a "gotcha" incident that they blew way out of proportion, even if it had been genuine, not fake. In a highly charged political protest (where the anti-Trump protesters are the aggressors, violating the rights of fellow Americans to peacefully, legally assemble and hear from their candidate), it should not be surprising if the pushing, shoving, spitting, screaming, and insulting (by the protesters) leads to punches being thrown (by the protesters and/or the Trump supporters). If Teeter had been punched, unprovoked, it might have been worth a minor story or two, but that's all, because in the melees such as we have been witnessing for the past year at political rallies, it is difficult to sort out the claims vs. facts on the spot. And, in this case, Teeter was clearly not seriously hurt. Moreover, the Foval-Creamer tactics of the Left in using activists to create incidents for media exploitation were already well known before the Project Veritas sting videos came out, so any savvy reporter or editor should have known to be cautiously skeptical about these events. But the "news" organizations that ran with the Teeter story did so because it reinforced the narrative that they were already furiously flogging: that Donald Trump represented the dark, violent fascist streak in America's "basket of deplorables."

Second, put in context, the sensationalized Teeter incident (even if it were real, not fake) was a "nothingburger" compared to numerous real, verified, witnessed, and videotaped brutally violent attacks on Trump supporters: elderly men and women, children, high-school and college students, blacks, Hispanics, Asians, active service members, retired military veterans, and more, simply for wearing a "Make America Great Again" cap, or attending a Trump rally. None of these received the type of media attention lavished on the Teeter case and similar fake (or questionable) incidents used to reinforce the "Trump violence" meme. In fact, most of them were totally ignored by the oh-so-concerned-over-violence reporters and commentators. You won't see any of the civility and compassion advocates of the press crying tears and wringing hands over verified, videotaped victims of vicious beatings by anti-Trump protesters. Victims such as:

- Jade Armenio, a sophomore at Woodside High in Redwood City, California, who was kicked, beaten, and had her hair and earrings ripped out;
- David Wilcox, 49, who was badly beaten in Chicago by a group of attackers taunting him as a "white boy" Trump supporter;
- Feras Jabro, a 21-year-old Arab-American, who was attacked and viciously beaten by a mob of anti-Trump protesters in El Cajon, California, for wearing a Trump cap; and
- A pro-Trump college-age young woman who had her hair set on fire by an anti-Trump protester at President Trump's inauguration, while other threatening protesters chant "Love Trumps Hate!"

There were also large-scale attacks. Mobs of anti-Trump thugs attacked supporters at a Trump rally in San Jose, California, pelting them with eggs, beating them bloody, and ripping their clothes.

All of the above graphic incidents — and hundreds more — have been caught on videotape and are widely available on the Internet. But don't expect the Fake News media to shake off their Trump Derangement Syndrome and allow their viewers and readers to see the other side. That would destroy the effect of the "Trump violence" meme they have so assiduously flogged for the past year. ■

# The Freedom Index

*A Congressional Scorecard Based on the U.S. Constitution*

*Our first look at the 115th Congress shows how every member of the House and Senate voted on key issues such as the GOP's ObamaCare replacement bill (House), federal funding for abortion (House), and NATO (Senate).*

## House Vote Descriptions

**1 Major Regulations.** Under the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act (H.R. 26), regulations would require congressional approval before any “major rule” issued by an executive branch agency could go into effect. “Major rules” would include any regulation that would have an annual economic impact of \$100 million or more. The intent of the legislation is to rein in the executive branch from usurping legislative powers.

The House passed H.R. 26 on January 5, 2017 by a vote of 237 to 187 (Roll Call 23). We have assigned pluses to the yeas not simply because of the economic impact of the “major rules,” but also because all legislative powers in the Constitution are vested in Congress, not the executive branch. Mandatory rules issued by the executive branch might not be called laws, but they have the same effect as laws, and what they are called does not change the reality.



AP Images

**Regulatory impact:** The Competitive Enterprise Institute reported earlier this year that the Environmental Protection Agency alone has 15 “economically significant” rules in various stages of implementation, each having an annual economic impact of \$100 million or more. The House passed a bill requiring congressional approval before such a rule could go into effect.

**2 Federal Funding for Abortion.** The No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion and Abortion Insurance Full Disclosure Act (H.R. 7) would permanently prohibit federal funds from being used to pay for abortion services or health insurance plans that include abor-

tion coverage, as well as prohibit the District of Columbia from using its own local funds to provide or pay for abortions. Additionally, the Office of Personnel Management would be required to ensure that qualified health plans under the state exchanges were not providing

## About This Index

**“T**he Freedom Index: A Congressional Scorecard Based on the U.S. Constitution” rates congressmen based on their adherence to constitutional principles of limited government, fiscal responsibility, national sovereignty, and a traditional foreign policy of avoiding foreign entanglements. To learn how any representative or senator voted on the key measures described herein, look him or her up in the vote charts.

The scores are derived by dividing a congressman’s constitutional votes (pluses) by the total number he cast (pluses and minuses) and multiplying by 100. This is our first index for

the 115th Congress. The average House score for this index (votes 1-10) is 41 percent, and the average Senate score is 35 percent. Two representatives (Thomas Massie of Kentucky and Walter Jones of North Carolina) and one senator (Rand Paul of Kentucky) earned 100-percent scores. We encourage readers to examine how their own congressmen voted on each of the 10 key measures. We also encourage readers to commend legislators for their constitutional votes and to urge improvement where needed.

An online version of the “Freedom Index” is also available (click on “Freedom Index” at [TheNewAmerican.com](http://TheNewAmerican.com)). ■



# House Vote Scores ✓

	Votes:	1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>ALABAMA</b>												
1 Byrne (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
2 Roby (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
3 Rogers, M. (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
4 Aderholt (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
5 Brooks, M. (R)	78%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	?
6 Palmer (R)	67%		+	+	+	+	+	?	-	+	-	-
7 Sewell (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>ALASKA</b>												
AL Young, Don (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
<b>ARIZONA</b>												
1 O'Halleran (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
2 McSally (R)	50%		+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
3 Grijalva (D)	22%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	?
4 Gosar (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
5 Biggs (R)	80%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-
6 Schweikert (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
7 Gallego, (D)	22%		?	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-
8 Franks (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
9 Sinema (D)	25%		-	-	-	-	-	+	?	-	+	?
<b>ARKANSAS</b>												
1 Crawford (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
2 Hill (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
3 Womack (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
4 Westerman (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
<b>CALIFORNIA</b>												
1 LaMalfa (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
2 Huffman (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
3 Garamendi (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
4 McClintock (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
5 Thompson, M. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
6 Matsui (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
7 Bera (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
8 Cook (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
9 McNerney (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
10 Denham (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
11 DeSaulnier (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
12 Pelosi (D)	11%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	?
13 Lee, B. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
14 Speier (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
15 Swalwell (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
16 Costa (D)	22%		-	?	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
17 Khanna (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
18 Eshoo (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
19 Lofgren (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
20 Panetta (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
21 Valadao (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
22 Nunes (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
23 McCarthy (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
24 Caraball (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
25 Knight (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
26 Brownley (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
27 Chu (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
28 Schiff (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
29 Cárdenas (D)	20%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-
30 Sherman (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
31 Aguilar (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-

	Votes:	1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
32 Napolitano (D)	11%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	?
33 Lieu (D)	29%		-	?	-	-	-	-	?	+	+	?
34 Vacant												
35 Torres (D)	20%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-
36 Ruiz (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
37 Bass (D)	14%		-	-	-	?	?	-	?	-	+	-
38 Sanchez (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
39 Royce (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
40 Roybal-Allard (D)	11%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	?
41 Takano (D)	11%		-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	+	-
42 Calvert (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
43 Waters, Maxine (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
44 Barragán (D)	20%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-
45 Walters, Mimi (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
46 Correa (D)	30%		-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-
47 Lowenthal (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
48 Rohrabacher (R)	67%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	?
49 Issa (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
50 Hunter (R)	78%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	?
51 Vargas (D)	20%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-
52 Peters, S. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
53 Davis, S. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>COLORADO</b>												
1 DeGette (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
2 Polis (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
3 Tipton (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
4 Buck (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
5 Lamborn (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
6 Coffman (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
7 Perlmutter (D)	11%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	?
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>												
1 Larson, J. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
2 Courtney (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
3 DeLauro (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
4 Himes (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
5 Esty (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>DELAWARE</b>												
AL Blunt Rochester (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>FLORIDA</b>												
1 Gaetz (R)	80%		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
2 Dunn (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
3 Yoho (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-
4 Rutherford (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
5 Lawson (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
6 DeSantis (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-
7 Murphy (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
8 Posey (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-
9 Soto (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
10 Demings (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
11 Webster (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-
12 Bilirakis (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-
13 Crist (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
14 Castor (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
15 Ross (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
16 Buchanan (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
17 Rooney, T. (R)	67%		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	?
18 Mast (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-

The scores are derived by dividing the constitutionally correct votes (pluses) by the total number of pluses and minuses and multiplying by 100. (A "?" means a rep. did not vote; a "P" means he voted "present." If a rep. cast fewer than five votes in this index, a score is not assigned.) Match numbers at the top of the chart to House vote descriptions on pages 20, 22, and 24.

abortion coverage. There is a rape, incest, and life of the mother exemption.

The House passed H.R. 7 on January 24, 2017 by a vote of 238 to 183 (Roll Call 65). We have assigned pluses to the yeas for two reasons. First, the Constitution does not authorize the federal government to fund any healthcare-related programs. Such issues should be left up to the states, or, ideally, left to the free market. Second, abortion is the taking of an innocent human life, period. It is unconscionable that American taxpayers' money should be used to subsidize such a practice.

**3 Stream Protection Rule.** This legislation (House Joint Resolution 38) would disapprove of and nullify the "Stream Protection Rule" issued by the Department of the Interior's Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement in 2016. This new rule would "jeopardize thousands of coal and coal-related jobs, devastate coal producing communities, and put a majority of the country's coal reserves off limits," according to the bill's lead sponsor, Representative Bill Johnson (R-Ohio).

The House passed H. J. Res. 38 on February 1, 2017 by a vote of 228 to 194 (Roll Call 73). We have assigned pluses to the yeas not only because the federal government has no constitutional authority to issue environmental regulations, but also because environmental regulations such as the "Stream Protection Rule" destroy jobs and increase energy costs. Also, states already protect streamwater.

**4 Predator Control.** This legislation (House Joint Resolution 69) would disapprove of and nullify a U.S. Department of Interior rule, "Non-Subsistence Take of Wildlife, and Public Participating and Close Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska," which was released in final form on August 5, 2016. According to the bill's sponsor, Don Young (R-Alaska): "Not only does this [rule] undermine Alaska's authority to manage fish and wildlife upon refuge lands, it fundamentally destroys a cooperative relationship between Alaska and the federal government. I continue to fight to protect Alaska's sovereignty and management authority and will use every tool at my discretion to strike this rule."

The House passed H. J. Res. 69 on February 16, 2017 by a vote of 225 to 193 (Roll Call 98). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because it reaffirms Alaska's sovereign power to manage its wildlife. Since the power of wildlife management was not granted to the federal government by the Constitution, it is reserved to Alaska and the other 49 states according to the 10th Amendment.

**5 Federal Family Planning.** This legislation (House Joint Resolution 43) would disapprove of and nullify a Health and Human Services Department (HHS) rule that prevents states from restricting federal family planning funding to a health provider, such as denying funds to a center that provides abortions, for any basis other than its ability to provide health services. Under the current rule, HHS can withhold family planning grants to any state that restricts the participation of a health provider in the family planning services grant program.

The House passed H. J. Res. 43 on February 16, 2017 by a vote of 230 to 188 (Roll Call 99). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because this bill limits the power of an unconstitutional federal government agency. The U.S. Constitution does not

authorize the federal government to get involved in healthcare, much less establish a Department of Health and Human Services, so any attempt to limit the power of an unconstitutional federal agency is a step in the right direction.

**6 Veteran Gun Purchases.** The Veterans 2nd Amendment Protection Act (H.R. 1181) would prohibit a Veterans Affairs Department determination that an individual is mentally incompetent from being used as a basis for that individual's inclusion in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, which would thereby prevent the individual from purchasing a gun. Under the measure, an individual could not be considered to be mentally defective without a judicial authority's finding that the individual poses a danger to himself or herself or others.

The House passed H.R. 1181 on March 16, 2017 by a vote of 240 to 175 (Roll Call 169). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because the Veterans Affairs Department determination referenced above is a clear violation of the Second Amendment, which states that "the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."



AP Images

**Biting off more than it should chew:** The U.S. government should not tell Alaska how to manage its fish and wildlife, and in a House vote most congressmen agreed.



	Votes:	1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
19 Rooney, F. (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
20 Hastings (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
21 Frankel (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
22 Deutch (D)	11%		-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	+	-
23 Wasserman Schultz (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
24 Wilson, F. (D)	11%		?	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
25 Diaz-Balart (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
26 Curbelo (R)	38%		+	+	-	?	?	+	-	-	-	-
27 Ros-Lehtinen (R)	50%		+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-
<b>GEORGIA</b>												
1 Carter, E.L. (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
2 Bishop, S. (D)	38%		-	-	+	?	?	+	-	-	+	-
3 Ferguson (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
4 Johnson, H. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
5 Lewis, John (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
6 Vacant												
7 Woodall (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
8 Scott, A. (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
9 Collins, D. (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
10 Hice (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
11 Loudermilk (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
12 Allen (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
13 Scott, D. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
14 Graves, T. (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
<b>HAWAII</b>												
1 Hanabusa (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
2 Gabbard (D)	22%		-	?	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-
<b>IDAHO</b>												
1 Labrador (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
2 Simpson (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
<b>ILLINOIS</b>												
1 Rush (D)			?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	+	-
2 Kelly, R. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
3 Lipinski (D)	30%		-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-
4 Gutiérrez (D)	22%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	?
5 Quigley (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
6 Roskam (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
7 Davis, D. (D)	11%		-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	+	-
8 Krishnamoorthi (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
9 Schakowsky (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
10 Schneider (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
11 Foster (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
12 Bost (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
13 Davis, R. (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
14 Hultgren (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
15 Shimkus (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
16 Kinzinger (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
17 Bustos (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
18 LaHood (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
<b>INDIANA</b>												
1 Visclosky (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
2 Walorski (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
3 Banks (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
4 Rokita (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
5 Brooks, S. (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
6 Messer (R)	67%		+	+	?	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
7 Carson (D)	11%		-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	+	-
8 Bucshon (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
9 Hollingsworth (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
<b>IOWA</b>												
1 Blum (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
2 Loebsack (D)	11%		-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	+	-

	Votes:	1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3 Young, David (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
4 King, S. (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
<b>KANSAS</b>												
1 Marshall (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
2 Jenkins, L. (R)	56%		?	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
3 Yoder (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
4 Estes (R)										+	-	-
<b>KENTUCKY</b>												
1 Comer (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
2 Guthrie (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
3 Yarmuth (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
4 Massie (R)	100%		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
5 Rogers, H. (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
6 Barr (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
<b>LOUISIANA</b>												
1 Scalise (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
2 Richmond (D)	14%		-	-	-	?	?	-	?	-	+	-
3 Higgins, C. (R)	67%		+	+	+	+	+	+	?	-	-	-
4 Johnson, M. (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
5 Abraham (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
6 Graves, G. (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
<b>MAINE</b>												
1 Pingree (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
2 Poliquin (R)	56%		+	+	-	+	+	+	-	?	-	-
<b>MARYLAND</b>												
1 Harris, A. (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
2 Ruppersberger (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
3 Sarbanes (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
4 Brown, A. (D)	11%		-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	+	-
5 Hoyer (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
6 Delaney (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
7 Cummings (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
8 Raskin (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>												
1 Neal (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
2 McGovern (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
3 Tsongas (D)	11%		-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	+	-
4 Kennedy, Joseph P. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
5 Clark, K. (D)	11%		-	-	?	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
6 Moulton (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
7 Capuano (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
8 Lynch (D)	11%		-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	+	-
9 Keating (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>MICHIGAN</b>												
1 Bergman (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
2 Huizenga (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
3 Amash (R)	90%		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+
4 Moolenaar (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
5 Kildee (D)	11%		-	-	?	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
6 Upton (R)	50%		+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
7 Walberg (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
8 Bishop, M. (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
9 Levin (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
10 Mitchell (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
11 Trott (R)	50%		+	+	+	?	?	+	-	-	-	-
12 Dingell (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
13 Conyers (D)	11%		-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	+	-
14 Lawrence (D)	11%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	+	-
<b>MINNESOTA</b>												
1 Walz (D)	20%		-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
2 Lewis, Jason (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-

The scores are derived by dividing the constitutionally correct votes (pluses) by the total number of pluses and minuses and multiplying by 100. (A “?” means a rep. did not vote; a “P” means he voted “present.” If a rep. cast fewer than five votes in this index, a score is not assigned.) Match numbers at the top of the chart to House vote descriptions on pages 20, 22, and 24.

## 7 Homeland Security Defense of Agriculture.

The Securing Our Agriculture and Food Act (H.R. 1238) would expand the War on Terror to the farm and dairy front in order to “share information and quickly respond to agro-terrorism threats,” according to the bill’s lead sponsor, Representative David Young (R-Iowa). Congressman Young cited the 2015 avian influenza that “wiped out millions of layer hens, turkeys, and backyard flocks” in Iowa to justify the need for his bill, despite the fact that the bird flu was not caused by terrorists.

The House passed H.R. 1238 on March 22, 2017 by a vote of 406 to 6 (Roll Call 187). We have assigned pluses to the nays because this bill expands the “War on Terror” to include the fictitious and non-existent threat of “agro-terrorism” in the American homeland, thereby further interjecting the U.S. government into the agriculture sector, despite the absence of any constitutional power to manage this or any other sector of the American economy.

## 8 Omnibus Appropriations.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act or omnibus bill (H.R. 244) would provide \$1.16 trillion in discretionary appropriations through September 30, 2017 for the following federal departments and agencies: \$20.9 billion for Agriculture, \$56.6 billion for Commerce-Justice-Science, \$593 billion for Defense, \$37.8 billion for Energy-Water, \$21.5 billion for Financial Services, \$42.4 billion for Homeland Security, \$32.2 billion for Interior-Environment, \$161 billion for Labor-HHS-Education, \$4.4 billion for Legislative, \$53.1 billion for State-Foreign Operations, and \$57.7 billion for Transportation-HUD. The measure would also authorize classified amounts of funding for various U.S. intelligence agencies.

The House agreed to the omnibus appropriations bill on May 3, 2017 by a vote of 309 to 118 (Roll Call 249). We have assigned pluses to the nays because with this fiscal 2017 omnibus appropriations bill, Congress is failing to address its fiscally and constitutionally irresponsible budgeting and appropriating process that is currently yielding annual federal deficits measured in the hundreds of billions of dollars that contribute directly to the dramatic growth of our nearly \$20 trillion national debt.



**ObamaCare cure?** President Trump, shown here at a White House healthcare meeting, has pushed for an ObamaCare replacement bill that constitutionally minded critics have called “ObamaCare Lite” and “ObamaCare 2.0.”

## 9 ObamaCare Replacement.

Rather than voting to repeal ObamaCare, the House voted instead to retain much of ObamaCare under the guise of “repeal and replace.” The legislation (H.R. 1628), known as the American Health Care Act (AHCA), was strongly backed by President Trump and the Republican congressional leadership. Consequently most Republicans voted for the bill, but 20 voted against it. Liberty-minded Representative Thomas Massie (R-Ky.) noted that the AHCA entailed “replacing mandates, subsidies and penalties with mandates, subsidies and penalties.” Another Republican lawmaker, Representative Andy Biggs (Ariz.), while “applaud[ing] all the hard work of the House Freedom Caucus, which has made every effort ... to improve this legislation,” nonetheless concluded that the “final bill ... does not meet the promises I made to my constituents.” Biggs added, “I remain committed to a full repeal of ObamaCare.”

The House passed H.R. 1628 on May 4, 2017 by a vote 217 to 213 (Roll Call 256). We have assigned pluses to the nays because ObamaCare should be repealed, not replaced with a Republican variant of unconstitutional government healthcare that more liberty-minded lawmakers have referred to as “ObamaCare Lite” and “ObamaCare 2.0.” Admittedly, the Democrats who voted against this GOP alterna-

tives have gotten “pluses” on this for the wrong reasons (they do not want to move away from the ObamaCare brand and in many cases want even more socialized medicine), but the Republicans who voted against the bill based on principle as opposed to partisanship are to be applauded.

## 10 National Computer Forensics Institute Authorization.

The Strengthening State and Local Cyber Crime Fighting Act of 2017 (H.R. 1616) would, according to the bill, authorize “within the United States Secret Service a National Computer Forensics Institute” for fiscal years 2017 through 2022. According to the bill, “The Institute shall disseminate information related to the investigation and prevention of cyber and electronic crime and related threats, *and educate, train, and equip State, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and judges.*” (Emphasis added.) In the name of combating cyber crime, this bill would further erode the distinction between local law enforcement and federal policing.

The House passed H.R. 1616 on May 16, 2017 by a vote of 408 to 3 (Roll Call 258). We have assigned pluses to the nays because providing federal equipment and training to state and local law-enforcement officers not only is unconstitutional, but also further federalizes the police system. ■



	Votes:	1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3 Paulsen (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
4 McCollum (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
5 Ellison (D)	20%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-
6 Emmer (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
7 Peterson (D)	80%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-
8 Nolan (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>MISSISSIPPI</b>												
1 Kelly, T. (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
2 Thompson, B. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
3 Harper (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
4 Palazzo (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
<b>MISSOURI</b>												
1 Clay (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
2 Wagner (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
3 Luetkemeyer (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
4 Hartzler (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
5 Cleaver (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
6 Graves, S. (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
7 Long (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
8 Smith, J. (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
<b>MONTANA</b>												
Vacant												
<b>NEBRASKA</b>												
1 Fortenberry (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
2 Bacon (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
3 Smith, Adrian (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
<b>NEVADA</b>												
1 Titus (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
2 Amodei (R)	50%		+	+	+	?	?	+	-	-	-	-
3 Rosen (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
4 Kihuen (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE</b>												
1 Shea-Porter (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
2 Kuster (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>NEW JERSEY</b>												
1 Norcross (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
2 LoBiondo (R)	50%		+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-
3 MacArthur (R)	50%		+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-
4 Smith, C. (R)	50%		+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-
5 Gottheimer (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
6 Pallone (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
7 Lance (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-
8 Sires (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
9 Pascrell (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
10 Payne (D)	13%		-	-	-	-	-	?	?	-	+	-
11 Frelinghuysen (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
12 Watson Coleman (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>NEW MEXICO</b>												
1 Lujan Grisham, M. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
2 Pearce (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
3 Luján, B.R. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>NEW YORK</b>												
1 Zeldin (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
2 King, P. (R)	44%		+	+	+	-	+	?	-	-	-	-
3 Suozzi (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
4 Rice, K. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
5 Meeks (D)	11%		-	-	?	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
6 Meng (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
7 Velázquez (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
8 Jeffries (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
9 Clarke, Y. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-

	Votes:	1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10 Nadler (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
11 Donovan (R)	50%		+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-
12 Maloney, C. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
13 Espaillat (D)	20%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
14 Crowley (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
15 Serrano (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
16 Engel (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
17 Lowey (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
18 Maloney, S.P. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
19 Faso (R)	50%		+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
20 Tonko (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
21 Stefanik (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
22 Tenney (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
23 Reed, T. (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
24 Katko (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-
25 Slaughter (D)	14%		-	?	-	-	-	?	?	-	+	-
26 Higgins, B. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
27 Collins, C. (R)	50%		?	+	+	+	+	?	-	-	-	-

**NORTH CAROLINA**

1 Butterfield (D)	13%		-	-	-	?	?	-	-	-	+	-
2 Holding (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
3 Jones (R)	100%		+	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
4 Price (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
5 Foxx (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
6 Walker (R)	67%		+	+	?	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
7 Rouzer (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
8 Hudson (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
9 Pittenger (R)	67%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	?	-	-
10 McHenry (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
11 Meadows (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
12 Adams (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
13 Budd (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-

**NORTH DAKOTA**

AL Cramer (R)	56%		+	+	+	+	?	+	-	-	-	-
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**OHIO**

1 Chabot (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
2 Wenstrup (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
3 Beatty (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
4 Jordan (R)	67%		+	+	+	+	+	?	-	+	-	-
5 Latta (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
6 Johnson, B. (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
7 Gibbs (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
8 Davidson (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
9 Kaptur (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
10 Turner (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-
11 Fudge (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
12 Tiberi (R)	67%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	?
13 Ryan, T. (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
14 Joyce (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-
15 Stivers (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
16 Renacci (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-

**OKLAHOMA**

1 Bridenstine (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
2 Mullin (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
3 Lucas (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
4 Cole (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
5 Russell (R)	70%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-

**OREGON**

1 Bonamici (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
2 Walden (R)	60%		+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
3 Blumenauer (D)	11%		-	?	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
4 DeFazio (D)	10%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
5 Schrader (D)	22%		-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-

The scores are derived by dividing the constitutionally correct votes (pluses) by the total number of pluses and minuses and multiplying by 100. (A “?” means a rep. did not vote; a “P” means he voted “present.” If a rep. cast fewer than five votes in this index, a score is not assigned.) Match numbers at the top of the chart to House vote descriptions on pages 20, 22, and 24.

	Votes:	1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>PENNSYLVANIA</b>												
1 Brady, R. (D)	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	?
2 Evans (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
3 Kelly, M. (R)	56%	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	-	-	-	-
4 Perry (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
5 Thompson, G. (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
6 Costello (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-
7 Meehan (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-
8 Fitzpatrick (R)	50%	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	-
9 Shuster (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
10 Marino (R)	63%	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	-	-	-	?
11 Barletta (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
12 Rothfus (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
13 Boyle (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
14 Doyle (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
15 Dent (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-
16 Smucker (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
17 Cartwright (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
18 Murphy, T. (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
<b>RHODE ISLAND</b>												
1 Cicilline (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
2 Langevin (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA</b>												
1 Sanford (R)	70%	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
2 Wilson, J. (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
3 Duncan, Jeff (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
4 Gowdy (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
5 Vacant												
6 Clyburn (D)	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	+	-
7 Rice, T. (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA</b>												
AL Noem (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
<b>TENNESSEE</b>												
1 Roe (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
2 Duncan, John (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
3 Fleischmann (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
4 DesJarlais (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
5 Cooper (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
6 Black, D. (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
7 Blackburn, M. (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
8 Kustoff (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
9 Cohen (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>TEXAS</b>												
1 Gohmert (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
2 Poe (R)	78%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	?
3 Johnson, S. (R)	78%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	?
4 Ratcliffe (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
5 Hensarling (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
6 Barton (R)	63%	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	-	+	-	-
7 Culberson (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
8 Brady, K. (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
9 Green, A. (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
10 McCaul (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
11 Conaway (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
12 Granger (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
13 Thornberry (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
14 Weber (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
15 Gonzalez (D)	30%	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-
16 O'Rourke (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
17 Flores (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
18 Jackson Lee (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
19 Arrington (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-

	Votes:	1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
20 Castro (D)	20%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-
21 Smith, L. (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
22 Olson (R)	67%	+	+	+	?	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
23 Hurd (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-
24 Marchant (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
25 Williams (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
26 Burgess (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
27 Farenthold (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
28 Cuellar (D)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-
29 Green, G. (D)	20%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-
30 Johnson, E.B. (D)	11%	-	?	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
31 Carter, J. (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
32 Sessions (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
33 Veasey (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
34 Vela (D)	40%	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	+	-
35 Doggett (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
36 Babin (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-

**UTAH**

1 Bishop, R. (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
2 Stewart (R)	63%	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	-	+	-	-
3 Chaffetz (R)	75%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	?	-	?
4 Love (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-

**VERMONT**

AL Welch (D)	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	+	-
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**VIRGINIA**

1 Wittman (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
2 Taylor (R)	56%	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
3 Scott, R. (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
4 McEachin (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
5 Garrett (R)	80%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
6 Goodlatte (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
7 Brat (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
8 Beyer (D)	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	+	-
9 Griffith (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
10 Comstock (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-
11 Connolly (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-

**WASHINGTON**

1 DelBene (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
2 Larsen, R. (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
3 Herrera Beutler (R)	60%	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-
4 Newhouse (R)	86%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	?	?	?
5 McMorris Rodgers (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
6 Kilmer (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
7 Jayapal (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
8 Reichert (R)	50%	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	-
9 Smith, Adam (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
10 Heck (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-

**WEST VIRGINIA**

1 McKinley (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
2 Mooney (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
3 Jenkins, E. (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-

**WISCONSIN**

1 Ryan, P. (R)		?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	-	-	?
2 Pocan (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
3 Kind (D)	30%	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-
4 Moore (D)	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-
5 Sensenbrenner (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
6 Grothman (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
7 Duffy (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
8 Gallagher (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-

**WYOMING**

AL Cheney (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-
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The scores are derived by dividing the constitutionally correct votes (pluses) by the total number of pluses and minuses and multiplying by 100. (A "?" means a rep. did not vote; a "P" means he voted "present." If a rep. cast fewer than five votes in this index, a score is not assigned.) Match numbers at the top of the chart to House vote descriptions on pages 20, 22, and 24.



# Senate Vote Descriptions

**1 Balancing the Budget.** During consideration of the congressional budget for fiscal 2017 (Senate Concurrent Resolution 3) on January 4, 2017, Senator Rand Paul (R-Ky.) pointed out in a speech on the Senate floor that this proposed budget would add nearly \$10 trillion to our national debt over the next 10 years without ever balancing the budget. He added: “I’m not for it. That’s not why I ran for office. It’s not why I’m here. It’s not why I spend time away from my family and from my medical practice. It’s because debt is consuming our country.” Paul went on to introduce a substitute amendment that would balance the budget by 2024.

The Senate rejected Paul’s substitute amendment on January 9, 2017 by a vote of 14 to 83 (Roll Call 3). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because fiscal responsibility is an excellent first step toward constitutional responsibility.

**2 Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid.** During consideration of the congressional budget for fiscal 2017 (Senate Concurrent Resolution 3), Senator Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) offered an amendment to prevent the reduction of Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid benefits; an increase of the retirement age; or privatizing Social Security.

The Senate did not vote directly on Sanders’ amendment but on a motion to waive all applicable sections of the budget law with respect to a point of order against Sanders’ amendment. The Senate rejected this motion on January 10, 2017 by a vote of 49 to 49. (Roll Call 6; a three-fifths majority of the entire Senate — 60 votes — was needed to waive the applicable sections of the budget law). We have assigned pluses to the nays because the rapid projected growth in future spending for these programs under current law is unsustainable due to both the declining ratio between workers and Social Security recipients, and also the fact that people are living longer. Plus, there is no constitutional authorization for these programs. Those who genuinely want to help the needy should recognize



“Hands off Medicare,” demands Senator Bernie Sanders. Yet the projected explosive future growth in spending for Medicare, Social Security, and other “entitlements” under current law makes these programs unsustainable.

that the best way to do it is to phase out government social-welfare programs in favor of private alternatives.

**3 Stream Protection Rule.** This legislation (House Joint Resolution 38) would disapprove of and nullify the “Stream Protection Rule” issued by the Department of the Interior’s Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement in 2016. This new rule would “jeopardize thousands of coal and coal-related jobs, devastate coal producing communities, and put a majority of the country’s coal reserves off limits,” according to the bill’s lead sponsor in the House, Representative Bill Johnson (R-Ohio).

The Senate passed H. J. Res. 38 on February 2, 2017 by a vote of 54 to 45 (Roll Call 43). We have assigned pluses to the yeas not only because the federal government has no constitutional authority to issue environmental regulations, but also because environmental regulations such as the “Stream Protection Rule” destroy jobs and increase energy costs. Also, states already protect streamwater.

**4 Firearms Purchases.** This legislation (House Joint Resolution 40) would disapprove of and nullify a Social Security Administration rule that outlines reporting of information by the agency on certain non-elderly individuals who receive disability insurance or Supplemental Security Income benefits for inclusion in the National Instant Criminal Background Check System for gun purchases if they receive benefits based on a finding of mental impairment and use a “representative payee” because they cannot manage their benefit payments.

The Senate passed H. J. Res. 40 on February 15, 2017 by a vote of 57 to 43 (Roll Call 66). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because the Social Security Administration rule violates the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution by infringing on the right of people to keep and bear arms.

**5 Predator Control.** This legislation (House Joint Resolution 69) would disapprove of and nullify a U.S. Department of Interior rule, “Non-Subsistence

# Senate Vote Scores ✓

	Votes:	1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>ALABAMA</b>												
Shelby (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Strange (R)	57%				+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-
<b>ALASKA</b>												
Murkowski (R)	40%	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sullivan (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
<b>ARIZONA</b>												
McCain (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Flake (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-
<b>ARKANSAS</b>												
Boozman (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Cotton (R)	60%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-
<b>CALIFORNIA</b>												
Feinstein (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Harris, K. (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<b>COLORADO</b>												
Bennet (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Gardner (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>												
Blumenthal (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Murphy, C. (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<b>DELAWARE</b>												
Carper (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Coons (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<b>FLORIDA</b>												
Nelson (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rubio (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
<b>GEORGIA</b>												
Isakson (R)	57%	-	+	+	+	?	?	+	?	-	-	-
Perdue (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
<b>HAWAII</b>												
Schatz (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Hirono (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<b>IDAHO</b>												
Crapo (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-
Risch (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-
<b>ILLINOIS</b>												
Durbin (D)	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	?	+	-	-
Duckworth (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<b>INDIANA</b>												
Donnelly (D)	20%	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Young, T. (R)	60%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-
<b>IOWA</b>												
Grassley (R)	60%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-
Ernst (R)	60%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-
<b>KANSAS</b>												
Roberts (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Moran (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
<b>KENTUCKY</b>												
McConnell (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Paul (R)	100%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
<b>LOUISIANA</b>												
Cassidy (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Kennedy, John (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-

	Votes:	1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>MAINE</b>												
Collins (R)	20%	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-
King, A. (I)	30%	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	-
<b>MARYLAND</b>												
Cardin (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Van Hollen (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<b>MASSACHUSETTS</b>												
Warren (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Markey (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<b>MICHIGAN</b>												
Stabenow (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Peters, G. (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<b>MINNESOTA</b>												
Klobuchar (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Franken (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<b>MISSISSIPPI</b>												
Cochran (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Wicker (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
<b>MISSOURI</b>												
McCaskill (D)	10%	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blunt (R)	56%	?	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
<b>MONTANA</b>												
Tester (D)	20%	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Daines (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-
<b>NEBRASKA</b>												
Fischer (R)	60%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-
Sasse (R)	67%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	?	-	-	-
<b>NEVADA</b>												
Heller (R)	70%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-
Cortez Masto (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE</b>												
Shaheen (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Hassan (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<b>NEW JERSEY</b>												
Menendez (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Booker (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<b>NEW MEXICO</b>												
Udall (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Heinrich (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<b>NEW YORK</b>												
Schumer (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Gillibrand (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<b>NORTH CAROLINA</b>												
Burr (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Tillis (R)	50%	?	?	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
<b>NORTH DAKOTA</b>												
Hoeven (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Heitkamp (D)	30%	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
<b>OHIO</b>												
Brown, S. (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
Portman (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
<b>OKLAHOMA</b>												
Inhofe (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Lankford (R)	60%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-



	Votes:	1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>OREGON</b>												
Wyden (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Merkley (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>PENNSYLVANIA</b>												
Casey (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Toomey (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-
<b>RHODE ISLAND</b>												
Reed, J. (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Whitehouse (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA</b>												
Graham, L. (R)	67%	?	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-
Scott, T. (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA</b>												
Thune (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Rounds (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
<b>TENNESSEE</b>												
Alexander (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Corker (R)	60%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-
<b>TEXAS</b>												
Cornyn (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Cruz (R)	70%	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-

	Votes:	1-10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>UTAH</b>												
Hatch (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Lee, M. (R)	90%	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-
<b>VERMONT</b>												
Leahy (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Sanders (I)	20%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+
<b>VIRGINIA</b>												
Warner (D)	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kaine (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>WASHINGTON</b>												
Murray (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
Cantwell (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>WEST VIRGINIA</b>												
Manchin (D)	20%	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capito (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
<b>WISCONSIN</b>												
Johnson, R. (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Baldwin (D)	10%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
<b>WYOMING</b>												
Enzi (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-
Barrasso (R)	50%	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-

The scores are derived by dividing the constitutionally correct votes (pluses) by the total number of pluses and minuses and multiplying by 100. (A "?" means a senator did not vote; a "P" means he voted "present." If he cast fewer than five votes in this index, a score is not assigned.) Match numbers at the top of the chart to Senate vote descriptions on pages 27, 29, and 30.

Take of Wildlife, and Public Participating and Close Procedures, on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska," which was released in final form on August 5, 2016. See House Vote 4 for more information.

The Senate passed H. J. Res. 69 on March 21, 2017 by a vote of 52-47 (Roll Call 92). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because it reaffirms Alaska's sovereign power to manage its wildlife. Since the power of wildlife management was not granted to the federal government by the Constitution, it is reserved to Alaska and the other 49 states according to the 10th Amendment.

## 6 Montenegro NATO Membership.

This resolution of ratification (Treaty Document 114-12) would allow the Balkan country of Montenegro to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The NATO military alliance was created in 1949 for the stated purpose of countering the threat posed by the Soviet bloc. Under the North Atlantic Treaty establishing NATO, member nations "agree that an armed attack against one or more of them ... shall be considered an attack against them all." At first there were 12 countries in the alliance, but the number of member nations has more than doubled over the years to 28 — 29 with Montenegro's entry into NATO.

The Senate approved the treaty of ratification for admitting Montenegro into NATO by the very lopsided vote of 97 to 2 on March 28, 2017 (Roll Call 98; a two-thirds majority of those present and voting in the Senate is required to ratify a treaty). We have assigned pluses to the yeas not only because the United States should stay clear of entangling alliances such as NATO but also because the NATO provision that obligates the United States to go to war if any member of NATO is attacked undermines the provision in the U.S. Constitution that assigns to Congress the power to declare war. Montenegro, which was part of communist Yugoslavia during the Cold War era, is now one of 28 countries the United States is obligated to defend under NATO.

## 7 Federal Family Planning.

This legislation (House Joint Resolution 43) would disapprove of and nullify a Health and Human Services Department rule that prevents states that distribute federal family funding from prohibiting participation and receipt of funds by healthcare providers, such as Planned Parenthood, for any reason other than their ability to provide family planning services.

The Senate passed H. J. Res. 43 on

March 30, 2017 by a vote of 50 to 50 with Vice President Mike Pence casting a tie-breaking "yea" vote (Roll Call 101). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because this bill limits the power of an unconstitutional federal government agency. The U.S. Constitution does not authorize the federal government to get involved in healthcare, much less establish a Department of Health and Human Services, so any attempt to limit the power of an unconstitutional federal agency is a step in the right direction.

## 8 Omnibus Appropriations.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act or omnibus bill (H.R. 244) would provide \$1.16 trillion in discretionary appropriations through September 30, 2017 for the following federal departments and agencies: Agriculture, Commerce-Justice-Science, Defense, Energy-Water, Financial Services, Homeland Security, Interior-Environment, Labor-HHS-Education, Legislative, State-Foreign Operations, Transportation-HUD, and various U.S. intelligence agencies. See House Vote 8 for more information.

The Senate agreed to the omnibus appropriations bill on May 4, 2017 by a vote of 79 to 18 (Roll Call 121). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because with

this fiscal 2017 omnibus appropriations bill, Congress is failing to address its fiscally and constitutionally irresponsible budgeting and appropriating process that is currently yielding annual federal deficits measured in the hundreds of billions of dollars that contribute directly to the dramatic growth of our nearly \$20 trillion national debt.

**9 Blocking U.S. Arms Sales to Saudi Arabia.** Senator Rand Paul (R-Ky.) introduced this bill (Senate Joint Resolution 42) to block the sale of “certain defense articles” to Saudi Arabia, including laser-guided weapons systems and fighter aircraft. Paul has opposed selling arms to Saudi Arabia because the regime oppresses its own people, is engaged militarily in the civil war in Yemen, and has supported ISIS. “Who in their right mind would give money, arms, or share our technology with a country that has been supporting ISIS?” Paul asked on the Senate floor.

The Senate did not vote directly on S. J. Res. 42 but on a motion to discharge

the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (where the resolution was pending) from further consideration of the resolution so that it could be considered by the full Senate. The discharge motion, which was made by Paul, was rejected on June 13, 2017 by a vote of 47 to 53 (Roll Call 143). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because the United States should not interject itself in foreign conflicts such as the civil war in Yemen (via arms sales to one of the combatants in that conflict — Saudi Arabia), and should not take steps tantamount to going to war without a declaration of war by Congress.

**10 Iranian and Russian Sanctions.** The Countering Iran’s Destabilizing Activities Act (S. 722) would impose new sanctions on Iran and Russia, and codify sanctions imposed by the Obama administration on Russia. The bill enjoyed strong bipartisan support. Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) said on the Senate floor that “we must take a stronger stance in deterring Iran and

holding its regime accountable for its actions and addressing Russia’s years-long pattern of provocations.” Those provocations, according to supporters of the bill, included Russia’s military action in Ukraine, its intervention in Syria, and its alleged hacking of the 2016 U.S. presidential election. Maryland Senator Ben Cardin, the top Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said that the bill “stands up to the aggression of Russia and Iran.”

The Senate passed S. 722 on June 15, 2017 by a vote of 98 to 2 (Roll Call 147). We have assigned pluses to the yeas because imposing new sanctions on Iran and Russia in the name of punishing the regimes’ provocations and aggression could itself be viewed as provocative and could result in push-back further involving the United States in the affairs of other countries and regions. Instead of acting as a global cop, America would be best served by returning to our traditional and constitutionally sound foreign policy of staying clear of foreign quarrels. ■



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## Do Free Markets Lead to Concentration of Wealth?

It is frequently maintained, by the enemies of the free market, that “too much” capitalism leads inevitably to the monopolistic concentration of wealth in the hands of a few oligarchs. Citing the “robber barons” of 19th-century America, as well as the undeniable modern global trend toward more and more wealth being concentrated in fewer and fewer hands, foes of *laissez-faire* capitalism regard such inequities as inevitable outcomes of pure market forces, and urge various forms of government interventionism — wage and price controls, regulations to “level” the competitive playing field, and trust-busting legislation, for example — as remedies.

But in a true free market, government at all levels would, as far as practicable, have a policy of strict *laissez-faire*, that is, of non-interference in the workings of the free market. Men would thus be free to buy, sell, lend, produce, hire, and pay according to whatever rates and terms they mutually agree upon. Government’s role in such an economy would be only as a guarantor that neither force nor fraud goes unpunished. Competition among businesses would be confined to finding ways to produce more and better products for lower prices, to the benefit of the consumer; no measures to compel anyone as to their choices of what to buy or sell, or how much to ask or pay for economic goods, would ever be instituted. As a result, established businesses would compete on equal terms with startups, and wherever the latter are more cost-effective, the former will lose market share. The largest companies would always be those most effective at satisfying consumers, and would only enjoy their success as long as they are able to do so. Under such economic circumstances, a true “trust” is an impossibility.

The temptation is strong for businessmen to enlist the coercive apparatus of the state to stifle would-be competitors. For their part, politicians are always eager to expand their power by interfering in the free market on behalf of those willing to trade money and other inducements for

political favors. Robert Fulton, who built the first commercial steamboat at the beginning of the 19th century, managed to secure an exclusive license from the state of New York to operate his vessel, boxing out would-be competitors. It was not until rival Cornelius Vanderbilt forced the issue in the courts, by illegally operating a steamboat of his own between New York and New Jersey, that the Supreme Court finally struck down Fulton’s monopoly.

Throughout the 19th century, many wealthy “robber barons” did indeed establish monopolies in their respective markets — but always by procuring favors from politicians.

Historian Thomas DiLorenzo makes a helpful distinction between “market entrepreneurs” and “political entrepreneurs.” The former are businessmen who compete only according to free market principles, refusing to enlist government as an ally against competitors. The latter are those who seek government grants and subsidies, and insist on the need for government regulations — the costs of which they are positioned to pay, thanks to lawyers and accountants on retainer. Would-be new competitors, of course, cannot afford the burden of non-productive employees such as lawyers, whose sole purpose is compliance with arbitrary government rules.

In this way have many economic sectors in the United States become monopolistic, with one or a very small handful of huge corporations in permanent control, and new competitors nonexistent. The Big Three automobile manufacturers are an excellent example. Routinely touted as “too big to fail,” Ford, Chrysler, and GM have been the only mass manufacturers of automobiles in the United States for decades. They preside over an industry so overburdened with government regulations and controls that a new startup would find it all but impossible to topple the Big Three’s market dominance. Moreover, the Big Three frequently receive massive government subsidies for R&D, and have been the beneficiaries of countless government bailouts during times of economic distress. They are led by corporate celebrities, such as Lee Iacocca, the former CEO

of Chrysler Corporation, who are masters of political entrepreneurship — caviling to politicians while pleading for bailouts, subsidies, and other special favors.

The success of these “political entrepreneurs” — the real monopolists — depends less on the free market than upon the willingness of government to subsidize and otherwise protect their activities. Such enterprises tend to be wasteful and inefficient, having no incentive to be otherwise. And they tend to become bloated and bureaucratic, like government itself. Monopolies and the concentration of ever more wealth in the hands of ever fewer well-connected elites are thus products of “crony capitalism” and its more extreme ideological cousin, socialism — not the free market.

On the other hand, under a strict free market, where government is barred from such market intervention and blatant favoritism, anyone can become wealthy and successful. The market naturally selects for those businesses, whether established or startup, that provide the best products at the best price. Part of such a system includes providing the best jobs for the best compensation, since companies also must compete for the best employees without state interference. There have been, and remain, many true “market entrepreneurs” in America. Besides the aforementioned Cornelius Vanderbilt, another shining example from the 19th century was railroad entrepreneur James J. Hill, who built the Great Northern Railroad from Minnesota to the Pacific Ocean and, unlike contemporaries such as Jay Gould, spurned political cronyism. Beloved of employees and landowners alike, Hill was generous to a fault, offering incentives such as free seed to farmers willing to live near his railroad.

In an economy where the government micromanages and subsidizes most economic sectors and where private property rights are extremely diluted, it is hard to imagine the benefits of a true free market. But an economy where people are free to produce, buy, and sell as they choose is the only path to genuine prosperity and growth. ■

— CHARLES SCALIGER



## THE GOODNESS OF AMERICA

### Cool Surprise

Summertime can be brutal for anyone who does not particularly enjoy the heat, but it can be downright dangerous for those who do not have the luxury of air conditioning, particularly elderly folks. So when the Fort Worth Police Department in Texas received a frantic phone call in June from a 95-year-old man whose air conditioner just broke, they responded immediately.

Officers William Margolis and Christopher Weir drove over to Julius Hatley's house, where they found Hatley sitting in the shade of his porch in an effort to keep cool on that 90-degree morning. Upon inspection, the officers saw that Hatley's central air conditioning unit had indeed broken down and that his backup window unit was not working either.

The officers decided that they would purchase an air conditioner for Hatley. At the local Home Depot, they asked store employees to help them select the best air conditioner for Hatley's home, based on its size and layout. When the store employees learned what the officers were doing, they pitched in \$150 of their own money to split the cost of the unit. The officers then went back to Hatley's to install the unit.

Hatley was extremely grateful for the officers' actions, Margolis told CBS News. And when news of the officers' good deed spread on social media, a local repair company offered to fix Hatley's central air conditioning for free.

CBS News reported that the officers have also decided to continue to assist Hatley by repainting his house, installing new windows, and bringing him weekly groceries.

And despite all the good that the officers are doing for Hatley, they contend it is he who is the hero. "He's 95 years old and he's a World War II veteran," Officer Margolis said. "He's a hero."

### Busload of Toys

Trudy Serres, a bus driver for Summit Elementary School in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, has made a point of making every child on her bus route feel special by crocheting a special toy for each of them before the end of the school year.

It began when one of her riders asked her to make a crocheted taco, his favorite food. She made it within two days, and the boy was so impressed that he showed it to all his friends. It prompted other students to begin asking for stuffed toys from Serres. Eventually, Serres went down the aisle of the bus and took requests from all 34 of her passengers. Requests ranged from crocheted Star Wars characters to footballs and ice cream cones, and she gladly obliged, presenting each child with a toy tailored for him.

"She is the best," one of the students' parents told ABC News. "She does everything for these kids. She's very loving and caring."

Serres told ABC News that it brought her pleasure to put smiles on the children's faces and to learn that the toys she made meant something to them.

"Found out from parents that some take them to bed, some go to church with them," she posted on Facebook in June. "Some had to go on vacation with them. Makes my heart melt that these little items mean so much to these beautiful children."

### SuperCop/SuperDad

Although liberal government do-gooders who do not believe in any type of corporal punishment often find "child abuse" where none exists and use it as rationale for usurping parental rights, it must not be overlooked that genuine cases of child abuse do occur.

Police Officer Jody Thompson of the Poteau Police Department in Oklahoma saved two children from a genuinely abusive family, and not just in the way one might expect.

Two years ago, Thompson was off duty when he overheard the police dispatcher mention a case of child abuse over the radio. As Officer Thompson had experience handling child-abuse cases, he decided to go with the on-duty officers to offer his assistance.

Upon arrival, Thompson saw the rampant abuse that was taking place in the household. Eight-year-old John was found tied up in a trash can that was filled

with cold water. The child was covered in bruises and clearly malnourished.

Officer Thompson took John to the emergency room and sat by the child's side the entire time. According to Thompson, once he saw John, he knew instantly that he wanted to take care of him for the rest of his life.

"When I'd seen him in that house shivering and his hands tied — just soaked and confused — I knew at that moment the only time I would be satisfied that he was safe is if he was with me," Thompson recalled to CBS News.

Thompson quickly became a certified foster parent while John recuperated in intensive care so that could he bring him home to raise as his own. Since then, John has been thriving, Thompson told CBS News. "John is amazing. He's a straight-A student, on the honor roll, in the gifted and talented program, involved in the local drama club," Thompson said. "The kid's very resilient. He bounced back from this."

Amazingly, two days after bringing John home, the Thompson family learned that they were also expecting their third biological child.

And even with their rapidly expanding family, the Thompsons did not hesitate to adopt a newborn baby girl seven months later, after they learned that John's mother had given birth to her. They couldn't bear to allow John's little sister to be taken to a place where abuse was practically a foregone conclusion. "We literally picked her up in the hospital the next day when she was a day old and brought her straight home," Thompson said.

This year, on June 30, Officer Thompson and his family were recognized for their incredible love and compassion, with Thompson receiving a certificate of commendation from the Oklahoma Bureau of Investigations. And in honor of Officer Thompson, Poteau Police Chief Stephen Fruen released a glowing statement:

Jody's actions as well as his families [sic] are second to none. The example of love and compassion he has shown to this young man and his sister is an example everyone should follow. ■

— RAVEN CLABOUGH



# You Are What You Eat:

## The Research and Legacy of Dr. Weston Andrew Price

In the 1930s, a Cleveland dentist set out to find the cause of modern health problems. His discoveries have become a testament to the effect of modern, processed food upon health.

by John T. Larabell

**W**eston Andrew Valleau Price was born in 1870 in Ontario, Canada, and raised on a 200-acre farm in Southern Ontario. He came from a family of two doctors, a dentist, a minister, and a farmer.

As a young man, Weston decided to go into dentistry, attending the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. After receiving his DDS and MS degrees, he opened a dental practice in Grand Forks, North Dakota. Shortly thereafter, he contracted typhoid fever and nearly died. His eldest brother, Albert, then a businessman in Cleveland, Ohio, traveled to Grand Forks and took Weston back to the family land in Ontario, where he slowly recovered. After marrying Florence Anthony from Brampton, Ontario, Weston relocated to Cleveland and began a dental practice there in a converted three-story house.

While practicing in his Cleveland office, Dr. Price noticed an increase in dental problems among the younger generations. These issues included the obvious dental caries (cavities) as well as improper jaw development leading to crowded, crooked teeth. In fact, the relatively new orthodontics industry was at that time beginning to gain popularity. Perplexed by these modern problems that seemed to be affecting a greater and greater portion of the population, Dr. Price set about to research the issue by examining people who did not display such problems. He suspected (correctly, as he would later find) that many of the dental problems, as well as other degenerative health problems, that were plaguing modern society were the result of inadequate nutrition owing to the increasing use of refined, processed foods.

### Man on a Mission

Beginning in 1931, Weston and Florence began traveling to various spots on the globe in search of people who had perfect teeth (as well as seemingly perfect all-around health), to use as a “control” group in his quest to find the cause of the modern dental dilemmas. He published his findings in 1939 in his groundbreaking book *Nutrition and Physical Degeneration (NPD)*. Price explains his rationale at the end of the book’s second chapter, “The Progressive Decline of Modern Civilization”:

In my search for the cause of degeneration of the human face and the dental organs I have been unable to find an approach to the problem through the study of affected individuals and diseased tissues. In my two volume work on “Dental Infection,” Volume I, entitled *Dental Infections, Oral and Systemic*, and



**Leaving a legacy:** Dr. Price is shown here in his laboratory at his Cleveland dental office. During his lifetime, Price contributed several inventions and new methods to the field of dentistry. He is best known for his pioneering work on nutrition.

Volume II, entitled “*Dental Infections and the Degenerative Diseases*,” I reviewed at length the researches that I had conducted to throw light on this problem. The evidence seemed to indicate clearly that the forces that were at work were not to be found in the diseased tissues, but that the undesirable conditions were the result of the absence of something, rather than of the presence of something. This strongly indicated the need for finding groups of individuals so physically perfect that they could be used as controls. In order to discover them, I determined to search out primitive racial stocks that were free from the degenerative processes with which we are concerned in order to note what they have that we do not have.

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**Island paradise:** Here are two Pacific Islanders of Melanesian origin. The girl on the left, from Fiji, lived on a traditional diet of mostly seafood. The boy on the right was born after the parents adopted modern foods. Note the difference in facial structure and development of the dental arches. These results were typical everywhere Price traveled.

Keep in mind that terms such as “primitive racial stock” did not possess the same negative connotations that they do today, and Price was simply referring to various ethnicities and cultures who were living in non-modernized conditions, much the way they had for the past centuries or millennia, with no dentists, orthodontists, or modern doctors.

The era of the 1930s afforded Dr. Price a unique window of opportunity, as technology was advanced enough to permit worldwide travel by airplane or steamship and good-quality photographs to be taken, and one could still find cultures where some communities were isolated and had not adopted a “modern” lifestyle. Few of the groups Price visited have any members still living in an isolated state, so such research would be nearly impossible to conduct today, at least on the scale of Price’s work. Here we’ll take some time to outline Price’s travels. Roughly the first half of *NPD* is dedicated to the various observations he made while traversing the globe in search of healthy isolated people. Each chapter represents a different journey. As Dr. Price noted in the introduction to *NPD*,

These investigations have been made among the following primitive racial stocks including both isolated and modernized groups: the Swiss of Switzerland, the Gaels in the Outer and

Inner Hebrides, the Eskimos of Alaska, the Indians in the far North, West, and Central Canada, Western United States and Florida, the Melanesians and Polynesians on eight archipelagos of the Southern Pacific, tribes in eastern and central Africa, the Aborigines of Australia, Malay tribes on islands north of Australia, the Maori of New Zealand and the ancient civilizations and their descendants in Peru both along the coast and in the Sierras, also in the Amazon Basin. Where available the modernized whites in these communities also were studied.

Space will permit us to offer only a sampling of the fascinating research Dr. Price conducted on his various excursions; any reader interested in reading more should certainly purchase a copy of *Nutrition and Physical Degeneration*, which is still in print.

Price’s first stop was Switzerland’s beautiful Lötschental Valley. At the time, the valley was still relatively isolated, and the villagers were living as they had been for the past 1,000-plus years. The Swiss here lived mainly on rye bread from the rye grass they grew on the slopes, and fresh, raw milk and cheese from their cows. They would eat meat once a week, and whatever greens they could grow during the short summer months. At the time of Dr. Price’s

visit, there had not been a single case of tuberculosis, which was still a public health concern in Western countries at the time, in the 1,200-year recorded history of the valley’s residents. The isolated Swiss had fine dental arches and beautiful, straight teeth, and the number of teeth affected by cavities was between one and two percent. However, the modernized Swiss had rampant dental cavities, often at a rate close to 30 percent. Nearly 100 percent of all modernized Swiss had at least one cavity.

Price visited isolated tribes in Sudan and Egypt, who mostly lived on camels’ milk. These people were all very healthy and showed a great immunity to dental caries, disease, and birth defects. The Masai herdsmen in Kenya were especially remarkable for the fact that they ate essentially no plant products. They thrived on a diet of meat and raw milk. Liver, which, incidentally, is extremely high in cholesterol, was considered a sacred food and often eaten raw. Pygmies in the Congo were also visited by Price and his retinue, and the same good health and resistance to disease was found. These short-statured people would occasionally hunt elephants for meat, tracking one for days through the forest completely unbeknownst to the elephant. They would disable the elephant by cutting its hamstrings stealthily from behind, then hacking off pieces of the trunk until the animal bled to death. Price studied other tribes living in the African Great Lakes region. These peoples were more agricultural than the Masai or Pygmies, but still relied heavily on fish caught in the surrounding lakes and rivers.

The native Africans living on their primitive diets also seemed much more resistant to the various insect-borne diseases that were the scourge of European explorers and colonizers in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The natives would often get these illnesses, such as typhoid fever, but would recover and then be immune. When they were on modernized diets, however, they would be vulnerable just as the Europeans were.

The primitive Eskimos thrived on a diet of mainly seafood, such as salmon and seal meat. Caribou and elk were also eaten. Small amounts of berries and sorrel grass were eaten in season, but for most of the year, fish and seal meat were the main sources of sustenance. The organs of large



sea animals such as whales were highly prized for their nutritive properties, and fish eggs were consumed to ensure fertility. Much of the food was dipped in seal oil before eating. Price later analyzed the seal oil in his laboratory and found it to be one of the richest sources of vitamin A anywhere. Even though they lived on a diet extremely high in meat and fat, the Eskimos who had not come into contact with modern civilization were some of the healthiest, strongest people Price encountered anywhere in his journeys:

One does not get a conception of the magnificent dental development of the more primitive Eskimos simply by learning that they have freedom from dental caries. The size and strength of the mandible, the breadth of the face and the strength of the muscles of mastication all reach a degree of excellence that is seldom seen in other races.... I was told that an average adult Eskimo man can carry one hundred pounds in each hand and one hundred pounds in his teeth with ease for a considerable distance. This illustrates the physical development of other parts of the body as well as the jaws, and suggests that the exer-

**Price suspected (correctly, as he would later find) that many of the dental problems, as well as other degenerative health problems, that were plaguing modern society were the result of inadequate nutrition owing to the increasing use of refined, processed foods.**

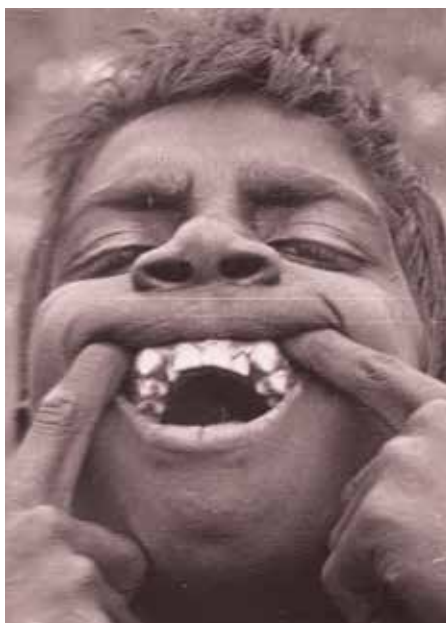
cising of the jaws is not the sole reason for their very fine teeth, since the superb development of the musculature includes all parts of the body.

Like the Eskimos, the isolated North American Indians in the far north of Canada and Alaska lived on mostly meat and fat. Rather than foods from the sea, of course, these Indians consumed large animals of the chase such as moose and caribou as their primary source of nourishment, along with fish from rivers and lakes. Very little plant food was eaten, as little could be grown. Despite living in a rather inhospitable region, these Indians were superbly healthy. Their skill in selecting the proper foods to ensure good health generation after generation was astounding, as illustrated by this anecdote:

Another illustration of the wisdom of the native Indians of that far

north country came to me through two prospectors [who attempted to walk to civilization after becoming stranded when their plane could not make it over the mountains] whom we rescued and brought out with us just before the fall freeze-up....

One of the men told me the following tragic story. While they were crossing the high plateau he nearly went blind with so violent a pain in his eyes that he feared he would go insane. It was not snow blindness, for they were equipped with glasses. It was xerophthalmia, due to lack of vitamin A. One day he almost ran into a mother grizzly bear and her two cubs. Fortunately, they did not attack him but moved on. He sat down on a stone and wept in despair of never seeing his family again. As he sat there holding his throbbing head, he heard a voice and looked up. It was an old Indian who had been tracking that grizzly bear. He recognized this prospector's plight and while neither could understand the language of the other, the Indian after making an examination of his eyes, took him by the hand and led him to a stream that was coursing its way down the mountain. Here as the prospector sat waiting the Indian built a trap of stones across the stream. He then went upstream and waded down splashing as he came and thus drove the trout into the trap. He threw the fish out on the bank and told the prospector to eat the flesh of the head and the tissues back of the eyes, including the eyes, with the result that in a few hours his pain had largely subsided. In one day his sight was rapidly returning, and in two days his eyes were nearly normal. He told me with profound emotion and gratitude that that Indian had certainly saved his life.



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**From the Land Down Under:** Dr. Price remarked that the isolated Australian Aborigines were the most primitive of the people he studied, still living as if in the Stone Age. They were also some of the healthiest. At left is a typical isolated Aborigine girl in excellent health with perfect teeth. The boy on the right was born after his parents adopted modern foods. Note the small arches and crowded teeth.

Now modern science knows that one of the richest sources of vitamin A in the entire animal body is that of the tissues back of the eyes including the retina of the eye.

Price also noted that in order to prevent scurvy (caused by lack of vitamin C), these Indians would eat the adrenal glands of the large game animals such as moose; the adrenal glands are one of the richest sources of vitamin C anywhere in nature.

## Making Sense of It All

Time after time, in place after place, Dr. Price noticed the same thing: When the people he studied lived in their isolated state on their traditional foods, the rate of tooth decay was consistently between zero and one percent, and they were robust, happy, and healthy; when the people became modernized and ate what Price termed the “foods of commerce,” tooth decay was rampant, often at a rate of 30 percent or higher, and the people were decimated by health problems such as tuberculosis. Furthermore, the children born after the parents adopted modern foods exhibited poor bone development and crowded, crooked teeth. This, Price noticed, was very similar to the situation among the modernized whites living in America and Europe:

There have been many important unexpected developments in these investigations. While a primary quest was to find the cause of tooth decay which was established quite readily as being controlled directly by nutrition, it rapidly became apparent that a chain of disturbances developed in these various primitive racial stocks starting even in the first generation after the adoption of the modernized diet and rapidly increased in severity with expressions quite constantly like the characteristic degenerative processes of our modern civilization of America and Europe.

Price went further than simply noticing physical differences between isolated and modernized people; he saw marked changes in behavior as well. He noticed that all groups of isolated people living on their traditional foods were not only physically strong and healthy, but were happy,



**It's a jungle out there:** Here are two natives from the Amazon rain forest. The young man on the left ate the animal life of the streams and bush, together with native plants. The young man on the right was born after his parents began using modern foods.

bright, and cheerful. They typically had easy-going personalities, and there were little if any social problems such as theft or violence among the primitive groups. Price noted how honorable many of these people were; there was essentially no need to keep doors locked in the isolated communities. Bearing this in mind, Dr. Price felt that there was something in the brain that was damaged owing to poor nutrition that would result in lower mental function and the development of antisocial traits.

To prevent many of these problems, the isolated people Dr. Price visited would often eat “special foods” when trying to conceive, and during pregnancy, nursing, and childhood. In addition to large amounts of fat, these special foods often included items such as fish eggs and the sex glands of animals in order to ensure good fertility and virility. This, the people believed, would help prevent the physical and structural problems that would so often appear once modern foods were adopted. Price concluded that, if poor diets were consumed, even the sperm and egg of the parents could be damaged, leading to improper development in the child. As he noted in *NPD*:

A very important phase of my investigations has been the obtaining of information from these various primitive racial groups indicating that they were conscious that such injuries would

occur if the parents were not in excellent physical condition and nourishment. Indeed, in many groups I found that the girls were not allowed to be married until after they had had a period of special feeding. In some tribes a six months period of special nutrition was required before marriage. An examination of their foods has disclosed special nutritional factors which are utilized for this purpose....

While it has been known that certain injuries were directly related to an inadequate nutrition of the mother during the formative period of the child, my investigations are revealing evidence that the problem goes back still further to defects in the germ plasms [the sperm and the egg] as contributed by the two parents. These injuries, therefore, are related directly to the physical condition of one or of both of these individuals prior to the time that conception took place.

So what was so different about the diets of the isolated groups that Dr. Price studied? That's what he wanted to know, so he had samples of different dietary items from around the world shipped back to his laboratory in Cleveland for analysis. He found that the traditional diets contained between four and 10 times the amount of certain nutrients, including important minerals such as calcium, phosphorous, and



iodine; fat-soluble vitamins such as A, D, E, and K; and water-soluble vitamins such as B-complex and C. The diets were also very rich in fats and proteins. Particularly nutrient-dense were the dairy products from animals living on rapidly growing green pasture, and certain sea foods. This can be contrasted with the “foods of commerce,” which include white flour, sugar, jam, canned fruits and vegetables, and processed, pasteurized dairy products. Much of the nutrient content has been stripped away from these pseudo-foods. Today’s “enriched” white flour is an improvement from what the modernized groups were eating during Price’s time, but a far cry from the quality of the traditional diets of the isolated people.

Dr. Price applied some of these dietary principles in his own practice, using high-nutrient foods to supplement the diets of malnourished children among the poor and institutionalized. He was able to observe great improvement in their overall health, particularly in increased bone density and the reversal of dental caries by the growth of secondary dentin, coupled with greatly increased resistance to sickness.

The isolated people Dr. Price visited often ate large quantities of meat and other animal products. What about vegetarianism? We’re often told that saying goodbye to meat and adopting a plant-based diet is really the healthiest way to go, as well as being great for the environment. Price was very interested to see if any primitives were living on a purely plant-based diet, so he could see how this would work out in nature’s laboratory. He was disappointed that he did not find any primitives living totally free of animal products. As he noted in *NPD*:

As yet I have not found a single group of primitive racial stock which was building and maintaining excellent bodies by living entirely on plant foods. I have found in many parts of the world most devout representatives of modern ethical systems advocating the restriction of foods to the vegetable products. In every instance where the groups involved had been long under this teaching, I found evidence of degeneration in the form of dental caries, and in the new generation in the form of abnormal dental arches to an extent very much

higher than in the primitive groups who were not under this influence.

The fascinating nature of the work that Price recorded in *Nutrition and Physical Degeneration* cannot be overstated. The brief descriptions here of his findings, as well as the small sample of the literally hundreds of photographs he took, do not do the book justice. Readers are encouraged to read the book for themselves.

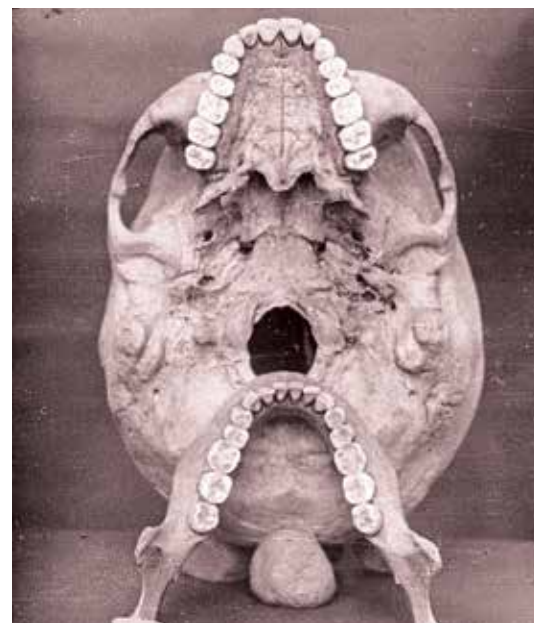
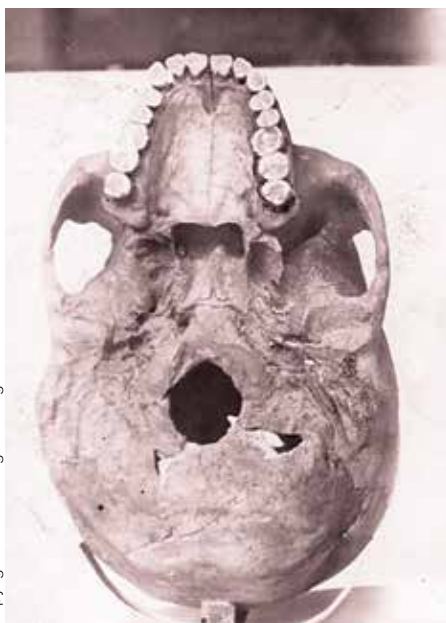
### A Quack Doctor?

As Price’s work was unorthodox, it was not without criticism. His findings went against the status quo of his day, and while there certainly was interest in his work, it was rejected by the mainstream dental/medical community. In Price’s time, a common explanation for the rise in underdeveloped facial structure resulting in crowded, crooked teeth was that racial mixing caused this problem. Price, however, refuted this easily with his research, pointing out that full-blooded children were born with these characteristics when the parents adopted modern foods:

While tooth decay has proved to be almost entirely a matter of the nutrition of the individual at the time and

prior to the activity of that disease, a group of affections have expressed themselves in physical form. These have included facial and dental arch changes which, heretofore, have been accounted for as results of admixtures of different racial stocks. My investigations have revealed that these same divergencies from normal are reproduced in all these various racial stocks while the blood is still pure. Indeed, these even develop in those children of the family that are born after the parents adopted the modern nutrition.... The blending of races has been blamed for much of the distortion and defects in body form in our modern generation. It will be seen that these face changes occur in all the pure blood races studied in even the first generation, after the nutrition of the parents has been changed.

Representative of the modern criticisms of the information in *NPD* is Stephen Barrett’s “Quackwatch” website ([quackwatch.org](http://quackwatch.org)), a site dedicated to criticizing any health-related practice (or practitioner) disagreeing with the modern allopathic medical model of surgery, pharmaceutical drugs, chemotherapy, etc. Chiropractic



**Ancient wisdom:** During his travels, Dr. Price was able to examine thousands of skulls dating back hundreds of, if not over a thousand, years. The skull on the left is from an ancient (pre-Columbian) North American Indian, while the one on the right is from an ancient New Zealand Maori. Note the perfect dental arches with the third molars (wisdom teeth) in proper position. These skulls were typical, not the exception.

Copyright Price-Pottenger. All Rights Reserved.



**Health food:** Dr. Price's research illustrates the value of eating unprocessed animal foods such as grass-fed meat, wild-caught fish, eggs, and raw dairy, and unprocessed grains in order to provide essential fats and fat-soluble vitamins. Today's "paleo diet" is similar to many diets of the people he studied.

care and encouraging the consumption of organic food are considered "quackery" to the likes of Barrett. According to Barrett, "Price made a whirlwind tour of primitive areas, examined the natives superficially, and jumped to simplistic conclusions," and that Price "ignored" the natives' "short life expectancy and high rates of infant mortality, endemic diseases, and malnutrition." Barrett claims that Price "failed to realize" that the reason the primitive people developed cavities and diseases was not because they ate modern foods, but because they "overindulged" in them, and that diseases were caused by unfamiliar germs, adopting a sedentary lifestyle, and alcohol abuse.

Anyone who has actually read Price's book, which Barrett obviously has not unless he is being dishonest, will immediately see the flaws in his claims. As mentioned earlier in this article, the primitive cultures Price studied rarely, if ever, experienced any health problems *until eating modern foods*. Price's photos of primitives living on their traditional foods do not show malnourished, disease-ridden people. Furthermore, they did not have short life expectancy or high infant mortality; Price found many older individuals among the isolated groups (some well into their 80s) in robust health, and local contacts such as missionaries and doctors confirmed the consistent health of the infants while the people were living on traditional diets. The degree to which the iso-

lated people developed tooth decay and disease was directly proportional to the amount that they replaced their diet with modern foods. Even small amounts of refined foods, regularly eaten, could lower their resistance. Those who had totally adopted modern food were the worst off. Among the groups Price studied, the diseases the primitives contracted were the same that afflicted the modernized whites, and only became a problem after modernization. While some of the people did become sedentary, many were involved in physical labor, yet they still developed health problems. Alcoholism was a problem for some, mainly the North American Indians and Eskimos, but not all. But again, alcoholism itself would not cause cavities and underdeveloped bone structure in the children.

Others have criticized Price's conclusion that having better nutrition, and hence better physical health, leads to better morality and character development, saying that Price went too far in drawing a strong connection between the two. Perhaps, but the main focus of Price's work, and of *Nutrition and Physical Degeneration*, was physical rather than psychological health.

## Price's Legacy

Despite being unorthodox, Dr. Price's research has left a strong legacy in the "alternative" health community. Many naturopathic doctors, including some

well-known individuals such as Dr. Joseph Mercola, were influenced by Price's work and consider it foundational for proper nutrition and health. To preserve Dr. Price's research and continue his legacy, several foundations have been established, such as the Price-Pottenger Nutrition Foundation ([price-pottenger.org](http://price-pottenger.org)), which owns, curates, and disseminates Price's research and his many hundreds of photographs, and publishes *Nutrition and Physical Degeneration*; and the Weston A. Price Foundation ([weston-price.org](http://weston-price.org)), which advocates traditional diets and access to whole, raw milk from grass-fed cows.

Dr. Weston A. Price set out to find the cause of what he felt was the degeneration of modern people and society. He believed the primary cause was inadequate nutrition, and the proper means for what he termed "race regeneration" was an abandonment of modern, processed foods and a return to traditional, nutrient-dense diets. Decades after Dr. Price's death in 1948, his research is still relevant. Healthcare in Western society is a hot-button issue, with a seemingly ever-larger percentage of the population suffering from what Price termed "diseases of civilization." While improved technology and better sanitation have led to the near elimination of many of the airborne communicable diseases of centuries past, chronic degenerative disease is still rampant, and now even affects children and young adults. Expensive new pharmaceuticals and surgical procedures are constantly being offered, but seem to be ineffective at preventing the problems and very effective at raising healthcare costs.

Naturally, government is offered as a solution to skyrocketing healthcare costs. But is this really necessary? Clearly, people once knew how to prevent degenerative disease and poor health without any modern medicine or government. While the desire to eat "health food" is growing in popularity in America, much of it is governed by fad diets and vegetarianism/veganism. While more traditional ways of eating such as the "paleo diet" are gaining in popularity, we still have a long way to go to reverse the decline in health of Western people. While unorthodox, Price's research can offer great wisdom in this regard, and should not be ignored. ■





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

## EXERCISING THE RIGHT

### African-Americans and the Second Amendment

The *Christian Science Monitor* ran an informative article on July 11 that explored the issue of gun ownership for self-defense within the black community. The article featured Phillip Smith, a man who at one time didn't appreciate the importance of gun ownership but is now a leader in his community on the issue. Smith, who is in his 50s, grew up in California but moved to the South in 2002. In his time in California, he recalled gun ownership being frowned upon in the black community, but that was not the case when he moved to Atlanta. Smith said that many black families had firearms for sport and, to some extent, self-defense. Smith eventually became a strong advocate for gun rights and even founded the National African-American Gun Association, which currently has around 20,000 members.

Smith told the *Christian Science Monitor* that “in the last 18 months the racial tone of the country has tilted in a direction that is alarming, at a minimum.” (The article did veer into the typical misinformation peddled by the mainstream media that pushes a false narrative that the election of President Trump is somehow causing a rise in “hate crimes” and that minorities are arming themselves in order to defend against this alleged threat.)

The *Christian Science Monitor* did accurately state that legal gun ownership is much higher among whites than blacks. Only 19 percent of black households report guns in the home, which is less than half the 41 percent of white households that report having a gun in the home. Polling also shows that roughly 60 percent of blacks favor stricter gun control, while it is practically the complete opposite for whites, with 61 percent of whites expressing support for expanding gun rights.

Smith mentioned that he encountered a lot of opposition in the black community to his organization, which he said some saw as a regression to Black Panther tactics of the past. The *Christian Science Monitor* then took a trip back through time to the 1960s and recounted how “the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense

movement” marched into the California state capital back in 1967, which then resulted in a backlash. The California legislature soon passed legislation that prohibited open carry in the state. The bill was eventually signed into law by then-Governor Ronald Reagan who, as most of us know, would eventually run for president as a big supporter of protecting and defending gun rights.

But Smith disassociates from any comparison to radical groups such as that and, conversely, even tried to distance himself from stances of President Trump or the National Rifle Association, which are controversial in the black community. Smith says he struggles with trying to convince other blacks that gun ownership is a right they have as a U.S. citizen. “I’m trying to let everyone know that you have the right — not the God-given right, but the right as an American — to carry a gun.... We have things to overcome in the black community in terms of what you believe you have a right to do as a citizen.... My job is to convince people that it is not radical to have a gun ... to protect your family.”

### Intruder Gets Airlifted by Helicopter

WKYT reported out of Kentucky on June 23 about an intruder who got himself shot with a shotgun and airlifted by a medical helicopter. Laurel County sheriff's deputies responded to the call of a home break-in and shooting shortly after 10 a.m. Authorities found a homeowner who said that he shot a man whom he caught breaking in to his house. The homeowner reportedly fired a shotgun at the suspect, hitting him in the torso. The badly injured suspect fled into a wooded area behind the house. Police searched for the suspect, and a stray dog's barking caught their attention. Police moved closer and found the 40-year-old suspect hiding by a tree.

The injured suspect was later identified as Otis Kemp of Corbin. Due to the severity of his injuries, a medical helicopter was called in to transport him to the University of Kentucky Medical Center in Lexington. Kemp received treatment

and is expected to survive. Police recovered stolen property in the yard and on Kemp's person. Kemp was later charged with multiple felonies, including burglary in the first degree, theft by unlawful taking, criminal mischief in the first degree, evading police, and third-degree terroristic threatening.

### Thief Tries Robbing a Gun Store With Pepper Spray

The *New York Post* reported on June 28 about a robber who followed through on an incredibly stupid idea. The man walked into a Bensonhurst-based sports store that sold guns for sport and approached an employee behind a display case. The suspect asked the employee if he could see some of the guns. The employee, later identified as a 60-year-old former Marine named “Frank,” sensed that something was not right and asked the suspect for his gun permit. The suspect reached into his pocket as if he was retrieving his wallet when he suddenly pulled out Mace and sprayed it in Frank's face. The suspect then used a hammer to smash the glass display case and began stealing the guns. Frank ducked down behind the counter, his eyes stinging from the Mace, and grabbed a nearby firearm, which he then aimed at the suspect. Frank fired the gun, but owing to his vision being impaired by the Mace, he was not sure if he hit the suspect, who ran from the store and is still being sought. Blood was recovered at the scene which police believe belongs to the suspect, but investigators are not sure if the bleeding was due to being shot or if the suspect cut himself on the glass when he was trying to steal the guns from the broken display case. Authorities collected evidence at the scene, and the investigation is ongoing.

Friends of the employee involved in the incident had only nice things to say about the man. Sixty-six-year-old Harry Taggart told the *New York Post*, “Frank is a really decent guy.... He's the kind of guy you would want in your neighborhood. I'm glad he did that. The man doesn't bother anybody. He respects everyone.” ■

— PATRICK KREY



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## Medicaid, ObamaCare: What We Are Not Being Told

**ITEM:** According to the New York Post for June 25, "Sen. Bernie Sanders on Sunday stood by his harsh rhetoric that the GOP health care bill would kill thousands of Americans because 'it's true.'"

"If you have cancer and your insurance is taken away from you, there is a likelihood you will die and certainly a likelihood that you will become much sicker than you are today,' Sanders (I-Vt.) told NBC's 'Meet the Press.' 'That's the fact. Unpleasant, but it's true.'"

**ITEM:** The New York Times for June 27, focusing on changes in Medicaid in the GOP's Senate proposal, reported: "Republicans, under fire for proposing health care legislation that would reduce Medicaid funding by hundreds of billions of dollars, have embraced an old argument that taking money from a program is not a 'cut.' ... The Congressional Budget Office said on Monday that the 'Better Care Reconciliation Act' would reduce Medicaid spending by \$772 billion over a decade. By 2026, Medicaid enrollment would drop by 16 percent among people under the age of 65."

**ITEM:** Here is other commentary from various sources: Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren has maintained that Republicans are trying to get "juicy tax cuts for their rich buddies" with "blood money." Dr. Steffie Woolhandler, the co-founder of Physicians for a National Health Program, speaking on a public radio show, cited a study that somehow extrapolated that passage of the Senate legislation in question would result in the deaths of 28,600 people annually.

The leftist Center for American Progress put the number of resultant deaths over the decade at 217,000. Failed presidential candidate Hillary Clinton Tweeted: "If Republicans pass this bill, they're the death party." And former President Barack Obama assured one and all that the bill would "ruin Medicaid as we know it."

**CORRECTION:** Some folks are so inclined



AP Images

**"ObamaCare Lite":** Despite claims that the failed Republican bills to replace ObamaCare included massive spending cuts that would have caused tens of thousands of deaths for lack of care, the GOP plan was essentially the same as what it claimed to replace.

to exaggerate that they will hyperbolize about almost everything — except their own mistakes. ObamaCare falls into the latter category.

One need not be an advocate of the Republican bills being discussed in Washington these days to recognize the nature of hysterical opposition of the Democrats and their Leftmedia allies. Saying that is not an endorsement of the proposals being offered, which liberty-minded lawmakers have called "ObamaCare Lite" and "ObamaCare 2.0." Indeed, the bills have plenty of shortcomings and don't come close to repealing ObamaCare, as was widely and repeatedly promised.

Yet, the truth is that the Senate bill (as well as the House one) that generated the above-cited whoppers would just limit the expansion of Medicaid spending. This federal-state "entitlement" is an unsustainable program that has mushroomed from its tiny beginnings (under a billion dollars in 1965) to one that costs more than the Department of Defense. Medicaid has become the third-largest spending program in the federal government: Taxpayers are now paying 389 billion federal dollars each year, with the current projections placing that total beyond \$650 billion by 2027.

ObamaCare ballooned this program that

was originally sold as helping the poor and indigent; it jacked up its numbers by making many more people eligible for Medicaid. Among these were members of a new class of recipients: millions of working-age, able-bodied adults without dependents, with incomes below 138 percent of the official "poverty level." This included many previously covered by private insurance.

The Democrats, understandably, would prefer having attention distracted from the actual disaster that is ObamaCare — which caused at least nine million Americans (and probably more) to lose their healthcare choice. They would rather misrepresent what might happen if the current calamitous law and related Medicaid were changed.

But the quality of current Medicaid treatment is relevant. As a Heritage Foundation study has recounted:

Medicaid is a costly and unsustainable welfare entitlement program that delivers low-quality health care to many of its enrollees.... Medicaid patients frequently receive inferior medical treatment, are assigned to less-skilled surgeons, receive poorer post-operative instructions, and often suffer worse outcomes for identical procedures than simi-





## Correction, Please!

lar patients both with and without health insurance.

That is why there is a Democratic hand-book at play: Accentuate the imagined mote in the eye of the other party, while ignoring the beam in your own eye. And it works — when the mass media carries your water and message.

The headlines are going to the protesters against the GOP legislation that would alter ObamaCare. They are “falsely claiming the repeal will gut Medicaid, causing frail, indigent seniors to be evicted from nursing homes,” comments Betsy McCoughey, who chairs the Committee to Reduce Infection Deaths. This is, she says, “sheer demagoguery.” This is happening even as 380,000 nursing home residents are dying each year from infections, according to federal estimates. Nursing homes are often, as she notes, cauldrons of such infections. And the conditions there are, in her words, “routinely tolerated by our indifferent public officials. Indifference is the real culprit, not inadequate Medicaid money.”

Meanwhile, almost a third of doctors in this country do not accept Medicaid because the compensation set by government bureaucrats is way below market prices for the healthcare services. Statistics re-

veal that Medicaid pays doctors around 66 percent of the amount Medicare pays. And Medicare, another government program, pays doctors about 20 percent less than rates in the private market.

Despite common sense and history worldwide, the political doctor cited above (Steffie Woolhandler) is among those pushing for “Medicare for all,” meaning a more complete socialization of medicine. Many in her camp are not all that sad that ObamaCare is failing since they see a complete government takeover as the ultimate goal.

Keep in mind an aspect of the Congressional Budget Office analysis that is being underreported: about *why* millions would “lose” their coverage if the GOP bills passed — they would choose to do so.

As noted in the study, the CBO and the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) “estimate that, in 2018, 15 million more people would be uninsured under this legislation than under current law — primarily because the penalty for not having insurance would be eliminated.”

Other CBO findings didn’t gain many headlines. Among these were the obvious recognition that ObamaCare reduced national economic growth and reduced the numbers in the American workforce.

There were few front pages and features for those who did not get a job, or others who had their hours docked, because of ObamaCare. That did not make it less painful for those involved.

Casey Mulligan, an economics professor at the University of Chicago, has written about his research in this area, in partnership with the Mercatus Center at George Mason University; this included surveys with managers of small businesses. They and their potential employees have been affected because, as Mulligan puts it, “thanks to the [Affordable Care Act, or ObamaCare], hiring the 50th full-time employee effectively costs another \$70,000 a year on top of the normal salary and benefits.”

The upshot? The business owners

employing just fewer than 50 often said the ACA caused them to hire less and cut hours below the full-time threshold. The penalty caused payrolls to shrink or prevented them from growing.

Nationwide, we estimate the ACA-inspired practice of keeping payrolls below 50 has cost roughly 250,000 jobs. This does not count jobs lost when businesses close (we didn’t survey closed businesses) or shrink because of other ACA incentives.

Never mind, says the Left. Let’s talk some more about those “cuts” to Medicaid, say these opponents of any government reductions unless they are in the Defense Department. Michael Tanner of the Cato Institute was on target in his comments for National Review Online. As he said sardonically, after the GOP finishes

“cutting,” “slashing,” and “destroying” Medicaid, the program will still be growing at a rate of about 2 percent per year. In any place outside of Washington, D.C., that might be seen as an increase. And while the Republican plan would hold Medicaid enrollment roughly where it is today, at 70 million Americans, that’s still some 15 million more



AP Images

**Medicaid monster:** Taxpayers spend \$389 billion every year on Medicaid; this number is expected to grow to \$650 billion by 2027. Despite any proposed “cuts,” the unsustainable program would still grow by two percent every year.



people on the program than there were in 2010.

True, Republicans would hold the rate of growth below the previous baseline and below expected rates of medical inflation. But since that baseline is unsustainable..., it's hard to call that a cut in any meaningful sense.

Medicaid is supposed to be a partnership between the states and the federal government. The proposed Senate bill would return the percentages closer to what they were before ObamaCare. If the states want to spend more, that is their prerogative. As it is, the incentive is to lean more on the federal taxpayers.

Medicaid is huge and growing. When combined with the two other main "entitlements" Social Security and Medicare (which have even more political clout), they consume 58 percent of federal tax revenues; that percentage is on track to hit 80 percent by 2047. If the GOP, with both houses of Congress and the White House, can't even slow the rate of growth of Medicaid, one has to wonder if entitlements can ever be controlled.

The editors of the *Wall Street Journal* do not seem optimistic. Medicaid, they noted on June 29, "has become the world's single largest insurer by enrollment, covering more people than Medicare or the British National Health Service. Total spending grew 18% in 2015 and 17% in 2016 in the 29 states that expanded." Dramatic growth of federal Medicaid spending is projected under current law and without reform. The *Journal* continues:

The Senate bill attempts to arrest this unsustainable surge.... The goal is to contain costs and give Governors the incentive and flexibility to manage their programs.

Meanwhile, four long years from



**Free for all:** The Affordable Care Act is seen by many as a steppingstone to fully socialized medicine. Unfortunately, any likely Republican "replacement," without a full repeal, would not reverse this course.

now, the bill would start to phase-down the state payment formula for old and new Medicaid beneficiaries to equal rates. Governors ought to prioritize the most urgent needs.

This would be the largest entitlement reform ever while still protecting the most vulnerable.... This does not "cut" spending; it merely slows the rate of increase.

Would Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, Bernie Sanders, and Elizabeth Warren fib to us? Let's say that this writer wouldn't believe them if they swore they were liars.

Let's also say that there are better sources for facts. And the fact is that Medicaid will have to be reformed to start the nation back in the right economic direction.

And how about all those supposed bodies that would pile up all over the nation because the federal government didn't accelerate quite as much on Medicaid spending?

The widely cited figures tossed around by the Center for American Progress and others for deaths that would purportedly be caused by replacing ObamaCare were extrapolated from a study of Massachusetts health reform a few years ago. Here's some more from Charles Blahous, a senior research fellow for the Mercatus Center, a research fellow for the Hoover Institution, a public trustee for Social Security and Medicare, and a contributor to *Economics 21* (E21). Writes Blahous: "That study found that post-reform (2007-10) mortality rates in Massachusetts improved relative to pre-reform (2001-05) mortality rates more than was the case in other U.S. counties after controlling for demographic and economic conditions."

Blahous, as noted in his piece for website *Economics 21*, says that the "study is credible, interesting, and suggestive, but does not offer any generalizable proofs of the effects of national health policy on longevity. To the contrary, the authors state that 'Massachusetts results may not generalize to other states.'" In other words, the findings in Massachusetts aren't likely applicable to ObamaCare. He goes on to note:

Indeed, a similar study of Oregon's experience with Medicaid expansion "did not detect clinical improvements other than depression reduction." In any case, the Massachusetts study only tells us what didn't cause its longevity improvement; it cannot definitively explain what did.

Yes, it turns out that sometimes — many times in Washington, D.C. — truth hurts. That is apparently a health tip too. After all, you would also hurt if you were stretched so much. ■

— WILLIAM P. HOAR

## Is Charlie Gard **Government Property?**

**T**he London-based case of Charlie Gard has gained international attention as parents Chris Gard and Connie Yates fight tirelessly against dictatorial government and hospital officials to save the life of their now 11-month-old son.

When Gard and Yates admitted eight-month-old Charlie to Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) for Children in London last September, they could not have known the power struggle that would ensue. As GOSH received Charlie, it seems they assumed all rights to his life, as well.

With a diagnosis of mitochondrial DNA depletion syndrome, a rare genetic disease causing neurological problems and progressive muscle weakness, the hospital eventually determined that in the child's "best interest" he be removed from life support.

In obvious opposition to GOSH's decision and with a determination to keep their baby alive, Yates began to research possible cures for the disease and discovered an American doctor willing to provide an experimental treatment for Charlie. Encouraged, the parents took their struggle to social media, raising over \$1.6 million in private donations from around the world. This amount was enough to transport Charlie to the United States, and cover the cost of the treatment, at no expense or burden to the London hospital.

However, this was an unacceptable plan of action to GOSH. The prestigious hospital, whose motto is "The child first and always," refused to release Charlie, electing instead to legally fight to kill the sick child, claiming it was "in Charlie's best interests to be allowed to die with dignity," regardless of the wishes of the parents.

The hospital's decision to fight to kill the child was a nightmarish turn of events, as these parents found themselves defending Charlie's right to life and their rights as his parents, declaring, "He is our son. Please listen to us." Their pleas were to no avail. After exhausting all legal resources in the U.K., Gard and Yates made one last appeal to the European Court of Human Rights, which ultimately sided with the children's hospital and previous courts, leaving the couple devastated and driving many defenders of life and liberty to action.

"This is what happens when you have laws designed to promote death over life, when you have a court willing to promote death over life," Catherine Glenn Foster — president and CEO



of Americans United for Life — said in a press conference, also stating, "It could be my child, or your child, or any one of us."

Arina Grossu of the Family Research Council concluded, "This is a case about parental rights coming into conflict with socialized medicine." She continued, "Who should decide what's in the best interest of Charlie? His parents. Not the courts. Not the hospital. Not the government."

The hospital's attorney, Katie Gallop, submitted a statement implying that Gard and Yates were only two of

several parties with a responsibility for Charlie: "Charlie's parents fundamentally believe that they alone have the right to decide what treatment Charlie has and does not have."

Gallop proudly noted that her client is governed by "different principles," repeating the hospital's mantra about the child being first.

According to GOSH, "A world where only parents speak and decide for children and where children have no separate identity or rights and no court to hear and protect them is far from the world in which GOSH treats its child patients."

But the hospital has turned the situation on its head. It wants to kill the child, though not killing the child may lead to a working treatment, and it is cutting the parents out of the picture — and has since the beginning.

While the hospital promised to keep the couple informed of decisions being made concerning their child, their actions didn't follow suit. Yates disclosed the reality of being excluded from "various meetings" held by the hospital staff. This is not surprising since this institution regards parents as a menace to be defended against.

And Charlie's government-appointed voice is in agreement with the government — surprise. Charlie's representative is Victoria Butler Cole. According to the *Telegraph*, Cole is also the chairman of Compassion in Dying. Its sister organization, Dignity in Dying, was formerly the Voluntary Euthanasia Society. That Cole would be appointed to Charlie's case is an unlikely coincidence, and certainly a conflict of interest.

Thankfully, another hearing has been granted, and U.S. Doctor Michio Hirano was given permission to examine Charlie and saw him on July 17. However, as relieving as these victories may be, the lack of ethics driving this case cannot be overlooked, as it will pave the way for the future. As Foster said in her press statement, "I am Charlie. We all are Charlie." ■



# Spread The Word



## What Is the Alternative as Public Schools Degenerate?

Public schools have become irredeemable in the way of immorality and intolerable in the way of skills deficits, so what should families do to educate their children? (July 24, 2017, 48pp) TNA170724

## Don't Renegotiate NAFTA: Get US Out!

President Trump, who rightly criticized NAFTA while campaigning, now wants to renegotiate the deal. But NAFTA's flaws cannot be fixed. (July 10, 2017, 48pp) TNA170710

## Final Days of CNN?

The Cable News Network (CNN) has been doubling down on Fake News stories pertaining to President Donald Trump and Republicans, which has resulted in massive viewer defections. And it shows no signs of stopping. (August 7, 2017, 48pp) TNA170807

## Junking Judicial Activism

From judicial decisions ranging from *Roe v. Wade* to Trump's "travel ban," federal justices have been overriding the clear wording of the Constitution and U.S. laws with their own opinions, and it's time they were reined in. (June 19, 2017, 48pp) TNA170619

## What on Earth Is Happening to Our Temperature?

Trillions of dollars in government spending might hinge on whether or not the climate is indeed warming. The answer, however, depends on where the thermometers are placed. (April 3, 2017, 48pp) TNA170403

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# PRISM MANAGEMENT

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