

Where Have All the Grown-ups Gone? • Robert E. Lee: Answering His Critics

The **New American**

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North Korea: Globalist Pawn?

Unlike how the country is usually portrayed, North Korea is not a solo actor on the world stage: It has many benefactors, including Russia, China, and the United Nations. In return North Korea does its benefactors' bidding. (August 21, 2017, 48pp) TNA170821

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

America's Cultural Revolution

Leftist violence and vitriolic rhetoric, having to do with supposed racism, global warming, and more, really have the same goal: undermining the West's Christian culture and morality to institute socialism. (September 18, 2017, 48pp) TNA170918

Sea Level Lies

There's a constant refrain that because of human-caused global warming, oceans are rising abnormally quickly and will soon submerge coastlines and cause mass migration. However, top sea level experts say it just ain't so. Find out why. (September 4, 2017, 48pp) TNA170904

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

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The Bill of Rights

First Ten Amendments to the Constitution

Amendment I. Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Amendment II. A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

Amendment III. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Amendment IV. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Amendment V. No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of

life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Amendment VI. In all criminal prosecutions the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

Amendment VII. In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury shall be otherwise re-examined in any court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Amendment VIII. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Amendment IX. The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment X. The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.



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**Get US
OUT!**

of the **UNITED NATIONS**



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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AP Images: Statue of Confederate soldier



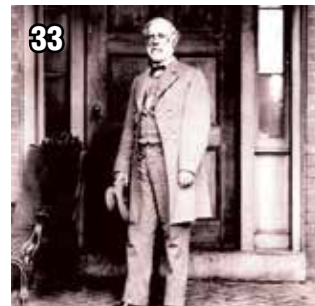
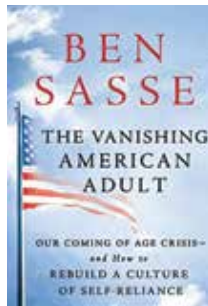
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Finding Differences

It seems that since the administration of President Obama and his promotion of such fallacies as “hands up don’t shoot,” and the seeming encouragement of racial discontent, the political differences between the races have widened.

We are seeing “diversity” in many areas. Yet my granddaughter has noticed in her high school that when the similarities of people are promoted, there is a greater feeling of community. When differences are promoted, as is done in most diversity training, there is a greater separation between the students, and different cultures tend to band together more. Her current group of friends looks like the United Nations and includes some students with physical disabilities. They are all appalled when differences are promoted rather than similarities.

Should Americans continue with the maintenance of groups that promote differences? If the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) is a good thing, why would we disparage an NAAWP (National Association for the Advancement of White People)? Why is there not a Congressional White Caucus? Whites as a group are barely a majority anymore. When people of different cultures and races work together in various jobs and workplaces, the things that bring them together are their similarities, not their differences.

WILLIAM F. HINESER, DPM
Arvada, Colorado

Demolishing Demolition

In the spirit of being consistent historically — or hysterically? — with regard to calls to remove, move, and/or completely demolish monuments related to the South and Confederate soldiers and leaders, I call on all politicians and their subservient peoples — in or out of the “press” — to rise up in self-righteous indignation against other egregious monuments, such as ones that honor Buffalo Soldiers who served honorably and bravely in the post-Civil War Union-mandated genocide of Native Americans. In addition, textbooks that honor such men of color should be purged from our libraries. And America, named for some European, also should be changed *now*.

Keeping those demands in mind, where will it end? Complete destruction of Wash-

ington D.C. — built for the “white privileged” of the past?

How about painting the White House black? Should we tear down the Carnegie Institute — it was built with money donated in honor of a capitalist! How about colleges named for white guys? Purge the Smithsonian of artifacts from slave days?

How about monuments and streets and buildings named in reverence of KKK recruiter and former Senator Robert Byrd (D-W.V.), one of Hillary Clinton’s mentors?

Tear down Mount Rushmore — terrorists are depicted there! Tear down monuments and burn books extolling Geronimo, Che Guevara, Castro — all racist political killers — the list is endless!

Where *should* it end? Remove all memories of white people and their contributions to human cultures? Tear down the pyramids — brown people’s monuments. Blow up the Blue Mosque — once a Christian Church. Destroy the Kaaba in Mecca. Where does it end? Anyone care to guess?

JIM GREAVES
Thompson Falls, Montana

Old-time Recession

If we were in a recession when Obama was elected, as a writer implies, I say bring back that recession, please. I was living well at that time: easily paid my bills, had food and gas money, and could shop for necessities, and luxuries, and save money.

As the years passed after the election, I started to have to tighten my belt. Now I can barely breathe, that belt is so tight, and my capital has shrunk, money I swore never to touch. The country came very close to a negative interest rate. Never heard of that, anywhere, anytime.

Where did all that money go that I and all other Americans lost? Even with all our money evaporating, the debt has skyrocketed to \$20 trillion.

Why can’t citizens see what a hole we are digging for ourselves?

D.I. LARSON
Ocala, Florida

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Ministry Sues SPLC for Calling It a “Hate Group”

The National Center for Life and Liberty of the D. James Kennedy Ministries (DJKM) filed suit August 22 against the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) for “trafficking in false or misleading descriptions of the services offered under the ministry’s trademarked name; and for defamation pursuant to Alabama common law arising from the publication and distribution of information that libels the ministry’s reputation and subjects the ministry to disgrace, ridicule, odium, and contempt in the estimation of the public.”

At issue is the SPLC’s inclusion of the ministry in its “hate” map, along with the KKK and various Nazi groups. Thanks to the acceptance of that “hate map” as legitimate by various members of the media, it has damaged the ministries. That’s why included in the lawsuit are Amazon and the charity guidance group GuideStar — both have taken SPLC’s accusation seriously, with Amazon blocking DJKM from AmazonSmile and GuideStar removing DJKM from its list of approved ministries.

The lawsuit states, “It is the SPLC’s intent that the people who receive the information that SPLC publishes about the

ministry will rely on SPLC’s information as fact and will base their charitable giving decisions on that information.” The lawsuit includes GuideStar for “knowingly accept[ing] defamatory information from the SPLC regarding the ministry and knowingly, intentionally, and purposefully republish[ing] that defamatory information with the intent that the people who receive the republished SPLC information from GuideStar will rely on that information as fact for the purpose of making their charitable giving decisions.”

The ostensible cause of SPLC’s inclusion of DJKM in its “hate” map is the ministry’s position on LGBT issues, and DJKM CEO Frank Wright feels that this is tantamount to discrimination for one’s religious beliefs: “Because the ministry’s position on ‘LGBT’ issues is

inextricably intertwined and connected to the ministry’s religious theology, and because SPLC and GuideStar have declared the ministry to be a hate group due to the ministry’s stand on LGBT issues, what occurred here is that SPLC and GuideStar have discriminated against the ministry because of its theology and its religious beliefs.”



SPLC Southern Poverty Law Center

After Charlottesville, UN Demands U.S. Limit First Amendment

The United Nations issued an “early warning” to the United States and demanded illegal restrictions on free speech. As part of its August 23 decision, the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), a body that includes communists and Islamists, lambasted the United States and President Donald Trump without actually mentioning his name. But critics were quick to ridicule the UN outfit amid growing calls for the U.S. government to withdraw from the widely criticized “dictators club.”

In an August 23 press release, the UN CERD blasted the Unit-

ed States for its alleged “failure to unequivocally reject racist violent events” (referring to the August 11-12 Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Virginia). “We are alarmed by the racist demonstrations, with overtly racist slogans, chants and salutes by white nationalists, neo-Nazis, and the Ku Klux Klan, promoting white supremacy and inciting racial discrimination and hatred,” complained radical left-wing activist Anastasia Crickley, the chairperson of the UN CERD. “We call on the U.S. Government to investigate thoroughly the phenomenon of racial discrimination targeting, in particular, people of African descent, ethnic or ethno-religious minorities, and migrants.”

In multiple statements plastered across the UN’s websites, the global outfit attacked the First Amendment head on. The statements demanded that the U.S. government restrict free speech and association, saying it called on authorities “to provide the necessary guarantees so that such [free speech] rights are not misused to promote racist hate speech.” In other words, the UN is calling on U.S. authorities to violate the supreme law of the land to enforce an illegitimate and unconstitutional UN “convention.”

It is becoming increasingly clear to Americans that the dictators club has a totalitarian agenda for humanity, and that it must be stopped. With the dictators club viciously maligning Trump and the nation that elected him to the presidency, critics of the UN hope the time has finally come to get the United States out of the UN, and the UN out of the United States.



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Nearly 100 Percent of Icelandic Mothers Abort Down Syndrome Babies



Thinkstock

CBS News glowed August 15 over news that Down syndrome has disappeared in Iceland. The reason: Virtually all moms there abort the babies who a prenatal test determines will likely be born with the condition.

“Since prenatal screening tests were introduced in Iceland in the early 2000s,” reported CBS, “the vast majority of women — close to 100 percent — who received a positive test for Down syndrome terminated their pregnancy” — “terminated” being a euphemism for killing by abortion.

Iceland’s government mandates that all pregnant women be

informed about screening for abnormalities, and while it does not require that women actually go through with the testing, the majority opt in — and abort those babies they deem unsuitable to live.

Other “progressive” countries are not far behind Iceland in Down syndrome termination rates. As of 2015, France was unburdening itself of 77 percent of potential Down syndrome babies annually, while Denmark has nearly matched Iceland at 98 percent. And in the United Kingdom, 90 percent of women who receive a positive Down syndrome diagnosis terminate the lives of their pre-born babies. In the United States, the estimated abortion rate is around 67 percent (according to statistics between 1995-2011) when Down syndrome is detected.

Commenting on the CBS report, Focus on the Family founder James Dobson said on August 16, “I have rarely seen a story that so closely resembles Nazi-era eugenics... The Bible tells us that ‘we are all fearfully and wonderfully made.’ I know countless parents who would say the same of their own children with Down syndrome. A child born with a chromosome defect is a child made in God’s image, fully capable of living a happy, productive, and healthy life. They are as capable of giving and receiving love just as you and I are. They deserve a chance to live — and those of us in the Church must speak out on their behalf.”

Trump Reauthorizes Military Equipment for Police

By executive order issued under “the authority vested in [him] by the Constitution,” President Donald Trump on August 28 restored the federal program whereby local and state law enforcement can apply to receive surplus military equipment from the U.S. Department of Defense. The current president had to use his pen to power up the program after the previous president used his pen to curtail it.

In a speech delivered August 28 at the national convention of the Fraternal Order of Police in Nashville, U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions remarked on the restoration: “The Department of Defense’s 1033 program that Congress signed into law more than 25 years ago, [has] recycled more than \$5.4 billion in used gear and equipment that taxpayers had already purchased, and made it available for your agencies to repurpose it in the fight against terrorism, crime, and disaster relief. One sheriff told me earlier this year about how, due to the prior administration’s restrictions, the federal government made his department return an armored vehicle that can change the dynamics of an active shooter situation... Those restrictions went too far. We will not put superficial concerns above public safety.”

Senator Rand Paul (R-Ky.), who is opposed to such programs, said, “Americans must never sacrifice their liberty for an illusive and dangerous — or false — security. I disagree with Attorney General Sessions on the Department of Defense’s 1033 program. The militarization of our law enforcement is due to an unprecedented expansion of government power in this realm. It is one thing for federal officials to work with local authorities

to reduce or solve crime, but it is another for them to subsidize militarization.”

Vehicles, surveillance equipment, weapons, training, and tear gas from the Pentagon often come with strings attached, and when there is a conflict of interest between those being served (the community) and those providing the powerful weapons, the people are all too likely to be ignored in favor of the givers of the free stuff: the federal government. ■



AP Images

President Determined to Get the Wall Built

“If we have to close down our government, we’re building that wall. The American people voted for immigration control. That’s one of the reasons I’m here [as president].”

*Claiming that his insistence regarding the need for a wall at the Mexican border is a major reason for his election victory, President **Donald Trump** is now demanding that Congress fund the wall.*



AP Images

Highly Regarded Journalist Admits Deficiencies

“Look, we in journalism deserve to have our feet held to the fire. We make mistakes all the time, and too often we are superficial, sensationalist, unfair, defensive or diverted by shiny objects. Critics are right that we in the national media are often out of touch with working-class America. And distressingly often, we are lap dogs instead of watchdogs.”

*Still expecting continued adulation by readers, New York Times columnist **Nicholas Kristof** would be more honest if he begins each of his columns by repeating the above admission of his glaring inadequacies.*

What About Obama’s Poor Performance Regarding Racism?

“After witnessing over eight years of Barack Obama’s squandered opportunities to engage constructively on racial issues, I’m now listening to the Left’s daily obsession with calling everyone who disagrees with them a racist.”

*Biracial columnist **Ryan Bomberger** also pointed to a rarely suggested way to diminish white supremacy. He urged stopping the abortion of 266 black babies by Planned Parenthood every day.*

He Laments the Legal Profession’s Domination in Congress

“[In the House of Representatives], there’s one electrician, one painter, one iron worker and one carpenter. There are more than 200 attorneys.”

*Speaking at a Teamsters hall in his home state, Representative **Donald Norcross**, (D-N.J.), an electrician, recommended finding more “working class candidates” to seek congressional office.*



AP Images

Breitbart Chief Points to What Looks Like a Trump Betrayal

“The President was buoyed to election by capturing the hearts and minds of a populist, nationalist movement. And now we’re seeing that a lot of these guys remaining in the White House are exactly the opposite of what we told you that you were going to get.”

*After former Breitbart executive Steve Bannon was dismissed from the White House staff, Breitbart’s editor in chief, **Alex Marlow**, pointed out why many Americans are disappointed with President Trump.*

Senator Disagrees About Sending More Troops to Afghanistan

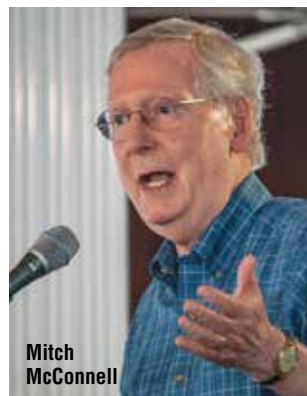
“The mission in Afghanistan has lost its purpose. I think it is a terrible idea to send any more troops into that war.”

*While his stand against a U.S. troop increase was welcome, even Senator **Rand Paul** (R-Ky.) never mentioned that NATO is the top commander of this 16-year-old conflict, not the U.S. military.*

Senate Majority Leader Guarantees Adding to National Debt

“There is zero chance — no chance — we will not raise the debt ceiling.”

*With only several weeks before there will be a need to raise the nation’s debt ceiling, Senator **Mitch McConnell** (R-Ky.) gave assurance that Congress will act to permit more indebtedness rather than allow a government shutdown. ■*



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— COMPILED BY JOHN F. MCMANUS

America's **CULTURAL REVOLUTION**

1861



AP Images: Statue of Confederate soldier

In the supposed causes of love, tolerance, and equality, leftist groups such as Antifa and Black Lives Matter are copying the violent practices of Mao's Red Guards.

by William F. Jasper

During the 1960s, Chairman Mao unleashed his communist youth, the Red Guards, to terrorize China into total submission. Today, "Antifa" thugs, "Snowflake" bullies, and media elites are attempting a similarly profound transformation of America.

Over the past year, America's university campuses and city streets have erupted in rioting and pitched battles that point toward a return to the violent civil turmoil and social conflagrations of the 1960s. Masked, black-clad thugs claiming to be "anti-fascists" (thus using "Antifa" as their adopted moniker) employ fascist/communist terror tactics to silence those they deem to be enemies. Militant activists of Black Lives Matter (BLM) have likewise used rioting, violence, threats of violence, and accusations of racism to defame, cow, and intimidate their opponents, meaning virtually all white people, all police, all commentators, and all black people and members of other racial minorities who challenge the radical BLM agenda. The shock troops of the aggressive LGBTQ community, as well as the extremists of the environmental/global-warming alarmist chorus, are resorting to increasingly hostile and violent rhetoric and action. Elites in the media, political circles, and academia turn a blind eye to the Antifa violence or actually egg it on, while decrying the alleged "structural" flaws of American society — racism, sexism, misogyny, homophobia, transphobia, xenophobia, Islamophobia — that they insist are especially rampant among conservatives and Christians, and can only be rooted out through deep "systemic" reform and aggressive policing of politically incorrect thought and speech.

Donald Trump's presidential campaign provided the perfect pretext for the organized forces of the political Left to go into rhetorical meltdown mode. His election has sent them over the top, into apocalyptic conniptions. Not only is President Trump "Hitler," "Mussolini," "racist," "fascist," "Nazi" — i.e., evil incarnate — as a wide



AP Images
Anti-Trump derangement syndrome: "Crybully" students indoctrinated in aggressive victimology protest Donald Trump's election victory on November 9, 2016, at the University of Texas at Austin.

Not only is President Trump "Hitler," "Mussolini," "racist," "fascist," "Nazi" — i.e., evil incarnate — as a wide swath of Trump critics insists, but he must be "resisted" by "all means possible," including violent riots and revolution, even assassination.

swath of Trump critics insists, but he must be "resisted" by "all means possible," including violent riots and revolution, even assassination. In the immediate aftermath of Trump's election victory, colleges and universities provided surreal video spectacles of students and faculty members wailing inconsolably, many being referred to counseling for post-traumatic stress disorder. However, as dictated by political expedience, many of these alleged PTSD "crybullies" quickly and adeptly shifted gears from fearful victim to defiant revolutionaries, rhetorically attacking Trump and physically attacking his supporters. YouTube and the social media universe abound in videos of Trump haters chanting, "Stop the Hate!" and "Love Trumps Hate!" — as they curse, scream at, beat, kick, spit on, and set fire to fellow Americans who are merely exercising their rights to express support for the candidate of their choice, or to attend the inaugura-

tion of the legally elected president of the United States.

While the Trump election may be the focus of the frightful explosion of vicious verbal violence and actual physical violence that have beset America, the real forces at play have been building for many years, carefully nurtured by a new class of professional revolutionaries: tenured radicals, community organizers, politicians, and their elite promoters in the "mainstream" media, major corporations, and tax-exempt foundations. Those with memories long enough and those who have studied 20th-century political history may recognize in the current tumult many familiar contours that are strikingly similar to the horrendous communist convulsion in China known as Mao Tse-tung's "Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution." This is not mere coincidence; there are direct, as well as ideological, ties connecting Red China's Cultural Revolution and Mao's



AP Images

Organized chaos: China's Cultural Revolution (1966-76) was not spontaneous. The Communist Party sent millions of student Red Guards, shown here with Mao posters in Beijing in 1966, on deadly rampages throughout the country.

murderous, fanatical Red Guards to the unfolding chaos that is enveloping our nation. The frenzied Antifa/BLM/LGBTQ/enviro-climate zealots are the vanguards of a Maoist culture that has taken root in academia, Hollywood, Big Labor, and Big Business, and if allowed to thrive unchallenged will undoubtedly result in now-unimaginable death and destruction, as did Mao's "glorious experiment" in Orwellian social transformation.

During the terrifying decade of the Cultural Revolution (1966-1976), Chairman Mao sent millions of youth into the schools, streets, and countryside to terrorize the Chinese people into total submission. These Red Guards — mostly high-school and college students, but also including elementary-school pupils — accused and denounced their own parents, grandparents, and siblings, as well as their neighbors, teachers, and professors, of such "crimes" as being "capitalist roaders," or "rightists," or of showing "bourgeois tendencies," or expressing "politically incorrect thought." Many of

these young communist accusers actually played lead roles in physically attacking, humiliating, torturing, even killing the accused "enemies of the people." Even many leading Communist Party officials were arrested, tried, imprisoned, and then "re-educated" and "rehabilitated" — or killed. Tearing down and destroying tens of thousands of churches, shrines, temples, statues, and monuments was also a key part of the Cultural Revolution, to cleanse the nation of the "Four Olds": old customs, old culture, old habits, and old ideas. Sound familiar?

In *Chinese Shadows* (1973), one of the most perceptive books on the Cultural Revolution, China scholar Simon Leys laments the "years of systematic incitation to 'class hatred' and the denunciation of basic human impulses, such as compassion for suffering, whoever is the victim (this is now condemned as the expression of a bourgeois humanism that denies the class struggle)," which has "brought about the general and *willed* lowering of the traditional virtues that gave harmony to Chinese life."

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In the years before 1966, the Chinese Communist Party had prepared the way for this enormous, violent convulsion with intensive ideological indoctrination similar to what we are witnessing here today. In China, as in Russia and other developing countries, the Marxist-Leninist revolution emphasized "class warfare," pitting poor against rich, peasant against landlord. However, in the United States and other wealthy developed countries with a large middle class, other differences and hot-button issues must be exploited to divide and conquer: race, sexual orientation, environmental crises, immigration amnesty, etc. So in the interest of examining the ties and parallels of America's current trends to the ongoing revolution of "Mao Tse-tung thought," allow me to survey a relatively small sampling (out of myriad possible examples) of recent manifestations that illustrate the depth and breadth of the crisis we face:

"All White People Are Racists" — According to Critical Race Theory, as taught in many of our high schools and colleges, America is systemically, irredeemably racist. But only white people are racist, and it is "impossible" for a non-white person to be racist, no matter how virulently anti-white his/her words and actions may be. Thus we have actress Logan Browning, a star of the controversial Netflix series *Dear White People*, claiming that "Black people can't be racist." "They can be biased," she admits, "but they can't be racist, and why is that?... Racism is the oppression of a marginalized group in a society that's based on white supremacy." So, "If you are a white person, I'm sorry, you naturally benefit from white privilege," she insists.

Dr. Saida Grundy, a black feminist professor at Boston University, is notorious for anti-white/anti-male tweets, including: "White masculinity isn't a problem for America's colleges, white masculinity is THE problem for America's colleges." Also: "dear white people: ... those euphemisms for ur ancestors like 'farmers' & 'pioneers' means owned humans & killed natives."

Georgetown University Professor Preston Mitchum, a "progressive" who has written for the *Washington Post*, *The Atlantic*, and *Think Progress*, declares: "Yes, ALL white people are racist. Yes, ALL

men are sexist. Yes, ALL cis people are transphobic.” In the same vein, Tim Donovan, a writer for Salon.com and Alternet.org penned a provocative screed entitled “Yes, All White People Are Racists — Now Let’s Do Something About It.” “The first step to ending racism,” he avers, “is acknowledging that most of us harbor ‘implicit bias,’ whether we realize it or not.” Dr. Shakti Butler helped formulate a “Diversity Facilitation Training” program for dormitories at the University of Delaware that provides the following definition for “racist”: “A racist is one who is both privileged and socialized on the basis of race by a white supremacist (racist) system. The term applies to all white people (i.e., people of European descent) living in the United States, regardless of class, gender, religion, culture or sexuality. By this definition, people of color cannot be racists.”

We find abundant similar fare from MSNBC pundit and Georgetown Professor Michael Eric Dyson, Professor Tommy Curry at Texas A&M, Professor Gavin Mueller at the University of Texas, Dallas, and dozens — if not hundreds — of like-minded academics. On Christmas Eve last year, Professor George Ciccariello-Maher of Drexel University took this all-whites-are-racist view to what many of its subscribers, no doubt, consider the logical conclusion. He infamously tweeted, “All I Want for Christmas is White Genocide.” He followed with this sanguinary tweet: “To clarify: when the whites were massacred during the Haitian revolution [of 1804], that was a good thing indeed.”

Are academic subversives such as these fired, censured, or even disciplined for their incendiary and racist statements? It does not appear so; in fact, in most cases we’ve observed, college and university administrators defend their rhetoric and actions under the guise of “academic freedom.” Only significant public outrage, apparently, can prompt the removal of some of the most outrageous extremists, as the cases of Professor Johnny Eric Williams at Connecticut’s Trinity College and Professor Kevin Allred at New Jersey’s Montclair State University show. Williams went over the top with indefensible tweets in the aftermath of the shooting attack on Representative Steve Scalise and other congressional Republicans by a Bernie Sanders Democrat this past June.

Williams signaled his support for the belief that first responders to the shooting should have “#LetThem****ingDie” because they are white “inhuman ****holes” and “vectors,” as in pathogenic agents (such as rats, fleas, ticks, parasites, microbes) that spread “their destructive mythology of whiteness and their white supremacy system.”

Among Allred’s many offensive comments is this death-wish tweet: “Trump is a f****ing joke.... I wish someone would just shoot him outright.”

“**All Men Are Rapists**” — That sweeping charge, made by a character in Marilyn French’s bestselling novel *The Women’s Room* (1977), has become feminist dogma, as taught in Women’s Studies and Gender Theory classes at high schools, colleges, and universities. “All men are rapists and that’s all they are,” charged self-described “radical feminist” French. “They rape us with their eyes, their laws and their codes.” Feminist author Susan Brownville, in her book *Against Our Will: Men, Women, and Rape*, holds that “[rape] is nothing more or less than a conscious process of intimidation by which all men keep all women in a state of fear.”

Radical lesbian feminist Julie Bindel, who writes for Britain’s largest “progressive” newspaper, *The Guardian*, last year put a finer point on her obvious man-hatred. In a Twitter response to comments from readers she called “misogynist

trolls,” she tweeted, “All men are rapists and should be put in prison then shot.” In an interview with RadFem Collective, Bindel expanded on this thought, proposing a kind of concentration camp for all men. “I mean, I would actually put them all [men] in some kind of camp,” Bindel said. “We would have wardens, of course! Women who want to see their sons or male loved ones would be able to go and visit, or take them out like a library book, and then bring them back.” Bindel told her RadFem interviewer that she doesn’t view men as human beings, and stated further, “I hope heterosexuality doesn’t survive, actually.”

Chapman University Professors Peter McClaren and Lilia Monzo, self-described Marxists, combine their hatred of “racism” with their definition of patriarchal, heterosexual society and capitalism. “Our struggle to end racism then must be closely aligned with our struggle against patriarchy and capitalism,” they assert in their paean to communist social reconstruction, “Red Love: Toward Racial, Economic and Social Justice.”

As extreme as these voices are, they are part of a chorus whose refrain has been reverberating in academia for years, with alarming results. One young man who had recently returned from military service in Afghanistan related to me an unnerving experience he had while walking across campus at a (relatively) conservative uni-



Mao’s Antifa: Student members of China’s murderous Red Guards carry a poster of Karl Marx through Beijing and hold up the “Little Red Book” of Mao Tse-tung’s quotations, a book still promoted by Antifa Maoists and their academic comrades.

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versity where he was attending law school. A young woman who was approaching him from the opposite direction, stopped, pointed at him, and screamed, "rapist!" — and then continued on her way. "I didn't even know her, had never seen her before, and wasn't even looking at her," he said. "It was insane. But it, apparently, is a feminist 'exercise in empowerment,' because I've heard of other men being subjected to the same experience."

Bias Response Teams — The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) has brought to national attention a burgeoning threat that has been proliferating below the radar on campuses: "Bias Response Teams." These teams monitor and investigate student and faculty speech, directing the attention of law enforcement and student conduct administrators toward the expression of students and faculty members. FIRE discovered

and surveyed 231 Bias Response Teams (BRTs) at public and private institutions during 2016; BRTs affect expression of at least 2.84 million American students. Many of these teams tend to cast a wide net when defining "bias," FIRE notes in its 2017 report. Almost all use categories widely found in discrimination statutes (race, sex, sexual orientation, etc.), while others investigate bias against obscure categories, such as "smoker status," "shape," and "intellectual perspective." Some BRTs "include political affiliation or speech as a potential bias, inviting reports of and investigations into political speech by law enforcement and student conduct administrators." Thus, "administrators are frequently armed with vague or overly broad rules granting them leeway to impose sanctions for speech they dislike" — such as a Twitter comment or an overheard private conversation in which

a "homophobic," "sexist," "racist," "hateful," or "hurtful" expression is detected. Adding to the opportunity for abuse, many of the BRTs do not publicly divulge who the team members are, which allows anonymous, unaccountable individuals to make damaging (and perhaps unfounded) accusations against faculty members and students, whether for political reasons or personal spite. Many of these Mao-style thought police teams also include law-enforcement officers as members, which increases the likelihood that students and faculty members may find themselves entered into criminal justice databases for politically incorrect statements that in many jurisdictions fall under broad "hate speech" and "hate crime" definitions.

Prison (or Death) for Climate "Deniers" — "The police would start to identify the most influential Global Warming deniers," under Professor Richard Parncutt's proposal, and "These individuals would then be charged and brought to justice."

Because global-warming (GW) "deniers" will be responsible for the death of millions of people, says Parncutt, they must be imprisoned until they confess their errors and prove their contrition by participating, from jail, "significantly and positively over a long period in programs to reduce the effects of GW." However, he notes, "At the end of that process, some GW deniers would never admit their mistake and as a result they would be executed." Parncutt, who teaches music in Austria, may be on the extreme end, but not by too far. The call for firing, persecuting, and prosecuting scientists, professors, writers, and others who question the belief that man-made CO₂ is causing catastrophic global warming has been gathering momentum for years. In 2015, 20 prominent climate scientists/activists — including UN IPCC Lead Author Kevin Trenberth — joined Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.) in calling on President Obama to prosecute global-warming skeptics under the federal RICO (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations) statute, which was enacted, ostensibly, to combat the mafia, drug cartels, and the like. Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. has called for some climate skeptics to be prosecuted as war criminals, and Bill Nye the "Science Guy" says he's open to that idea. John Gilkison, an astronomer at New Mexico State Univer-



Jail, shoot all men: Writer/commentator Julie Bindel, demigoddess of the radical lesbian feminist set, says, "All men are rapists and should be put in prison then shot."



AP Images

“Berzerkely” mayhem: Violent anti-Trump rioters shut down a speech by Milo Yiannopoulos at the University of California, Berkeley, on February 1, 2017, starting fires, smashing windows, and battling police.

sity, penned a climate fantasy in which he envisioned future “Climate Crimes trials” in which skeptics would be convicted and sentenced to death. He lists by name many scientists, pundits, scholars, and politicians who would be executed.

Conservatives Out, Communists In — Over the past year, left-wing students and faculty members have prevented a number of well-known conservative authors, pundits, and scholars from speaking at colleges and universities, or have raucously (sometimes violently) disrupted their talks. Some of the speakers so affected by the Marxist Taliban patrolling our campuses include Heather Mac Donald, a scholar at the Manhattan Institute, political commentator, and a contributing editor of *City Journal*; Charles Murray, author and scholar at the American Enterprise Institute; Ben Shapiro, author, commentator, and radio host; Ann Coulter, author, political commentator, syndicated columnist, and lawyer; and, of course, Milo Yiannopoulos, “conservative” homosexual provocateur and former senior editor at Breitbart.com. It was Yiannopoulos’s scheduled speech at the University of California’s Berkeley campus that touched off the violent conflagration — riots, fires, assaults, and vandalism — by Antifa communists in that city this past February. Communists? Really? Yes, really, but it is a reality that even conservatives appear to be loath to mention. (Can’t use the “C” word; that’s so 1950s, you know. Besides, we don’t want to be accused of “McCarthyism” — still the ultimate opprobrium.) So, conservatives, libertarians, and other

Americans who have absolutely no connection to or sympathy for Nazism/fascism can be roundly and falsely vilified as Nazis and fascists (with the defamatory charges endlessly repeated by the “mainstream” news media), but the communist sponsors of the Antifa criminals/terrorists cannot be truthfully identified as communists.

We have witnessed this over and over again for years with violent demonstrations and riots staged by the Left for “abortion rights,” “immigration rights,” “LGBTQ rights,” “social justice,” “racial justice,” “climate change,” “peace/anti-war,” etc. The fact is that in virtually all of these cases the critical leadership has been provided by trained communist cadres of the Revolutionary Communist Party (RCP), Communist Party USA (CPUSA), Workers World Party (WWP), Progressive Labor Party, and Socialist Workers Party (SWP). However, the controlled media remain willfully, obstinately blind to this reality and steadfastly censor this information so that readers/viewers remain ignorant of the facts that are necessary to make informed judgments. Thus, for example, we see, time after time, demonstrations in which the vast majority of participants are holding signs provided by, say, the RCP or WWP, most often with the party’s website actually printed on it. In addition, well-known officials and activists of the communist parties are leading the events with bullhorns. Ergo, these are communist events posing as demonstrations about peace, race, civil rights, immigration, etc.

Consider for instance the Revolutionary

Communist Party, which openly, ardently glorifies mass-murderer Mao Tse-tung and his Cultural Revolution. Sunsara Taylor, the RCP’s fanatical “Madame Mao,” who erupts with volcanic intensity to denounce President Trump as a “Nazi” and a “Fascist,” is a frequent guest on national television and radio, where she is regularly introduced as a spokesperson for Refuse-Fascism.org. Even Fox News, on which she has repeatedly appeared, does not identify her as an official of the RCP and a regular writer for the RCP newspaper, *Revolution*, and the RCP website, revcom.us. She speaks at colleges and universities, without facing any rioting from “right-wing” students and, apparently, without any difficulties or reservations from administrations that throw up all manner of obstacles for conservative speakers. This is all the more offensive since she is never called out for supporting the most murderous and oppressive regime in the history of the world, while claiming to be mortally concerned that Donald Trump is going to stamp out all freedom. Her living idol is RCP Chairman Bob Avakian, who, to the RCP faithful, is the equivalent of Mao reincarnated. RCP cadres have played a leading role in violent confrontations and deadly riots for decades, including in Los Angeles in 1992, on up through the more recent mayhem in Ferguson, Baltimore, Portland, Milwaukee, Oakland, Berkeley, Charlottesville, and more.

In addition to Sunsara Taylor and Avakian, the RCP receives regular positive exposure through friendly media interviews



AP Images

Red “intellectual” skills: Professor Cornel West, who seems to be on a perpetual protest circuit, is one of the many academics who promote the Maoists of the Revolutionary Communist Party and Antifa.

with longtime communist organizer (and RCP officer) Carl Dix and “public intellectual” Cornel West (former professor at Harvard, Princeton, and Yale). The *New York Times* allows the RCP’s RefuseFascism.org to place a full-page ad in its pages, while refusing to accept ads from groups that are pro-life or that align themselves with other positions that fail the “progressive” litmus test. In its anti-Trump broadside in the *Times*, the RCP/RefuseFascism attack ad declares: “NO! IN THE NAME OF HUMANITY, WE REFUSE TO ACCEPT A FASCIST AMERICA!”

The RCP/RefuseFascism Maoists call on Americans to “Take to the streets” and “Drive Out the Trump/Pence Regime!” Yes, that’s Red Guard “democracy” for you, courtesy of communist terrorists whom the establishment media and politicians present as legitimate players in our political “conversation.”

Like the RCP, the Workers World Party is avowedly communist and has been committed to violent revolution since its inception by breakaway members of the SWP and CPUSA in 1959. Just as the RCP operates through RefuseFascism and other front groups, the WWP has its main fronts, the International Action Center (IAC) and Act Now to Stop War and End Racism (ANSWER), through which it attempts to broaden its appeal. In the current wave of rioting and destruction, the WWP’s hand was made manifest by the arrest of some of its key members. The highly publicized toppling of a Confederate statue in Durham, North Carolina, on August 14

was the handiwork of at least four WWP communists: Takiyah Fatima Thompson, Dante Emmanuel Strobino, Ngoc Loan Tran, and Peter Hull Gilbert.

In many of the other violent incidents littering the landscape of the ongoing cultural revolution in our midst, agents of the RCP, WWP, SWP, and CPUSA can be identified in photos and videos as key participants and leaders. However, their identities often are not officially revealed because they are protected from arrest by left-wing city and county governments that tell police to “stand down,” as we have seen in Baltimore, Portland, Berkeley, and elsewhere. This too follows the script written by Mao, who ordered the police and military to stand down, allowing the Red Guards to carry out their rampage — until they had completed their purpose. Then they too were brought low and subjected to the iron fist of the Communist Party.

“The Revolution Eats Its Own”

Many of the most fanatical of the wannabe Red Guards now stalking America’s streets, campuses, work places, and corporate board rooms would do well to learn some relevant lessons from history. After murdering tens of thousands of their fellow citizens — by guillotine, noyades (mass drownings), and cannonades (group execution by cannon and explo-

sives) — Robespierre and 21 of his top Jacobin executioners during the French Revolution’s Reign of Terror were themselves summarily arrested, during the Thermidorian Reaction of July 1794, and sent to the guillotine — by their fellow revolutionists. The revolution has continued to “eat its own” ever since, as purge and counter-purge has shown in every communist regime.

Some of the “progressives” responsible for the cultural revolution in America are already beginning to get a taste of this experience. Consider, for example, Professor Bret Weinstein at Evergreen State College in the state of Washington, whose case has garnered considerable attention. A self-described “progressive,” Dr. Weinstein was nonetheless verbally and physically attacked by a mob of “people of color” racists (some of which was caught on video) and forced to flee his classroom because he had not heeded their demand to leave the campus on the no-whites-allowed day they had designated as a “Day of Absence.” Under orders of the college president, the campus police were ordered to stand down and not allowed to rescue him. Evergreen’s Maoist thought police have continued to hound him on social media, condemning him as a “racist,” while providing not a scintilla of evidence to back up the defamatory charge.

Similarly, Professor Allison Stranger at Middlebury College in Vermont was set upon by a violent mob of students (egged on by her fellow faculty members) for having the audacity to serve as the moderator for a talk by conservative scholar Charles Murray this past March. After a raucous mob of students shut down Dr. Murray’s lecture, he and Professor Stranger fled to another site to broadcast the presentation via livestream. But the mob hunted them down, banged on the doors and windows, and then attacked them when they tried to leave. They shoved her and pulled her hair. “I feared for my life,” Dr. Stranger says.



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They then attacked the car as the duo attempted to escape. She recounts that “protesters climbed on it, hitting the windows and rocking the vehicle whenever we stopped to avoid harming them.” She sustained a concussion, requiring her to spend a week in a dark room, and a whiplash, for which she had to be fitted with a neck brace. Being a progressive Democrat and publicly stating her disagreement with Dr. Murray’s beliefs was not sufficient to confer immunity on her or protect her from the raging mob.

Like many other liberals, progressives, and radicals, professors Weinstein and Stranger are beginning to discover that the revolution they have been assisting, whether wittingly or unwittingly, has a dangerous life of its own. So too “comedian” and atheist provocateur Bill Maher, long a darling of Hollywood and the left-wing noosphere. Maher, who was uncritically cheered while bashing Christians, conservatives, Republicans, creationists, and heterosexuals, is now under the lash for the heresy of “Islamaphobia”: He has dared to criticize Islam. But Weinstein,

Stranger, and Maher should ponder the fate of Beijing teachers Liu Meide and Bian Zhongyun, two of the earliest victims of Mao’s Red Guards. Liu, a vice principal and chemistry teacher was attacked by her female middle-school students, who beat her, stuffed dirt in her mouth, cut off her hair, and forced her to kneel on a table — all despite the fact that she was pregnant. When they knocked her off the table, it killed her unborn baby. Bian Zhongyun, a vice principal at another girls’ school, suffered similar abuse for weeks, before being killed in a three-hour torture session in August 1966. Her story is movingly told by her husband, Wang Jingyao, now in his nineties, in a courageous film, *Though I Am Gone*.

One of the most important lesson to be learned from their tragedies is that prior to being singled out as “enemies of the people,” Liu Meide and Bian Zhongyun were considered politically correct members of the Communist Party — as were many of the millions of other victims of the Cultural Revolution. Many who are currently riding the cultural revolution wave in America

would surely face similar fates if it were to succeed. This is not merely some passing “craziness,” as some critics suggest, but a very profound, deeply laid, foundational revolution that must be forthrightly confronted, exposed, and opposed.

Attorney Hiram Mann put it well: “No man escapes when freedom fails, the best men rot in filthy jails; And they who cried: ‘Appease, appease!’ Are hanged by men they tried to please.” But freedom need not fail. The would-be Red Guards surging through our street and campuses — and those who are supporting them — represent only a tiny fraction of Americans. The presidential and congressional elections of 2016 (as well as many state and local elections) demonstrate that many of our fellow citizens sense something is wrong and reject the Orwellian appeals of the Left to “transform” our nation and our culture. However, all of that could be for naught, unless more Americans develop a keener understanding of the deadly peril we face and commit to fighting it, with all the time, energy, and resources at our disposal. ■



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Again, past is prelude – we see reruns today of what has happened before. The ancient, and not so ancient, history of totalitarian statist efforts to obscure and rewrite history.



AP Images

Out of sight, out of mind: Workers cover the statue of General Robert E. Lee in Charlottesville on August 23. Many such monuments are being dismantled or defaced in what amounts to an attack on history.

by Dennis Behreandt

The ugly series of events that transpired in Charlottesville had as its direct cause the left-wing movement to stamp out history by forcing the removal, or inciting the vandalism, of monuments related to the Southern states' Confederate history, specifically, the notion that the "traitorous" South rebelled to protect the odious institution of slavery.

As with almost everything promulgated by the leftist totalitarians, actual history is not so cleanly demarcated as they like to portray, nor are their preferred correctives typically consistent in application. The causes of the war fought between the

states, for example, were not solely to be found in the issue of slavery, prominent though this issue was. As for the application of corrective action today, the extremists of left-wing persuasion would destroy monuments to Southern history, but make no mention, for example, of renaming the city of Charlottesville itself, despite the fact that that city's namesake was a British monarch whose empire permitted slavery during her reign.

The inconsistency of application and the historical blindness that underscores the movement behind the removal and destruction of historical monuments is not the point, however, to those participating in the effort. Instead, only two goals mat-

ter: the incitement to violence among the movement's opponents that can then be used to marginalize and discredit the opposition and, most importantly, the erasure of any symbols of history and culture that run counter to the socialist totalitarian's worldview and aims.

Ironically, though today's socialist totalitarians are eager to erase history by removing and destroying monuments and statues and by restricting freedom of speech in general, they certainly have learned from certain lessons of history. Their present efforts at cultural vandalism are in keeping with a long, ancient tradition of totalitarian state power being used to destroy cultural artifacts and rewrite history that became inconvenient.

Destroy Like an Egyptian

In many ways the ancient Egyptians were great innovators. The pyramids are but the most obvious examples of their industry and technical mastery. Just as astonishing are the great temples of Seti I and of Hatshepsut, as well as those at Abu Simbel, and, of course, at Karnak, where one finds the incredible Hypostyle Hall among other archaeological amazements.

What's missing from the environs around Karnak is the Temple of Amenhotep IV. The reason? It was destroyed in an early example of cultural vandalism.

Amenhotep IV (Amenophis IV in Greek) was born to his father, Amenhotep III, and his mother, the powerful Queen Tiye, during a highpoint of the 18th Dynasty. Egypt was wealthy and powerful, and the reign of Amenhotep III was marked by a period of relative peace, opulence, and building. The great Egyptologist Alan Gardiner, in his well-respected *Egypt of the Pharaohs*, notes of this pharaoh's reign that its first half "was an era of prosperity such as Thebes had never previously enjoyed. The most costly products of Nubia and Asia flowed to the Southern City in an uninterrupted stream, to which Crete and even Mycenae seem to have added contributions."

It was also during this time that a noteworthy expansion of wealth and power occurred among the priests of the traditional pagan sects. The pharaoh was well-known for his generosity, not the least with regard to the priests. "Long inscriptions recount his benefactions at Karnak and at Luxor,"

Gardiner writes, “and one dedicatory text even furnishes details of the gold and semi-precious stones which he devoted to their adornment.... The wealth of the temple of Amen-Rē must have been enormous, and its high priest Ptahmose was the first to be able to add to his sacerdotal authority that inherent in the rank of vizier.”

Upon the death of Amenhotep III, his son, Amenhotep IV, ascended to the throne and for a time, continued as his father. Correspondence with the Hittite King Suppiluliumas early in the new pharaoh’s reign shows that the ruling court remained in Thebes. But this was not to last.

There was, as Gardiner relates, “a powerful urge towards monotheism,” despite the otherwise predominant traditional polytheism. Out of this arose the worship of the disc of the sun, known as “the Aten.” This was something considerably new, a monotheistic concept, rather than the gods of the animalistic paganism that had held sway for so long in Egypt.

Whether because the new pharaoh was a true convert to the burgeoning worship of Aten or because, as sometimes has been speculated, the new monotheism offered a chance for the pharaoh to break the power of the traditional priesthood, the son of Amenhotep III undertook a breathtaking revolution. He changed his name to that which is now famous, becoming Akhenaten in the fifth year of his reign and moving his capital to a new city, Akhetaten (now known as Amarna).

From this revolution came a transformation of incredibly stark character, most notably visible in the art from the period. The stiff, formulaic depictions of past Egyptian art disappeared, replaced with the flowing, organic lines of the Amarna period. Describing the new approach as it applied to depictions of the human body, Helen Gardner in her *Art Through the Ages* pointed to “the effeminate body” of the statue of Akhenaten from Karnak: “Its curving contours, and long, full-lipped face, heavy-lidded eyes, and dreaming expression are a far cry indeed from the heroically proportioned figures of Akhenaten’s predecessors.” From this period comes to us also perhaps the most sublime of all portraits, save perhaps for Leonardo’s *Mona Lisa*, the incredible bust of Akhenaten’s royal wife, Nefertiti. Prepared by the sculptor Thutmose,

The ugly series of events that transpired in Charlottesville had as its direct cause the left-wing movement to stamp out history by forcing the removal, or inciting the vandalism, of monuments related to the Southern states’ Confederate history.

it exemplifies the revolution in art that accompanied the religious revolution.

It was Akhenaten, though, who was one of the first to attempt to cleanse the prevailing culture of its monuments to the past. “He blotted out the name of Amen from all inscriptions.... He emptied the great temples [and] enraged the priests,” Gardner wrote. Our other Gardiner, Alan the Egyptologist, recounted the affair in more detail. Akhenaten’s new “true faith could not be spread without the suppression of the countless gods and goddesses hitherto worshipped. Accordingly he despatched his workmen throughout the entire length of the land to cut out their names wherever they were found engraved or written.”

Nonetheless, the new faith championed by Akhenaten was not to last beyond his death in the 17th year of his reign. Presently, his son, Tutankhaten, ascended the throne, and the fact that this young pharaoh is better known as Tutankhamun today points to the reversal of Akhenaten’s revolution.

The boy king, as his name suggests, quickly ended the worship of Aten. At Karnak, an inscription on a stele reveals the reason for the young ruler’s change of heart:

When his majesty arose as king, the temples of the gods and goddesses, beginning from Elephantinē down to the marshes of the Delta, had fallen into decay, their shrines had fallen into desolation and become ruins overgrown with weeds, their chapels as though they had never been and their halls

serving as footpaths. The land was topsy-turvy and the gods turned their backs on this land. If messengers were sent to Djahi (Syria) to extend the boundaries of Egypt, they had no success. If one humbled himself to a god to ask a thing from him, he did not come, and if prayer was made to a goddess, likewise she never came.... But after many days My Majesty arose upon the seat of his father and ruled over the territories of Horus, the Black Land and the Red Land being under his supervision.



Gérard Ducher

Obliteration: The colossal statue of the Pharaoh Akhenaten from his temple at Karnak. Akhenaten led a religious and cultural shift in ancient Egypt, a part of which included efforts to deface the symbols of Egyptian deities.

And so Tutankhamun began the reversal of his father's embrace of monotheism. But it would not be completed until the rise to power of the final pharaoh of the 18th Dynasty, Horemheb, who would not only revitalize the traditional religion of Egypt, but cleanse the land of the monuments and temples erected by Akhenaten.

Horemheb had been a high official under both Akhenaten and Tutankhamun. On the latter's untimely passing, he ultimately ascended to the rank of pharaoh even though he was a mere commoner by birth. It's safe to say that Horemheb was a tyrant, far different in his policies than Amenhotep III, or Akhenaten. Where the former were renowned for diplomacy and prosperity, and art and religion respectively, Horemheb comes down to us as a far harsher ruler. "A sadly defective stele at Karnak describes the measures that he took to establish justice," Alan Gardiner writes. "Arbitrary exactions had resulted in ordinary citizens being deprived of their boats with their cargoes, or again being beaten and robbed of the valuable hides of their cattle. The penalties imposed were of great severity, the malefactors in the worst cases being docked of their noses and banished ... and in the lesser cases punished with a hundred strokes and five open wounds." Not escaping his notice were the structures built by Akhenaten. As part of a dedicated effort to wipe out memory of what we now call the Amarna period, the monotheistic pharaoh's Aten temples were demolished. Much of their substance was reused in new temple building projects, notably at Luxor.

A fitting description of the cultural cleansing of the Amarna period comes from the historian Paul Johnson. In his *Art: A New History*, he writes, "The hammer men — agents of that grim Egyptian injunction: 'Wipe Out His Name' — got to work. The model heads of Amarna dignitaries, left behind as unsaleable now that they were thrown out of office or killed, were also found in the rubbish. Nefertiti's famous head was left, literally, on the shelf. When the shelf, centuries later, collapsed, the head fell safely onto a soft pile

of mud rubble from the walls, and so was preserved, minus one eye."

History Repeats

This sad retelling of the fall of the great civilization that was the 18th Dynasty in ancient Egypt, unfortunately, is something of a template for later eruptions of much similar character.

Images, as the Egyptians of the 18th Dynasty understood, and as the antagonists and protagonists of today's Confederate monument crisis understand, carry with them the meanings and messages of the past, something the ancient Romans would have called the *memoria* of the subject depicted.

The Romans, in fact, made something of a regular practice of what has come to be called *damnatio memoriae*, the "condemnation of memory," especially of deceased emperors judged to have reigned poorly. A well-known example of this is the emperor Domitian.

In the first years of his rule, Domitian was an able emperor, "surprisingly pu-

ritan and competent," in the description of historian Will Durant. He attempted to end child prostitution, enforced laws against adultery, and ended the castration of eunuchs, who had been in increasing demand. "He was honorable, liberal, and free from avarice," Durant says.

Yet there were signs of problems. "He was excessively lustful," Suetonius claims, stating that "he swam with common prostitutes" and went on to seduce his niece and "even became the cause of her death by compelling her to get rid of a child of his by abortion."

The Senate grew increasingly angry with him as his power grew. Declaring himself to be a god, he persecuted those who refused to worship him, expelling philosophers and executing Christians. He grew paranoid and fearful of conspiracies, and, ironically, fell victim to one at last. The conspiracy was orchestrated by his own household personnel, along with the assistance of his wife, no less, whose servant struck first. Despite the emperor's struggles, five assailants delivered seven wounds, according to the account relayed by Suetonius, and, overcome, Domitian expired at the age of 45.

The Senate quickly pronounced a *damnatio memoriae*, and Suetonius relates: "The senators ... were so overjoyed, that they raced to fill the House, where they did not refrain from assailing the dead emperor with the most insulting and stinging kind of outcries. They even had ladders brought and his shields and images torn down before their eyes and dashed upon the ground; finally they passed a decree that his inscriptions should everywhere be erased, and all record of him obliterated."

Commenting on the extent of this iconoclasm in the Roman Empire, Oxford art historian Jas' Elsner noted in the journal *The Art Bulletin* in 2012:

By the time the Principate was in full swing after Augustus, a discourse of image destruction and memory erasure for those who were rivals or former favorites of emperors, including women,



Philip Pikart

Face of what was lost: The bust of Queen Nefertiti, one of the greatest examples of portraiture in history, was found in the damaged, abandoned workshop of the sculptor Thutmose, a victim of the reaction against Akhenaten's reforms.

became normal, rising to special and comprehensive treatment in the destruction, demolition, and recutting of portraits in the cases of disgraced former emperors. Such destruction ... involved all kinds of monuments and inscriptions but centered on statues, which might be demolished, or have their heads recut, or simply have new inscriptions added to replace those of the disgraced (or a combination of the last two).

Shame and Censorship

Each instance of iconoclasm has as twin aims the goals of shame and censorship, sometimes in greater proportion of shame and sometimes of censorship. Both characteristics, however, are typically present. In the Egyptian case of the 18th Dynasty, censorship of the past was predominant in the efforts of Akhenaten, while shame was the dominant goal of the reaction that followed. Likewise, the *damnatio memoriae* against Domitian tilted toward shaming the name of the fallen emperor for his behavior, though certainly the Senate, jealous of the burgeoning power of the emperor, would have been eager to destroy the symbols of that power.

As there is nothing new under sun, more-modern iconoclasts have exactly the same twin aims as their ancient forebears.

Writing for the *Yale Journal of International Law* in 2003, Kanchana Wangkeo recounted numerous examples. Noting that iconoclasm continues to be concerned with “the destruction of icons due to the belief that the images are imbued with an unacceptable symbolic influence,” he points to the French Revolution, during which “the revolutionaries tried to destroy all artwork and monuments connected with the king in order to delegitimize the Ancien Régime.”

For further examples, he continues: “When the Bolsheviks took control of Russia in 1917, they ordered the demolition of all pre-revolutionary monuments. During the Cultural Revolution, Chairman Mao tried to eliminate the Four Olds: Old Culture, Old Thinking, Old Habits, and Old Ideas.”

Wangkeo examines several episodes of cultural destruction at length, including Nicolae Ceaușescu’s “systemization program” in Romania. This program was the



Przemysław "Blueshade" Idzkiewicz.

Walled away: After the reign of Akhenaten, his temples were destroyed as part of the reaction against his reforms. Building materials from those temples were reused in other constructions, including at the legendary Luxor Temple.

effort of the Romanian Communist Party to collectivize farms and implement communal living in alignment with Marxist thought. “In the process,” Wangkeo notes, “the government gutted Bucharest and destroyed numerous villages.”

Though the communists claimed that they were merely implementing Marxism with no ulterior motives of cultural destruction, Wangkeo makes a strong case that the motivating factor was indeed an effort to destroy the cultural heritage of those who opposed communism.

“Iconoclasm,” Wangkeo points out, “is the annihilation of icons as a means of destroying the messages behind them. In the Romanian case, the government destroyed rural villages and historic districts not only to enable communal living but also to eliminate the independent spirit of rural villagers and ethnic minorities. In other words, the destruction was iconoclastic because it purposefully targeted symbols of difference as a threat to the collective adoption of socialism.”

More recently, in 2001 the Taliban in Afghanistan destroyed the colossal statues of the Bamiyan Buddhas in an act of wanton cultural terrorism that outraged the world. The stated reasons for this destruction, coming from the Taliban leadership, were that Islamic law dictated that the statues be destroyed, and, second, that the West was more inclined to fund restoration efforts at Bamiyan than to help the poor and suffering people of Afghanistan.

But there was more to the destruction of the Buddhas than these first appearances

indicate, and, in fact, consideration of other factors puts the Taliban iconoclasm into line with the events of Egypt’s 18th Dynasty, with Rome’s *damnatio memoriae*, and with Ceaușescu’s systemization.

Writing in the *South Asia Multidisciplinary Academic Journal* in 2008, Pierre Centlivres, professor emeritus and former director of the *Institut d’ethnologie, Université de Neuchâtel* (Switzerland), described the iconoclastic motivation of the Taliban in destroying the Buddhas.

As Professor Centlivres points out, the location of the Buddhas is the ancestral homeland of the Hazaras, “a name based on the ethnic myth of a homogenous Hazara and Shia community.” For leading thinkers of this region, Centlivres notes, “The giant figures represented the ancestors of the indigenous population.... In their view, the Taliban, who as Sunni and as Pashtuns are perceived as doubly hostile towards the Hazaras, could not admit this autochthonous [indigenous] symbol, this source of Hazara legitimacy.”

Back to Charlottesville

As with the Taliban, so go the leftist ruffians in America. The radical leftists assailing the Confederate statues and calling for their removal likewise cannot admit these autochthonous monuments. Though they are portrayed by today’s cultural vandals as representing only the Southern states’ slaveholding past, they symbolize a great deal more and therefore carry a much deeper and significant



AP Images

No speech, no thought: The radicals of the Antifa Left have rallied against freedom of speech, and in likewise rallying against monuments they dislike, seek also to silence the messages and lessons of the past.

meaning that runs directly counter to the aims of the radical Left.

It is necessary to first understand the aims of the radical Left. These aims are essentially the aims of Ceauseșcu and Mao, of the Taliban, and of Pharaoh Horemheb. In each case these sought the centralization and expansion of state power, and sought to undermine and overturn any threat to that program, especially by destroying the symbols of the opposition. The leftist “anti-fascists” of today, and those who control them, want only to gain control of the state, to centralize its power, and use that power to order the world according to their radical Marxist program.

The Southern monuments now being removed stand opposed to this program. While there is an undeniable connection to the horrific institution of slavery, this is not at all what today’s leftists find objectionable, despite their rhetoric to the contrary. Indeed, their political ideology calls for the re-establishment of a new, and thorough, universal slavery.

The monuments to General Robert E. Lee and others of the Confederacy, in addition to slavery, point back to the very potent American and classical liberal traditions that form both the fundamental political bedrock of the nation and the philosophical framework of the very concepts of liberty, individualism, and state sovereignty. These are the things that our present socialist totalitarians, whether of the national socialist type or the Marxist variety, wish to overthrow.

General Lee, for instance, was not op-

posed to freeing the slaves he had inherited from his wife’s father, and in fact did so in accordance with their “owner’s” will. He also opposed slavery as an evil, though he accepted it as necessary at the time, something that seems ridiculous to the modern mind. He was the son of the famous “Light-Horse” Harry Lee, who was instrumental in the struggle of 1776 to win independence for the colonies.

Someone who can gaze upon the sculpture of Robert E. Lee might become motivated to learn about the man thus memorialized in bronze or stone, and to contemplate these facts. And in that contemplation may be led to learning more about the other Founding Fathers, especially the slave-holding Thomas Jefferson, who nonetheless was arguably the most important “thought leader” of the revolution in that he penned the immortal truth that all are created equal, with inalienable rights.

Additionally, the statues and monuments of the South embody and symbolize the idea of rebellion against a centralizing power. This is an even more powerful and visceral message for many Americans than the cerebral reflection upon the ideals of the Declaration of Independence and the legal framework of limited government written into the Constitution. The emotional and visceral idea of rebellion in the cause of independence resonates deeply in the American psyche. Because the Confederate monuments inspire the individualist and rebellious spirit of many Americans, they represent

a significant symbolic obstacle to leftist totalitarian program. Thus, they must be defeated symbolically, and removed from public view.

In all of this we see the very uncomfortable dichotomy of America, a nation founded on notions of individual freedom and limited government that nonetheless accepted and permitted the long and odious practice of slavery that it had inherited in some of its states. This is a history to reflect upon and learn from, especially considering the role that the philosophical and legal framework of the Constitution of 1787 played in setting the stage for the eventual abolition of the slave trade.

If this history starts to be hidden because the monuments are torn down, then we risk as a nation playing into the hands of demagogues and firebrands who seek nothing less than the institution of slavery anew.

In a column penned shortly after the events in Charlottesville, the great columnist Walter Williams aptly described the danger before us:

Many politicians, racists, hustlers and tyrants have an agenda that consists mostly of making the U.S. Constitution meaningless and giving government greater control over our lives, thereby destroying personal liberty. The alt-right and white supremacists seek to achieve their goals through racist propaganda. The leftists seek to achieve their goals by tricking Americans into believing that all they want are brotherhood and multiculturalism.

We can’t erase history, and we shouldn’t try to. Acceding to the demand to do so plays into the hands of the enemies of liberty described by Williams. Instead, to move forward constructively, we should engage critically with our history, learn from it, and thereby be better equipped, intellectually, to “form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility ... and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.”

This becomes much harder to do if the monuments come down, and that is something we should have learned, at least, from the thousands of years that separate us from Akhenaten. ■

Confederate Defenders and Nazis ARE NOT THE SAME

Media presented the violence at Charlottesville as one of right-wing, neo-Nazi aggression against the innocent leftist protesters. To say the least, they skewed the truth.



AP Images

Son of the South: H. K. Edgerton of Asheville, North Carolina, is a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. A defender of Southern culture, he refutes the notion that Confederate symbols are racist emblems that should be obliterated from American history.

by *C. Mitchell Shaw*

As one Confederate monument after another has come under attack — with several being vandalized or destroyed — by the communist “Antifa” crowd, anyone who comes forward, in any way, to defend either the monuments or the memories of the men they represent is labeled a Nazi. Left out of the reporting by mainstream media is the simple and salient fact that while the Antifa crowd is communist (for evidence of this, see article on page 25), only a very small subset of those opposed to Antifa (and their destruction of the Confederate monuments and memorials) is in any way connected to Nazi ideology.

Antifa — short for anti-fascist — is a movement made up of communists and those duped by communists. By labeling everyone who disagrees with their ideology as fascists, Antifa is able to promote com-

munist with impunity. If — as this writer will demonstrate — the fascist label is a lie, the argument for communism falls apart.

The notion that anyone who supports the preservation of Confederate monuments is a Nazi racist is ludicrous. Admittedly, slavery was a major issue during the Civil War period, but so were tariffs and states’ rights. And the historical record is clear that Lincoln called up troops not to end slavery but to preserve the Union, and that Confederates such as Robert E. Lee (and others, including black Confederate soldiers) were fighting against what they viewed as an invasion of their homeland. Yet, exploiting historical ignorance, Antifa is implementing (for now) a twofold stratagem: First, Confederate heroes are branded racists and Nazis (though they lived decades before the advent of the National Socialist German Workers’ Party). Next, the presence of any monument to these men is used as “evidence” of a fas-

cist and racist system, i.e., a Nazi system. (As the agitprop progresses, the attacks will increasingly be directed at non-Confederate heroes such as George Washington and Thomas Jefferson.)

Then, ostensibly spontaneous “protests” are staged demanding the removal of the monuments. In the midst of those choreographed riots, Antifa “protesters” — already equipped with tools of vandalism and destruction — damage or destroy monuments they deem offensive. Anyone who dares defend either the monuments or the memories of the men they represent is labeled a Nazi and attacked — verbally and sometimes physically.

The underlying narrative put forth by Antifa — that the Confederate memorials are racist symbols of racist men and that anyone who offers any defense of them is a racist and a Nazi — is false.

While it goes without saying that racism is wrong and that those who espouse racist ideas are unworthy of the attention they draw, that sword cuts both ways. When the Antifa crowd — made up largely of people who have been drinking deeply from the poisoned well of Marxist ideology, including actual card-carrying communists — uses race and racist tactics to further their agenda, they are guilty of rank hypocrisy. After all, claiming that all white people are guilty of racism is, itself, racist. When they use the tired, old tactics of violence and destruction in an ostensible effort to spread love and harmony before driving away in cars decorated with CO-EXIST bumper stickers, they show their true (red) colors.

But what of the claim that Confederate monuments are inherently racist and that those who would defend them are Nazis? Before we look at that question, let’s spend a few seconds looking at why that is such a successful tactic.

Only a very small subset of those opposed to Antifa (and their destruction of the Confederate monuments and memorials) is in any way connected to Nazi ideology.

No respectable person wants to be associated with — much less accused of being — a Nazi. And no respectable person will go out of his way to defend a Nazi. So simply branding your ideological enemies as Nazis is — to a generation trained to respond emotionally instead of logically — both an indictment and a conviction. Proof is rarely demanded. And that is just as well, since — in this case, at least — no proof is given.

The mainstream media made much ado out of the presence of a bunch of white supremacists at the Charlottesville rally. But they overlooked a couple of very important points in reporting on Charlottesville. First, while reports make it appear that the Charlottesville rally was a gathering of white separatist, white supremacist, neo-Nazi, skinhead racists, that is far from the truth. Not only were there many people at the “Unite the Right” rally with no connection to the “white power” movement,

but a large percentage of the people at the rally were simply there to protest what they saw as the destruction of American history, culture, and heritage.

But even if everyone at the rally had been part of the “white power” crowd, it would not stand to reason that the rally serves as evidence of a racist, Nazi nation. Because it would mean that the “white power” crowd spent months planning, organizing, and promoting their rally, applied for and received a permit, and used social media and other forms of mass communication to get the word out, and after months of promoting, managed to draw a crowd of — according to the most generous reports — a few thousand.

Furthermore, Jason Kessler, one of the “Unite the Right” organizers, is not actually a Nazi; he is not even a white nationalist. He is a typical liberal pretending to be a Nazi in an effort to fan the flames of hatred. As THE NEW AMERICAN reported

in an online article dated August 17, even the left-wing Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) was compelled to write, “Rumors abound on white nationalist forums that Kessler’s ideological pedigree before 2016 was less than pure and seem to point to involvement in the Occupy movement and past support for President Obama.” And Right Wing News reported on Kessler’s left-wing past, including the facts that he accepted a \$1,300 consulting fee from a Democratic candidate running for the Senate in 2012 and is also pro-abortion and an environmentalist. Two things are certain, Kessler is not a Nazi, and he did not want to “Unite the Right.” His rally was a classic example of manipulation. And, sadly, it worked.

But is it true that everyone who defends or honors Confederate memorials is a Nazi? Not even close. In a YouGov poll asking opinions on removing the statue of General Robert E. Lee from Charlottesville, less than half of the blacks polled approve of removing it. And in Dallas, Texas, “A group of mostly African Americans has formed to push back on calls to remove confederate statues,” according to a report by the *Washington Examiner*. The report quotes former city council member Sandra Crenshaw — who is black — as saying, “I’m not intimidated by Robert E. Lee’s statue. I’m not intimidated by it. It doesn’t scare me.” Crenshaw added, “We don’t want America to think that all African Americans are supportive of this.” In St. Louis, Missouri, Peggy Hubbard — another black woman — appeared on a segment of KMOV News 4 to defend a Confederate statue in Forest Park. “I want it left alone,” she said, adding, “These were Americans. These were soldiers. They were veterans. And they have a right to be remembered like everybody else.” Any quick Internet search will show that these are far from the only black people who are supportive of Confederate memorials.

Many people support keeping the memorials because of their historical value. Those men were, after all, historical figures who lived, fought, and died during a pivotal time in American history.

No. Not everyone who supports Confederate memorials is a Nazi. But everyone who wants to tear down history is a danger to the future. ■



Heritage or hate? The statue of Confederate General Robert E. Lee at Emancipation Park (which had recently been renamed from Lee Park) in Charlottesville, Virginia, is one of many Confederate monuments that have come under attack in recent months. Anyone who defends the presence of the monuments is labeled a Nazi by those who demand their removal.

Racists, Nazis, & Communists

Though media have dubbed neo-Nazis and the white power element of the alt-Right as “right-wing,” the groups have the same goals as Antifa — with different people in charge.



AP Images

Trampling American culture: Communist groups such as Antifa and the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA (shown) have enjoyed favorable coverage by the liberal mainstream media as they have demanded the removal of Confederate memorials.

by C. Mitchell Shaw

When the Unite the Right rally broke out into violence in Charlottesville, Virginia, on August 11 and 12, the battle lines were drawn between two groups reported as being diametrically opposed. On one side was the “white power” element of the alt-Right that has been branded (sometimes correctly) as Nazi. On the other side was the “militant” Left, which the liberal media go out of their way not to report as communists. Yet not only is that label demonstrably accurate, especially where the Antifa crowd is concerned, it is becoming clearer and more pronounced. Here’s the rub, though: Nazis (popularly portrayed as “extreme-Right”) and communists (accurately portrayed as “hard-Left”) are ideological cousins.

It is important to remember — regardless of how the media spin the facts — that “Nazi” is short for National Socialist German Workers’ Party. The word “Socialist”

is the operative word in that title, just as it was in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Communism and socialism both are expressions of Marxist ideology. Both groups use Marx’s *Communist Manifesto* as a guide — a type of “scripture” — in both forming a worldview and establishing principles to guide policy. The only real difference between communism and socialism is best illustrated in the old saying, “A communist is just a socialist in a hurry.” When — as in the years leading up to and including WWII — communism and socialism seem to be at odds, it is merely a matter of two sides disagreeing on the method of accomplishing an objective; there is no real disagreement on the objective itself, and that objective is total government — totalitarianism. Here is a simple truth the liberal media bends over backward to conceal: Both Nazis and communists occupy the left side of the political spectrum. (For a wonderful analysis of this, do a YouTube search for *Overview of America* by The John Birch Society’s

John F. McManus.) Both Nazism and communism have been responsible for mass democides.

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum offers a breakdown of the numbers of people killed by the Nazis, utilizing “a variety of different records, such as census reports, captured German and Axis archives, and postwar investigations, to compile these statistics,” but remarking on the “difficult task” of “calculating the numbers of individuals who were killed as the result of Nazi policies” since “there is no single wartime document created by Nazi officials that spells out how many people were killed in the Holocaust or World War II.” In his excellent book *Death by Government*, R.J. Rummel — who coined the word “democide” to refer to intentional murder by government — calculates that the Nazis killed an estimated 21,000,000 people. Much of this killing was racially motivated, especially where Jewish people were concerned. There is also little doubt that number would have been much higher had the defeat of Germany not cut the killing short.

Communism on the other hand — both because it is more widespread than the rule and reign of Nazism and because communists have been allowed to continue their control over life and death in the places they control long after the Nazi scourge was brought to an end — has a death toll far in excess of 100,000,000. In fact, Rummel estimates that in Communist China and the former Soviet Union, the number of those murdered by government is nearly 140,000,000. That is the equivalent of nearly half of the current population of the United States. And those numbers do not include the deaths at the hands of communists in other parts of Asia or in South America.

In calculating the numbers of the victims of democide, Rummel wrote that he used “the civil definition of murder, where someone can be guilty of murder if they

“Nazi” is short for National Socialist German Workers’ Party. The word “Socialist” is the operative word in that title, just as it was in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

are responsible in a reckless and wanton way for the loss of life, as in incarcerating people in camps where they may soon die of malnutrition, unattended disease, and forced labor, or deporting them into wastelands where they may die rapidly from exposure and disease.”

Both Nazis and communists seized control by deceit and violence. And once in control, they ruled with an iron fist. Totalitarian control — total government — carries with it the unquestionable control over life and death. It makes exactly zero difference whether the flag of the tyrant is a swastika or the hammer and sickle.

Both Nazi and communist ideologies are incompatible with liberty, Christianity, Western Civilization, and basic morality. Both reject the Golden Rule, adopting instead the Iron Rule. Both should be rejected by all Americans. Embracing one — even as a means of rejecting the other — is both wrong and dangerous; it is suicide.

Unfortunately, both are being embraced by subsets of Americans. And while both are repugnant, only one is widely condemned by the mainstream liberal media.

That the white separatist, white supremacist, neo-Nazi, skinhead, racist element was present at the Unite the Right rally is well established. Some were carrying Nazi flags and KKK insignia and shouting racist and Nazi slogans. Having said that, the liberal media are — par for the course — manufacturing fake news when they report as if the rally were a gathering of only that element. In fact, while many groups and individuals chose to stay away because the rally was shaping up to attract the pro-Nazi element, others — either ignorant of that fact or because they believed they could attend while distancing themselves from the Nazi element — chose to attend. Many of them carried the American flag, one of the many Confederate flags, and signs and banners with slogans showing support for traditional values, such as

President Trump’s “Make America Great Again” slogan.

And while there were many groups at the Unite the Right rally who have no connection to Nazis, it is noteworthy that Antifa, the darling of the liberal media, is — part and parcel — a communist movement. In fact, though the Antifa movement has only recently been introduced in the United States, its genesis as a movement of the German Communist Party dates back to the 1930s in Germany, where it was known as *Antifaschistische Aktion* and abbreviated Antifa. The logo of *Antifaschistische Aktion* is decorated with a double flag design. That same logo is used by Antifa in “protests” in the United States. It is obvious — though the liberal media help Antifa hide it in plain sight — that Antifa is a deliberate and purposeful communist movement designed to disrupt and change America from within and bring about a communist government.

Antifa was not there alone. Antifa’s comrade organization, the Revolutionary Communist Party, USA (RevCom), was there in force. The relationship between RevCom and Antifa is more than a little incestuous, as was the relationship between the German Communist Party and *Antifaschistische Aktion* in the 1930s. They only appear to be two distinct groups; in reality they share a common ideology, a common playbook, common tactics, and — in many cases — an interchangeable list of operative members.

Other communist (or communist-influenced) groups were there as well, playing their part in fanning the sparks of anger and hatred into the flames of violence. In the end, the rally produced enough violence — seen in hundreds of pictures and video clips across the Internet — to shock a nation into reacting. And into taking sides. While many in media have focused on who started the violence, the real question should be, “Who cares?” Nazis (on the Left) battled communists (on the Left), and the end result is shaping up to be more government control (always wanted by the Left).

The real battle, then, is not between Nazis and communists; it is between totalitarianism and liberty. And while leftist elements battle for control of America, freedom-loving, patriotic Americans are caught in the middle — just as the forces of totalitarianism intend. ■



AP Images

Same as it ever was: The flag on the left is the flag of Antifa from 1930s Germany (where it was an adjunct of the German Communist Party). The flag on the right is the flag of Antifa in the United States today. That Antifa is a communist movement is a demonstrable fact, even if the liberal mainstream media hide that fact in plain sight.



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What Should the Government Do in Times of Disaster?

Americans everywhere expect their government to do something about the tragedy of Hurricane Harvey and its aftermath. President Trump visited the disaster-stricken area and indicated that all needed federal resources would be at the disposal of the state of Texas. Federal government entities, especially the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), were already on the ground in Houston and Corpus Christi. At no time more than during such epochal natural disasters does the federal government have a greater opportunity to showcase its benevolence. But what exactly should its role be?

On September 8, 1900, a storm very similar in intensity and track to Harvey made landfall on Galveston Island, about 50 miles south of Houston. The “Great Galveston Hurricane,” as it has subsequently become known, utterly destroyed the thriving young metropolis of Galveston and most of its inhabitants. A gigantic storm surge washed over the entire island, sweeping away all but a handful of Galveston structures and claiming as many as 12,000 lives — although the final death toll will never be known. The Galveston hurricane of 1900 remains by far the deadliest natural disaster in American history. While Hurricane Katrina eclipsed Galveston’s economic damage, the 1900 storm killed more people than all of America’s other historical hurricanes combined. In its wake, the survivors were completely cut off from the mainland, and were forced to build makeshift shelters out of the lumber from destroyed buildings. The stench of the thousands of dead made conditions even more unbearable.

Yet in spite of such conditions, postal, water, and telegraph services were restored to Galveston only five days after the storm hit, and cotton was again being shipped from its port only three weeks after the hurricane. The city of Galveston never recovered its pre-hurricane preeminence (one of the nicknames of old Galveston had been “the Wall Street

of the Southwest” because of its remarkable prosperity), and Houston became the new commercial center of the Texas Gulf Coast. But the city rebounded to a remarkable degree, building a huge new sea wall to protect against future storm surges.

Remarkably, recovery from the hurricane was accomplished with a minimum of federal government assistance and involvement, with most rescue and rebuilding accomplished by locals and by the state of Texas.

Six years after the Galveston tragedy, the Great San Francisco Earthquake, along with the conflagration that followed, leveled the most prosperous city on the West Coast. This time, the federal government, in the form of local army troops stationed at the Presidio, did pitch in to help keep law and order and to build refugee settlements for the thousands of homeless survivors. But once again, there was no massive infusion of billions of federal dollars to fund the relief effort. As a result, San Francisco sought financing from a variety of private sources for its rebuilding, promising its creditors a business-friendly environment rife with opportunities for profit. Impressed by San Francisco’s pluck, a wide range of wealthy investors both at home and abroad sent huge sums to San Francisco, including Standard Oil, Andrew Carnegie, the city of London, and the Bank of Canada. More than \$5 million poured into San Francisco within the first few days after the disaster, allowing the city to hold to its determination to rebuild speedily.

In our day, the declaration of federal “states of emergency” and “disaster areas,” as preludes to securing large tranches of federal funds and other forms of emergency assistance, have become de rigueur. But as the examples of Galveston, San Francisco, and many other disasters in American history show, local private and public responses are not only capable of, but almost always far more effective at, handling such crises. This is because local agencies are far more familiar with the area and with the needs of the local populace — and are likely to be far more sympathetic to the plight of their own, and less inclined to treat people with

the bureaucratic indifference typical of Big Government.

But aside from such practical considerations, most forms of disaster relief are on very shaky constitutional ground. It may be argued with some plausibility that the deployment of military assets to prevent societal breakdown is constitutionally legitimate under the provisions of Article IV, Section 4, whereby the federal government is empowered to protect the states against domestic violence upon application from a state legislature or governor (when the legislature is unable to convene). But nowhere are other sorts of disaster aid — federal loans, grants, and the like — explicitly authorized by the U.S. Constitution.

It has been aptly said that “war is the health of the state,” and that the laws tend to fall silent in times of war, because war has a way of silencing dissent and cowering skeptics of government power. War, after all, is a dire emergency, and requires broad popularity to be successfully prosecuted. For this reason, war has always been dear to the hearts of those whose fondest aim is to enlarge the powers of the state at the expense of individual liberties.

Like war, major disasters allow reason to be trumped by emotion; the losses they engender stir in people an understandable impulse to see something done immediately to bring relief to the suffering. When images of devastation and loss crowd our TV screens, few of us are disposed to consider the possible long-term consequences of limitless government power brought to bear on a disaster-stricken city.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, law enforcement went door to door confiscating firearms from New Orleans residents trying to protect their homes, in just one example of the type of police-state measures for which a disaster can provide political camouflage. We ought therefore to be wary of the role the federal government is allowed to play in dealing with natural disasters, and defer, for the most part, to local and state authorities, who are both legally and practically better-positioned to bring relief to the afflicted. ■

— CHARLES SCALIGER

WHERE HAVE ALL THE GROWN-UPS GONE?

Increasingly, young adults not only seem determined to avoid responsibility, they're lost when it's thrust upon them.

by John T. Larabell

The Vanishing American Adult: Our Coming of Age Crisis and How to Rebuild a Culture of Self-reliance, by Ben Sasse, New York: St. Martin's Press, 2017, 306 pages, hardcover.

While growing up, I often heard the older generations complain about “kids these days.” Now as I enter my late 30s, I find myself doing the same thing. Only this time, it seems like more than just a criticism of different tastes in music, clothing, and hairstyles. Something seems really wrong with the young generation of Americans, the “millennials” and those currently in high school or college. I hear people my age and older complain about the young people's lack of work ethic, their sense of entitlement, their almost nonexistent critical thinking skills, and their very superficial values. Case in point about the apparent lack of work ethic: I work a part-time job on Saturdays at a small health-food store in town. This summer, two employees, one 19 and one 18, were complaining about working full time over the summer doing fairly easy physical labor, and remarking on how tired they were and how they didn't have any free time. Both are healthy, athletic, and good students, and come from middle-class/upper middle-class families and have parents with good jobs and strong work ethics. When I asked how they could be tired at their age, they said I sounded like their parents.

Now don't get me wrong; these are both good kids and I like them both. But seriously, most people my age and older can remember working as many hours as we could (overtime was great) at that age, to make as much money as possible, especially as college students.

The above example illustrates part of a larger problem: The younger generation in America seems to have a hard time “growing up,” even though they are legally adults and should be “grown-ups.” This does not bode well for the future of the country, and I've heard many people wonder out loud what can be done about this.

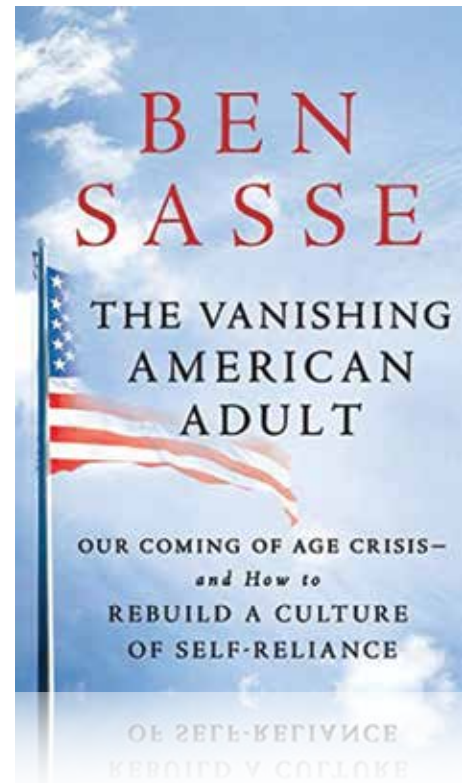
In order to combat any problem, one first needs to identify the roots of the problem, and then figure out what can be done about it. U.S. Senator Ben Sasse (R-Neb.) attempts to do just that in his book *The Vanishing American Adult: Our Coming of Age Crisis and How to Rebuild a Culture of Self-reliance*.

As Senator Sasse notes in the book's introduction, entitled “My Kid ‘Needs’ Air Conditioning”:

The idea for this book came when I began serving as president of a liberal arts college in my home state of Nebraska eight years ago. Early in my tenure at Midland University, a group of students in the athletic department was tasked with setting up a twenty-foot Christmas tree in the lobby of our basketball arena. These were hearty and healthy kids, 18- and 19-year-olds. They got the tree up, took out some decorations, dressed the tree, and began to leave, concluding that the job was done. That was when one of the university's vice presidents happened by and noticed something odd. The Christmas tree was decorated only on the bottom seven or eight feet, on the branches the kids could easily reach.

Why, she asked, was the work only half done?

The head of the sorority replied, “We couldn't figure out how to get the ornaments on the top.”



“Was there not a ladder in the gym?” the vice president queried. “Was maintenance unwilling to bring one?”

She was met with shrugs. No one had bothered to look or thought to ask.

This day's failure wasn't at all about lacking brains; it was about will. It was about ownership. It was about not having much experience or interest in seeing tasks through to completion....

Over my initial handful of months at the helm of Midland, I was noticing that students' limited experience with hard work seemed to make them bizarrely fuzzy-headed when actual, real-world problems needed to be solved. They were regularly and troublingly flat-footed about situations in which smart, lively 18- to 22-year-olds should have had no difficulty leaning in and righting the world. But it turned out that this passivity wasn't at all unique to Midland. As I've become more alert to this problem, I see the story repeated time and again, not only

with college-age students but with pre- and post-college-age people as well.

Sasse also recalls how a friend of his was actually getting scared for his two adolescent kids, noting that their screen time on YouTube, social media, and Netflix seemed to imbue them “with a zombie-like passivity” and a “decline of agency, of initiative, of liveliness.”

In the pages of *The Vanishing American Adult*, Sasse lays out a blueprint for “toughening up” today’s millennials and teenagers. He feels that America’s affluence and emergence as an industrial society has caused the younger generations to grow up too soft. One thing that has led to the decline of the social development of millennials, according to Sasse, is the insistence on age segregation in our society, especially in the public school system. Historically, children and young adults did not spend essentially all of their time with peers their own age, but lived among people of several generations. This helped them mature faster, observe adult life firsthand from an early age, and also internalize the reality of aging, decline, and death. Sasse recommends children and teenagers spend time with adults of older generations, and teenagers spend time with younger children (if they don’t have younger siblings) to learn parenting skills.

Sasse also greatly emphasizes the value of work to build character and toughness. Not just work, but difficult, sometimes unpleasant work, and work that requires self-motivation and problem solving. In fact, Sasse and his wife, Melissa, sent their 14-year-old daughter, Corrie, a few hours from home to work on a cattle ranch for a month (the Sasses homeschool their three children) during calving season to “build some character by an unrelenting encounter with daily necessity.” At 14 years old, Corrie was on the ranch helping with breeding, birthing, and feeding, as well as driving four-wheelers, an old manual-transmission pickup truck, and a tractor. Throughout her time on the ranch, Corrie regularly texted her parents to keep



Ben Sasse

AP Images

them informed of what she was doing, and Sasse included a number of these texts in the book; readers can detect a sense of excitement and accomplishment in young Corrie’s words:

- Got an orphaned heifer to take her whole bottle. (Also got tons of nose slime & snot on my jeans.)
 - Am not going to call now. I need to get some sleep before checking cows — and feed the fats ... By the way, Dad, the ‘fats’ are cows soon to be slaughtered.
 - It’s been 2weeks since I learned the manual tractor & today I drove 1979 stick F-150. Can’t wait to show u when u visit.
 - My day: Learned to coil barb-wire; backed trailer w/ 4wheeler; & dropped 2 cows for slaughter.

Contrast this with an anecdote Sasse mentions from his days as president at Midland College:

During the five years I was president, we conducted surveys annually about the highs and lows of students’

university experience. The survey takeaway that repeatedly woke me in the middle of the night was the aching sense not just that the students lacked a work ethic, but more fundamentally that they lacked an experiential understanding of the difference between production and consumption. Dispiritingly, students overwhelmingly highlighted their desire for *freedom from* responsibilities. The activities they most enjoyed, they reported, were sleeping in, skipping class, and partying. A few mentioned canceled classes as the best part of their four years. I too love a good Midwestern blizzard, but I loved them in college *so that* we could explore the beauty, or ski, or snowmobile — rather than merely be free from class. Almost

nowhere did the student surveys reveal that they had the eyes to see *freedom to* categories — to read, to learn, to be coached, to be mentored in an internship.

Senator Sasse says that Americans, starting with the baby boomers, have become too affluent, and millennials seemingly make consumption a way of life. In addition to hard work, he advocates consuming less, and having a better understanding of *wants* as opposed to *needs*.

In chapter eight, “Build a Bookshelf,” Sasse encourages parents to select a reading list for their children, i.e., create a list of books to help develop them into good thinkers and adult citizens able to stand on their own two feet. He extols the virtues of a type of “Great Books” collection, including some of the classics from Greek and Roman civilization as well as modern classic works, both famous and infamous. As Sasse noted, “Melissa and I thus resolved to want to show our kids sixty books that we judged important. We set out to build our own short ‘family canon.’” Sasse remarked that while he is not done building his

family canon yet, he has selected books to fill nine (of an eventual 12) categories, which are God, Greek Roots, Homesick Souls (or, Fundamental Anthropology), Shakespeare, The American Idea, Markets, Tyrants, The Nature of Things (or, a Humanistic Perspective on Science), and American Fiction.

With degrees from Harvard and Oxford, and a Ph.D. in history from Yale, Sasse is an excellent writer and has a very good knowledge of history. The book is very professionally written, is very readable, and has a good structure and flow of ideas.

While Senator Sasse has earned a cumulative score on THE NEW AMERICAN'S Freedom Index (a congressional scorecard based on adherence to the Constitution) of 77 percent, which, for the Senate, is quite high, he votes with "establishment" Republicans on issues such as "free trade" and foreign policy. That being said, with degrees from Harvard, Oxford, and Yale, Sasse should be applauded for being as conservative as he is.

One point of contention for constitutionalists would be the fact that Sasse claims that globalization is inevitable and even a good thing, favoring "free trade" agreements and an interventionist foreign policy. Sasse also seems to promote the "accidental" view of history, explaining that America's shift toward mass public schooling was just a natural result of an industrial society attempting to train new workers and integrate new immigrants in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. This may be true to an extent, but Sasse does not mention the fact that there was a deliberate attempt to "dumb down" the American population to enable them to better fit into a socialist society, something we have documented extensively over the years at THE NEW AMERICAN.

But those negatives just mentioned are a small portion of the book, and certainly don't detract from the book's central message of pointing out the immaturity of the younger generation of Americans and offering suggestions to correct that problem. The book is written from a fairly conservative, and Christian, perspective. Senator Sasse's *The Vanishing American Adult* is a great tool for any parent looking to understand issues plaguing America's youth and how to remedy some of those issues. ■

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THE GOODNESS OF AMERICA

Thousands of Rainbow Bridges

Thousands of strangers are going out of their way to make life just a little less sad for a nine-year-old boy who lost both of his parents within weeks of each other, ABC News reported.

Robbie's Ecuyer's mother, Shelley, who suffered from gastroparesis and cystic fibrosis, told him that if anything ever happened to her, she would be crossing a rainbow bridge to heaven. She passed away in May, leaving Robbie in the care of his father, who unfortunately overdosed just two weeks later and died.

On the same day that Robbie's father died, a family member who was picking Robbie up from school was shocked to see a double rainbow hanging over Robbie's school. She took a photo to show Robbie as evidence that his parents had crossed a rainbow bridge to heaven.

The photo had a profound impact on Robbie, who is autistic. Robbie's aunt, Crystal, who has taken custody of her nephew, saw how Robbie reacted to the photo and took to social media with a plea for others to share their own photos of rainbows for Robbie.

What happened next was not expected. Over 7,000 people sent photos of single and double rainbows from all over the United States and across the world. One little girl named Samantha Sparks, from Baltimore, Maryland, sent Robbie a picture that looks as though the rainbow is literally coming out of her hand.

According to Crystal, the rainbow pics have meant a lot to Robbie. "It's very comforting knowing that so many people have reached out to him with the simple request of a rainbow," she said.

Cop by Day, Monster Hunter by Night

Sindey Fahrenbruch, four, was afraid that there could be monsters in her new house in Longmont, Colorado. So when she met Officer David Boday at a community fundraiser in July, she asked him if he could help. Boday responded to the little

girl's request as if it was just another day on the job.

"She was worried that there may be some monsters in her new house," he said, adding that she and her mother, Megan, asked if he could drop by to "check the house before they moved in."

"It was probably one of the cutest things I've ever been involved with as a police officer," said Officer Boday.

Fahrenbruch met the officer in front of her house on July 23, before entering to look for scary beasts. "She led me into the house and the monster hunting began," he explained.

Fahrenbruch escorted Boday through the entire home in search of anything scary. Officer Boday then continued his search outside, where he checked the bushes. He gave Fahrenbruch his flashlight so that she could help.

Deputy Chief of Police Services Jeff Satur told ABC News he's proud of the work Officer Boday did that day. "We really work hard in our community to build relationships and him taking a few minutes out of his day helped ... improve the image that everybody has about police officers," he said.

Veterans-turned-bridge-builders

Local veterans in Calloway County, Kentucky, did a beautiful thing for a veteran's widow named Belinda Hart.

Hart regularly takes her mother, who suffers from Alzheimer's disease and is wheelchair-bound, to doctor's appointments. Unfortunately, whenever she would take her mother out, she would have to make her way across a creek using two narrow sections of logs that were put in place after a bridge was swept away by recent flooding in the area.

When Sam Warner and Flenoy Barrow of the Veterans of Foreign Wars organization in Calloway County heard about the Harts' predicament, they took it upon themselves to build a new bridge for the family in July.

It cost \$734 to build the bridge, paid for out of the Poppy Fund from the VFW in

Murray, Kentucky. It's a fund from donations the group uses to build ramps for veterans in the community.

Best Friend to the Rescue

Paul Burnett of Poway, California, is a soon-to-be third-grader who did something wonderful for his best friend, Kamden Houshan, who is wheelchair-bound. Burnett noticed Houshan was struggling with the wheelchair due to its weight and bulk. He knew Houshan needed a lightweight wheelchair, but his insurance would not cover another one for a few years. So Burnett set up a GoFundMe page to raise money to buy his friend a wheelchair.

According to Today.com, Kamden was born with a tumor on his T2 and T3 vertebrae, large enough to engulf his spinal cord. He has had three surgeries, and has been rendered a paraplegic and relies on a wheelchair. Unfortunately, his insurance only pays for a wheelchair every five years, and the chair Kamden was using was not a good fit.

Paul had learned about the GoFundMe site from watching YouTube videos. He decided to start his own campaign on June 30. His GoFundMe page quite adorably outlines all the reasons Kamden needs a new chair: "His wheelchair has fallen forward many times and that sucks. Also, he has a really hard time pushing it because it's so heavy. But do you even know what's worse than that? His wheelchair is too big for him to fit in his bathroom. He can't even fit through the door and use the toilet without asking for help. If he gets a new wheelchair he's going to be more comfortable and he'll do more things on his own. I think he would go super fast if he got this new chair and we can play more."

In just one month, the page surpassed its goal of \$3,900, raising \$6,325. As a result, Houshan was able to get a brand new, significantly lighter wheelchair in August. Houshan's mother was beyond grateful for what Paul was able to accomplish. "Paul is really just a sweet kid," she said. "I just couldn't believe it. Who would have thought? I never guessed it would be like this, not in a million years." ■

— RAVEN CLABOUGH

Robert E. Lee: Answering His Critics

Of late, Confederate General Robert E. Lee has been disparaged as just another racist slave owner. But that is blatantly false.

by Steve Byas

Confederate General Patrick Cleburne died many years before the rise of the Taliban and their efforts to destroy the monuments and symbols of their enemies. But Cleburne did accurately predict the Taliban-like efforts to alter the history of the Civil War.

“Surrender means that the history of this heroic struggle will be written by our enemy; that our youth will be trained by Northern school teachers; will learn from Northern school books their version of the war; will be impressed by all the influences of history and education to regard our gallant dead as traitors, and our maimed veterans as fit subjects for derision.”

But Cleburne did not realize that the assault would target the common foundations of America, North and South, using the greatest heroes of the late Confederate States of America as a starting point to attack the Founding Fathers — such as George Washington and Thomas Jefferson.

No person identified with the Confederacy has been more admired than General Robert Edward Lee. And yet, there are those Americans who, much in the spirit of the Taliban, have decided that the historical reputation of the late commander of the famed Army of Northern Virginia must be shredded. For example, I recall my recent trip to New Orleans to watch my Oklahoma Sooners play Auburn in the Sugar Bowl. During our vacation, my wife and I took a tour of the Big Easy on a double-decker bus. The tour guide haughtily noted that the Lee monument would soon be taken down, before proceeding to deliver a one-minute rant on the supposed evils of the general, charging that he was just some “slave-owning dude.”

When Lee surrendered to Union General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, on April 9, 1865, both men were former slave-owners. Both had freed their slaves, expressing disdain for the institution. Yet, one man, Grant, graces the \$50 Federal Reserve note, while the other, Lee, is seen as a fit object of scorn by those who wish to cast him as an evil man. Some go so far as to say that even Lee’s reputation as a great military leader is overrated.

This is despite Lee’s string of victories over numerically superior Union forces. His triumph at Chancellorsville, against a federal force twice his own, has been studied at West Point and other military schools across the nation. In the first Persian Gulf War, General Norman Schwarzkopf used a version of Lee’s battle plan



National Archives and Records Administration

at Chancellorsville to destroy the Iraqi army. Lee was still winning victories over larger armies until the final months of the war.

Some have conceded that Lee was a brilliant military mind, while arguing that his performance at Gettysburg with the so-called Pickett’s Charge was a horrendous mistake. As they say, hindsight is always 20/20, but historian Phillip Thomas Tucker offers a convincing defense of Lee’s performance at Gettysburg in his recent book *Pickett’s Charge*.

“Endlessly derided by historians,” Tucker wrote, “Lee’s decision to unleash his attack at Gettysburg was his only realistic one because this was the Confederacy’s last chance to win the war in one decisive stroke. Contrary to today’s traditional view that Lee’s decision to attack the Union center-right ... was the height of folly, the truth of Pickett’s Charge was altogether different. Quite simply, the attack was Lee’s best opportunity to reap a decisive success after July 2’s tactical opportunities had passed. Based on careful calculation (instead of the stereotypical view of a gambler’s recklessness), Lee correctly targeted the weakest point in Meade’s line, a weak spot distinguished by a copse of trees located at a high point along the open Cemetery Ridge.”

In short, “Lee correctly calculated in striking at exactly the right place and the right time, while utilizing a bold battle plan that was as brilliant as it was innovative.”



Not so different: When Lee surrendered to General U.S. Grant at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865, both men were former slave owners, having previously emancipated them.

Tucker argues that if other military officers in Lee's army (such as James Longstreet and Jeb Stuart) had performed as they should have, Lee's army might very well have marched right into Washington, D.C., and dictated peace terms to President Abraham Lincoln.

But of course, the attacks upon Lee's military leadership more likely are based upon the common misconceptions about the origins and purposes of the war itself. The case against honoring Lee seems to be that the Civil War was fought to abolish slavery, and since Lee was the most important military leader of the side that supposedly was fighting to "keep slavery," no monuments should remain honoring his memory — even in his beloved Virginia.

Slavery was certainly a source of friction between the Northern and Southern sections of the country, contributing to the decision of seven Southern states — Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas — to secede from the Union. But one must look at other factors, as well, such as the tariff, which tended to help the economy of the industrialized North at the expense of the more agrarian South. In fact, it had almost caused the secession of South Carolina a generation earlier.

And secession was not just a "Southern idea." Northern states, more than once, had threatened secession earlier in U.S. history, largely due to their resentment at the outsized influence of Virginia in the Union.

After seven states left the Union in late 1860 and early 1861, eight states where slavery remained a legal institution were still in the Union. If the war had really been fought to abolish slavery, one wonders why Lincoln did not call for an invasion of those eight states, as well.

But Lincoln did not call for the abolition of slavery when he asked for 75,000 volunteers to suppress what he termed a "rebellion" in seven states. Even after the war was more than a year old, Lincoln expressly told newspaperman Horace Greeley that he was not waging war to abolish slavery, but rather to save the Union. In the August 22, 1862 letter, Lincoln wrote, "My paramount object in this struggle *is* to save the Union, and *is not* either to save or to destroy slavery. If I could save the Union without freeing *any* slave I would do it, and if I could save it by freeing *all* the slaves I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing some and leaving others alone I would also do that." Enlistments filled the ranks of the Union, made up of men who answered the call to "save the Union." With the modern insistence that the war was waged to end slavery, this motivation is either largely forgotten, or dismissed as mere sentimentality.

This motivation — to save the Union — was grounded in the very reason the Union was created in 1776. The 13 British colonies united out of military necessity, knowing that the only way they could win their independence was through union.

When Daniel Webster proclaimed on the floor of the Senate a generation before the Civil War the famous words, "Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable," he did not need to explain himself. It was widely believed that the only way to maintain the experiment in liberty was through a union of like-minded states. Otherwise, foreign powers such as the British or the French could be tempted to pick them off one by one.

Lee opposed secession for his state of Virginia, while also opposing an invasion of the seven states that had chosen to leave the Union. He resigned from the army rather than participate in the forced subjugation of the seven seceded states.

Yet, when Lincoln made his call for volunteers, Virginia and other states were expected to produce the men that would invade the Deep South. This quickly precipitated the secession of four more slave states — Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Arkansas — states that had previously rejected secession. They did not secede to protect slavery, but rather because of Lincoln's call for an invasion of fellow states. Three other states, Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri — all slave states, did not secede, but did eventually provide soldiers for both sides. Again, had the war been fought to "end slavery," one would think that they would have left the Union, as well.

After Virginia's secession, Lee felt he had no choice but to offer his services to the Confederate States of America, which Virginia had joined. To Lee, this was his duty, and he once said duty was the most sublime word in the English language.

As the war dragged on, with Confederate troops under Lee and other brilliant military minds winning more battles than they lost, it began to look as though the Confederate States of America would truly become an independent nation. By the fall of 1862, France and Great Britain were poised to recognize this as a fact. Lincoln was desperate to "save the Union," and took a desperate measure. He could have told the British that they should not recognize the independence of the Southern states because they had no right to secede from the Union, but that might have resulted in derision from the British, who could have just said, "Serves you right," considering what had happened in 1776.

Both the French and the British had abolished slavery a few decades earlier, and undoubtedly Lincoln could have kept both countries from recognizing Southern independence if he would have made the war about slavery, rather than the legality of secession. But had he done so, he might have faced massive desertions from the Union army. More importantly, logic may have then necessitated the invasion of the four Union states where slavery was still legal.

Lincoln's solution was to "thread the needle." He issued an executive order, ending slavery in states "still in rebellion" on January 1, 1863, as a "war measure," but leaving slavery untouched in those states still in the Union. Combined with the Union's military success at Antietam in September 1862 in blocking General Lee's invasion of Maryland, the British and the French decided to hold off in recognizing the Confederacy.

The reality is that Lincoln had no constitutional authority to end slavery anywhere, but his Emancipation Proclamation proposed to leave slavery untouched in areas that recognized his presidency, and end it where he had no troops to enforce it. Despite the inherent contradiction of the Emancipation Proclamation, it has led many today to believe that the war was fought to end slavery, and slavery was ended by it.

This assertion that the war was fought to end slavery has also slandered the hundreds of thousands of Confederate soldiers who fought in the war, with many people today damning their own ancestors as having fought to "keep their slaves." The reality is that only a tiny minority of Confederate soldiers even owned any slaves, and almost none were fighting to save the ugly institution.

So why did they fight? To repel an invading army, of course. This is the reason that Lee fought, as well. He said he would have been content for the Union to continue, even if that meant every slave in the South would go free. Yet, Lee has been condemned as fighting to keep human beings in bondage.

The truth is that Lee had denounced slavery long before the war began. In a letter to his wife from Camp Brown in Texas, written on December 27, 1856, Lee described his feelings about slavery.

Lee opposed secession for his state of Virginia, while also opposing an invasion of the seven states that had chosen to leave the Union. He resigned from the army rather than participate in the forced subjugation of the seven seceded states.

"I believe," Lee wrote, "in this enlightened age, there are few who will not acknowledge that slavery as an institution is a moral and political evil."

Despite these words, which one would think would settle the issue that Lee opposed slavery, detractors have argued that these words are "taken out of context," contending that the rest of the letter somehow contradicts his calling slavery a "moral and political evil."

Some note that Lee wrote, "The blacks are immeasurably better off here than in Africa morally, socially, and physically." Critics twist these words in an effort to have Lee arguing that it was better for a black person to be a slave in America than to live free in Africa. This betrays a lack of understanding on the part of these critics as to the condition of the American slaves when their ancestors were in Africa. (The slave trade, which Lee denounced

"on every ground," had ended in America over a half-century before the war, so there were no persons being brought to America from Africa in Lee's day). The ugly truth is that almost all persons brought to America as slaves were slaves in Africa, as well.

After visiting Africa, the famed black American boxer Muhammad Ali was asked what he thought of the continent. Ali responded that he was certainly glad that his ancestors had "gotten on that boat." Ali's views were neither pro-slavery nor racist against blacks, but were another way of saying what Lee had said more than a century earlier.

Once in America, they were often introduced to Christianity, which Lee and his fellow Christians believed led to their eternal salvation. Lee told his wife, "How long their subjection may be necessary is known and ordered by a wise and merciful Providence," arguing not that he hoped



Adam Cuerden

Second-guessing strategy: Lee's decision at the Battle of Gettysburg to use what is referred to as "Pickett's Charge" is still a source of controversy for military historians. Had the attack been successful, Lee's Army of Northern Virginia might very well have marched into Washington.

Critics argue that if Lee was so opposed to slavery, why did he not immediately free his slaves when he inherited them from his late father-in-law in 1857?

slavery would continue, but rather that it was up to God. But he clearly hoped it would end sooner rather than later, telling his wife that the two of them should give “the final abolition of slavery” the aid of “our prayers.”

To fully understand Lee’s words, in which he accepts the will of God in all things, one must realize that he was a devout Christian. As William Johnson wrote in *Robert E. Lee: The Christian*, “When General Lee won a victory, he gave the glory to a higher Power.” Throughout the

war, almost every military dispatch or private letter he wrote has allusions to his trust in God.

The universal witness is that Lee never drank, never used tobacco, and never used profanity. At West Point, he never received a single demerit. He took a generous attitude toward his enemies. In another letter, he spoke of the murderous abolitionist John Brown, whom Lee had captured at Harper’s Ferry in 1859: “I am glad we did not have to kill him.”

Years after the war, a Union veteran

told a story of Lee’s generous Christian spirit. A ball had shattered his left leg, and as Confederate soldiers passed by, he recognized General Lee. The man shouted taunts at Lee and his men, including, “Hurrah for the Union!”

At that, Lee stopped his horse and dismounted, and walked toward the soldier. “I confess I at first thought he meant to kill me,” the soldier recalled. “But, as he came up, he looked down at me with such a sad expression upon his face that all fear left me.... He extended his hand to me, grasping mine firmly, and looking right into my eyes, said, ‘My son, I hope you will soon be well.’”

William Jones wrote of a similar incident in his *Life and Letters of General Robert E. Lee*. “One day in the autumn of 1869, I saw General Lee standing at his gate, talking to a humbly clad man, who turned off, evidently delighted with his interview, just as I came up. After exchanging salutations, the General pleasantly said, pointing to the retreating form, ‘That is one of our soldiers who is in necessitous circumstances.’ I took it for granted that it was some veteran Confederate, and asked to what command he belonged, when the General quietly and pleasantly added, ‘He fought for the other side, but we must not remember that against him now.’”

Later, Jones found out that Lee had given the old Union veteran some money. And a kind word.

Still, even Lee’s emancipation of his slaves has generated criticism, arguing that he showed anything but Christian charity toward them. Critics argue that if Lee was so opposed to slavery, why did he not immediately free his slaves when he inherited them from his late father-in-law in 1857?

Lee’s father-in-law, George Washington Parke Custis, left his slaves to his daughter and his son-in-law, making Lee the executor of the estate. In his article for *The Atlantic*, “The Myth of the Kindly General Lee,” Adam Serwer, a strongly left-wing writer, distorts the historical record concerning this inheritance in order to castigate Lee. In the article, Lee is pictured as a man who delayed their emancipation, and even sold some slaves for profit.

The truth of the matter is that the Custis will made it practically impossible for Lee to free them immediately. As Doug-



Role model: General Lee was beloved by his soldiers for his military brilliance, but also for his Christian character. He never received a single demerit or reprimand at West Point, and those who knew him over a period of several decades never knew him to use a word of profanity.

las Southall Freeman wrote in his Pulitzer Prize-winning, four-volume biography, *R.E. Lee*, the will contained a provision that only when Custis' debts were all paid, were the slaves to be emancipated. Custis expected this would happen within five years.

"The immediate trouble," Freeman wrote, "was that Mr. Custis left more than \$10,000 of debt and virtually no money with which to operate the estate." The Arlington estate was run-down. Lee was forced to dig into his own modest financial resources to save the estate. (It should be noted that the sale of Arlington would have included the slaves, as well, but Lee refused to take that option.) Lee had to take a leave from the army in an effort to save the plantation. His superior, General Winfield Scott, granted the leave, calling Lee "the very best soldier I ever saw in the field."

Rather than sell off slaves, Lee hired some of them out in order to raise the necessary funds to pay the debts, which would then allow him to later free them. Freeman wrote, "The demand for servants was so limited in northern Virginia, and the return was so small that he was compelled to send some of the Arlington Negroes to work in eastern Virginia."

Freeman noted that this may have caused two of them, a young couple, to run away. "They were captured in Maryland and were returned to Arlington. Thereupon Lee sent them to labor in lower Virginia, where there would be less danger of their absconding. That probably was the extent of the punishment imposed on them."

The charge that Lee beat his slaves is refuted by Freeman. "There is no evidence, direct or indirect, that Lee ever had them or any other Negroes flogged," although Freeman admits false stories were spread, stories that Freeman dismissed as "libelous."

"This was Lee's first experience with the extravagance of antislavery agitators. The libel, which was to be reprinted many times in later years with new embellishments, made him unhappy," Freeman said.

One story that originated in a letter to the editor in the *Boston Traveler* that is still repeated by those wishing to besmirch Lee's reputation is that Custis, while dying, told his slaves that they should be freed immediately, rather than five years on. Lee responded with his own letter in the *Boston Traveler* in early 1858, disputing the ugly assertion. "Mr.



United States Public Domain

Making an example of him: Lee's home — Arlington House — in northern Virginia now sits on the site of the nation's most honored cemetery. It was seized by federal troops during the war, although the Lee family was eventually compensated for the property.

Custis left his property to his daughter and only child, and her children," Lee explained. "His will was submitted to the Alexandria County Court for probate on the first day of its session." The will, Lee wrote, "is there on record in his own handwriting, open to inspection."

"There is no desire on the part of the heirs to prevent the execution of its provisions in reference to the slaves," Lee insisted, "nor is there any truth or the least foundation for the assertion that they are being sold South."

Lee challenged the assertion that Custis had told the slaves something different than what was clearly stated in the will. "During the brief days of his last illness, he was constantly attended by his daughter, grand-daughter and niece, and faithfully visited by his physician and pastor. So rapid was the progress of his disease, after its symptoms became alarming, that there was no assembly of his servants, and he took leave of but one, who was present when he bade farewell to his family."

It is certainly possible that Custis had told some of his slaves that they would be freed sometime after his death, but that he did not share with them the details of his will. It is unlikely, however, that Custis assembled the slaves to tell them that he was overturning the terms of his written will, without informing his family of his desire for their earlier emancipation. Even had he done so, with crushing debts upon the estate, it would have

been impossible to free them, because the resulting bankruptcy of the estate would have resulted in their sale to satisfy the creditors.

On December 29, 1862, Lee filed for the manumission of the Custis slaves in Henrico County, pronouncing them "forever set free from slavery." Ironically, the deed was recorded January 2, 1863, one day after Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation went into effect.

Why would Serwer and others distort this entire incident? One can only speculate, but it should be noted that Serwer has written for a string of hard-left publications, including *Mother Jones*, *American Prospect*, *Buzzfeed*, and *MSNBC*. In short, consider the source.

Lee was president of Washington College (later Washington and Lee) after the War Between the States, and Serwer even uses this to attack Lee as indifferent, at best, to the mistreatment of slaves. He even quotes approvingly of liberal historian Elizabeth Brown Pryor's book, *Reading the Man*, in blaming Lee for what some of his students did during his college presidency. "According to Pryor," Serwer wrote, "students at Washington formed their own chapter of the KKK, and were known by the local Freedman's Bureau to attempt to abduct and rape black schoolgirls from the nearby black schools," and there were "at least two attempted lynchings by Washington students during Lee's tenure."

Regardless of the veracity of Pryor's accusations against some of the Washington

The charge that Lee beat his slaves is refuted by Freeman. “There is no evidence, direct or indirect, that Lee ever had them or any other Negroes flogged,” although Freeman admits false stories were spread, stories that Freeman dismissed as “libelous.”

College students, it seems a bit unfair to blame the college president for the misbehavior of some of the students. If that is the standard, almost every college president in the country would have much to answer for!

Knowing Lee’s actions in other matters, it is likely that Lee did not approve of rape and lynchings. For example, Lee displayed kindness toward ex-slaves, not violence. Writing in the *Confederate Veteran* of August 1905, Colonel T. L. Broun of Charleston, West Virginia, recalled having been present at St. Paul’s Church in Richmond, Virginia, in June 1865. “It was communion day; and when the minister was ready to administer the holy communion, a negro in the church arose and advanced to the communion table. He was tall, well-dressed, and black. This was a great surprise and shock to the communicants and others

present. Its effect upon the communicants was startling, and for several moments they retained their seats in solemn silence and did not move, being deeply chagrined at this attempt to inaugurate the ‘new regime’ to offend and humiliate them during their most devoted Church services.” Broun notes that even the minister seemed embarrassed.

Broun continued: “General Robert E. Lee was present, and ignoring the action and presence of the negro, arose in his usual dignified and self-possessed manner, walked up to the aisle of the chancel rail, and reverently knelt down to partake of the communion, and not far from the negro. This lofty conception of duty by Gen. Lee under such provoking and irritating circumstances had a magical effect upon the other communicants (including the writer), who went forward to the communion table.”

“By this action of Gen. Lee,” Broun continued, “the services were conducted as if the negro had not been present. It was a grand exhibition of superiority shown by a true Christian and great soldier under the most trying and offensive circumstances.”

Besmirching the memory of General Lee by smearing him as a slave-owning racist who led a bloody rebellion to preserve slavery that cost well over 600,000 American lives is despicable. Edward Smith, director of American Studies at American University in Washington, D.C., and the co-director of the Civil War Institute (and who contends the above story is absolutely true), wrote in *National Geographic News* on September 7, 2001, “Today, and deservedly so, Lee is honored throughout the country.”

It was certainly so at the time of his death in 1870. Americans North and South at that time knew that Lee was a great man, deserving of the admiration of his countrymen. For example, upon his death the *New York Herald* wrote, “On a quiet autumn morning, in the land which he loved so well and served so faithfully, the spirit of Robert E. Lee left the clay which it had so much ennobled and traveled out of this world into the great and mysterious land. Here in the North, forgetting that the time was when the sword of Robert Edward Lee was drawn against us — forgetting and forgiving all the years of bloodshed and agony — we have long since ceased to look upon him as the Confederate leader, but have claimed and recorded his triumphs as our own; have extolled his virtues as reflecting upon us — for Robert Edward Lee was an American, and the great nation which gave him birth would be today unworthy of such a son if she regarded him lightly.”

“Never had a mother a nobler son. In him the military genius of America was developed to a greater extent than ever before him. In him all that was pure and lofty in mind and purpose found lodgment. Dignified without pretension, affable without familiarity, he united all those charms of manners which made him the idol of his friends and of his soldiers and won for him the respect and admiration of the world. Even as in the days of triumph, glory did not intoxicate him, so when the dark clouds swept over him, adversity did not depress.” ■



Lee’s freedom was real: President Abraham Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation was issued to prevent British and French recognition of the Confederate States of America. The legal abolition of slavery in America only came after the passage of the 13th Amendment. Interestingly, Lee’s own slaves (inherited from his father-in-law) were freed the day after the Emancipation Proclamation went into effect.



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AK-47 to the Rescue

The *Panama City News Herald* reported out of Florida on August 16 about a homeowner who was forced to fire an AK-47 in self-defense at three burglary suspects. The incident began when the suspects broke in to vehicles parked outside a house. The female occupant of the house heard a loud noise and woke her husband. The husband grabbed his loaded AK-47 and ran out to investigate the noises.

The wife dialed 911 while the husband exited the house and discovered three men breaking in to their vehicles. The husband feared for his life because he knew that he had stored a firearm in one of those vehicles, and he thought these criminals might now have it in their possession. The husband yelled for the three suspects to halt their actions. It was at that moment that one of the suspects turned toward the husband in a menacing manner, which made the husband fire his AK-47 in fear for his life, striking one of the suspects.

The burglars rushed from the scene into a nearby vehicle and sped off. The husband ran over to the car where he knew he had stored a firearm and discovered that it was missing. The husband told the wife what had happened, and she relayed the information to the 911 operator.

Washington County sheriff's deputies soon pulled over a vehicle matching the description of the suspects' escape car given by the husband. The police ordered the suspects to exit the vehicle, and one of the suspects dropped a small bag of marijuana to the ground. The deputies reported that they suspected that the suspects “were all under the influence of either alcohol or drugs” because they were experiencing difficulty in following the deputy's commands. One of the suspects told the deputies that he had been shot.

EMS was called to the scene and transported the injured suspect to a nearby medical facility for treatment of a gunshot wound to his leg. Law enforcement also discovered a loaded 9 mm handgun inside the suspects' vehicle, as well as the stolen homeowner's handgun in the woods near where the car was stopped.

The three suspects were all charged with grand theft of a firearm; two counts

of burglary of a dwelling, structure or conveyance; and obstructing justice/tampering in a felony first-degree proceeding for trying to hide the stolen gun in the woods. The injured suspect was also charged with possession of marijuana less than 20 grams.

Washington County Sheriff Kevin Crews released a statement in which he said that the “safety of our community is our priority and we are thankful that this did not end worse than it did.... We will not tolerate homes or property being burglarized or the danger that comes with it in this county. We are thankful the homeowners are safe after this incident and the perpetrators are behind bars.”

Road Rage Ends in Shooting

The CBS affiliate out of Glendale, Arizona, reported on a story that shows what might result when people let their tempers flare out of control.

Sergeant Scott Waite with the Glendale Police Department explained that an incident involving an argument between two motorists quickly escalated into violence. The whole thing started when one driver allegedly cut off another in traffic. The driver who was cut off then followed the other vehicle until it stopped at an intersection. The details are sketchy, but Sergeant Waite said that the driver who was cut off got into a verbal altercation with the passenger of the other vehicle. All of the people involved in this road-rage incident were women.

After exchanging words, the driver who was cut off allegedly punched a passenger who was in the other vehicle. The driver of that vehicle witnessed the passenger getting hit and got out of the vehicle to warn the suspect that she was armed with a handgun. The suspect ignored the warning and actually punched the armed woman in the face. A struggle between the two ensued, and the suspect tried putting the woman into a headlock. The armed driver yelled at the attacker to stop the assault, but the woman refused to comply.

Lacking good options, the woman fired her gun, hitting the suspect. The wounded suspect was taken to a hospital with serious injuries, but she is expected to survive. Arriving police said the armed driver who fired the weapon complied with their orders, and the investigation is ongoing.

Local Gun-control Group Smears Gun-advocacy Groups

Alpha News reported out of Minneapolis on August 10 about a familiar tactic used by leftists to unfairly smear and defame their opposition. AlphaNewsmn.com reported that a Twin Cities gun-control advocacy group posted a statement on Facebook that seemed to imply that local pro-Second Amendment groups were somehow involved in the Dar Al Farooq mosque bombing in Bloomington, Minnesota.

The group, named Protect Minnesota, wrote, “Violence based on fear is the root cause of this bombing incident.... We hope that groups like Minnesota Gun Rights, Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus, and Gun Owners Civil Rights Alliance can provide good information to the FBI to find and arrest the people responsible.”

A reader of this post is left with the impression that the named groups have some inside information on who was behind the bombing, most likely because someone affiliated with one of them was involved. This libel was not taken lightly, and Bryan Strawser, chair of the Minnesota Gun Owners Caucus, released a statement, saying, “We are outraged by these libelous, defamatory, and false accusations made by Protect Minnesota.... Our organization is committed to the defense of civil rights. This statement and its implications are baseless and offensive. Needless to say, we have no information on this tragic attack.”

Protect Minnesota soon edited its posting to remove any references to specifically named gun rights groups but, as is also common from the Left, an apology or formal retraction was never issued. ■

— PATRICK KREY



Struggling to Unshackle Environmental Restraints

ITEM: “Following the administration’s official repeal of the Clean Water Act, environmental groups vowed to fight the administration’s efforts to rollback [sic] water protections,” according to *Think Progress* for June 27. The “progressive” news blog piece was entitled “RIP, Obama’s Clean Water Rule,” with a sub-head that claimed that the “rule protected the drinking water of 1 in 3 Americans.”

ITEM: *Business Insider* published a piece on June 1 about the alleged lack of impact of deregulating energy companies. The article was picked up from *Mic*, a news site with the reputation of catering to millennials. The article was headlined, “Trump is undermining environmental regulations to help energy companies, but it’s not working.”

The president has said, wrote *Will Drabold*, that environmental “regulations hurt coal, oil and gas companies, limiting both their production and ability to put Americans to work. But to date, rolling back environmental regulations for fossil fuel companies has not improved company revenues or stock prices.” He did acknowledge that “there has been a turnaround in hiring in the extraction industries,” but said that was still down from its high in 2014.

ITEM: An article, from “*Common Sense News*,” dated June 12, discussed proposed budget reductions for the Environmental Protection Agency and cuts of environmental regulations. The piece, originally published by *CNN*, was headlined “EPA regulation cuts likely to hurt children most, experts say.” All sorts of ills were predicted.

Cited, among others, was a spokeswoman from the *Center for Environmental Health*. “Children exposed to chemicals and polluted air and water can put undue strain on social services, health care and the economy. Studies have showed [sic] that kids with lead poisoning often have lower lifetime earnings and therefore pay less in taxes because of ensuing brain damage, [Caroline] Cox said. They are also at higher risk for committing crimes



AP Images

Pen stabs: Some of the reactions against Trump when he reduced environmental regulations bring to mind the old joke about an apocryphal front-page headline of a leftist newspaper describing the outcome of a nuclear war: “World Ends: Children, Women and Minorities Hardest Hit.”

and ending up in the criminal justice system, which is expensive in its own right.”

She also brought up the impact on the Clean Air Act. Cox said, “Without an agency to implement those laws, they’re just words on a piece of paper.”

CORRECTION: Apparently life as we know it is going to cease if there is any reduction in the budget of the Environmental Protection Agency, which didn’t exist until 1970, or if there is any relief from a single one of the uncountable number of environmental regulations burdening the U.S. economy. Or so one would think from the hyperbolic claims of the green friends of Gaia.

A meteorologist with the *Washington Post*, who previously was a staffer in the Obama administration and, according to his piece in the paper, worked on the EPA’s “climate-change” map for five years. When the new administration took down the website (apparently to update it with its views), the “Weather Gang” guy went off the deep end, proclaiming that “its removal is a declaration of war.” Really?!

While few anticipate that the coal industry is going to duplicate the halcyon days of the past by rolling back a few regulations, business is looking up. Yet, before the last elections, the compassionate progressives who love to tout their fondness for the little

guy thought they had buried all those miners for good. The *Wall Street Journal* recalled, on August 17, that former EPA

Administrator *Gina McCarthy* proclaimed in 2015 that coal “is no longer marketable.” She planned to be the lead undertaker. The Obama Administration worked tirelessly to fulfill her mission and may have succeeded had *Hillary Clinton* become President. “We’re going to put a lot of coal miners and coal companies out of work,” the 2016 Democratic nominee famously promised.

Yet the Trump Presidency seems to have lifted animal spirits and coal. Weekly coal production has increased by 14.5% nationwide over last year with even bigger bumps in West Virginia (19%), Pennsylvania (19.7%) and Wyoming (19.8%). Exports were up 58% during the first quarter from last year. Apparently coal can be marketable if regulators let it be.

The paper also recounted how the officials in the Obama administration took aim at the industry by imposing rules on “mercury emissions and ash disposal that would have made it next to impossible to build a



Correction, Please!

new coal-burning power plant. Then came the 2015 Clean Power Plan that would have forced the existing fleet of coal plants into early retirement.”

That wasn't all. These “anti-coal warriors sought to shut down coal's export potential,” noted the paper. “Thick-seamed coal on federal land in the Powder River Basin overlying Wyoming and Montana is relatively clean-burning and inexpensive to mine. The Obama Interior Department suspended new coal leases on federal land last winter and then reassessed royalty payments — thereby reducing investment and profitability. In December came the coup de grâce: Interior's stream rule usurping state authority over permitting.”

But, given a reprieve, the industry has shown new life. And while the hypocritical Europeans aren't bragging about their reaction, it is instructive to see that they may not be as self-destructive as their ethical twins on this side of the pond. Said the *Journal* editors:

This is all horrifying to the climate-change lobby, but they might note that U.S. coal exports are rising to countries that claim climate-change virtue. Exports to France increased 214% during the first quarter of this year

amid a nuclear power plant outage. Other European countries like Germany and the U.K. are utilizing U.S. coal to stabilize unreliable renewable sources and make up for electric capacity lost from the shutdown of nuclear plants. First-quarter coal exports were up 94% to Germany and 282% to the U.K. Et tu, Angela Merkel?

It makes it hard to compete when your own government is holding back business. Never mind that the United States of America is (at least in theory) a federal government — in other words, states are supposed to have almost full autonomy, even over environmental policy.

Meanwhile, the regulatory burden is much larger than most realize, with “green” restrictions being a major part of the problem. This stifling nature of regulations is the theme of a new report, “Prometheus Bound,” by Mark Mills of the Manhattan Institute. The author points out that such agencies have become a de facto fourth branch of government, with the regulatory state directly employing — with our money of course — about 30,000 people with a collective operating budget of more than \$60 billion a year. These regulators are, as the report says, constraining

the nation's economy “by creating and enforcing a bewildering tsunami of rules.”

Business as a whole, he notes,

suffers under the regulatory state, but manufacturers suffer disproportionately.... The average compliance cost — \$20,000 per year per employee — borne by manufacturing firms is more than double that incurred by other kinds of businesses. The smallest manufacturers (those with fewer than 50 employees) are hurt the most, with annual per-employee regulatory compliance costing nearly \$35,000.

The Environmental Protection Agency is among the worst offenders. The compliance costs of its manufacturing-related regulations are more than twice those of all other regulatory agencies combined.

Search as we might, we can find no evidence that James Madison, the “Father of the Constitution,” saw that the powers delegated to the federal government — which he termed “few and defined” — include the monitoring of free Americans to make sure that their grass is not too wet. Of course he was not in the Obama administration, which assumed that oversight authority from the “Waters of the United States” rule (or WOTUS, in fedspeak).

Repealing WOTUS was an early objective of the Trump administration and new EPA head Scott Pruitt. It was a good target. Keep in mind that “clean water” is not the real issue. Indeed, the president of the American Farm Bureau called the rule “a federal land grab designed to put a strait-jacket on farming and private businesses across this nation. That's why our federal courts blocked it from going into effect for the past two years.”

The rule is, as observed by *National Review* in June,

a textbook example of federal mission creep. For years, “waters of the United States” were defined as navigable interstate and coastal waterways, that “are presently used, or have been used in the past, or may be



AP Images

Coal creations: A would-be Hillary Clinton administration was likely to continue the Obama administration's efforts to kill the coal industry in America, though coal creates energy for manufacturing and creates jobs mining coal.



AP Images

Not home on the range? Under Obama administration rules, the federal government was going to expand its authority over water to include potholes of water and even wet spots in fields, which would have been disastrous to ranchers and done virtually nothing to improve water quality.

susceptible for use to transport interstate or foreign commerce.”

Under the Obama administration, the EPA expanded the definition of waters under its regulatory jurisdiction to include any body of water that might possibly be used in interstate commerce: For example, a cow pond used to water livestock producing meat that might eventually be sold across state lines became, under the new rules, “jurisdictional,” as though it were the Erie Canal or the Everglades.

The Army Corps of Engineers language communicates the absurdity of this, describing federal jurisdiction over “mudflats, sandflats, wetlands, sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes, or natural ponds,” in addition to the familiar navigable waterways.

So in late July, the Trump EPA and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers released a proposal to rescind the WOTUS rule that expanded federal jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act.

Another issue differentiating the Obama and Trump administrations has been the rules on methane — rules were not completed until late in the Obama administration. The courts are now in the middle of

this. The Obama EPA claimed that “climate change” was, in key part, driven by this trace gas.

Columnist Paul Driessen was, rightfully, not impressed with the claim. Methane emissions from U.S. hydraulic fracturing operations, he pointed out in June 2016, “have plummeted 79% and from the overall U.S. natural gas sector by 11% since 2005.” Moreover, he wrote,

methane is a tiny 0.00017% of the atmosphere, the equivalent of \$1.70 out of \$1 million. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 17% of that is from energy production and use; 26% comes from agriculture, landfills and sewage treatment; and the remaining 57% is from natural sources. (Carbon dioxide, the other climate bogeyman, is 0.04% of the atmosphere — 400 ppm.)

The United States accounts for a mere 9% of the world’s total manmade methane — and just 29% of that is from oil and gas operations that provide 63% of all the energy that powers America. That means U.S. oil and gas account for less than 3% of global manmade methane emissions — and thus just 0.000004% of all the methane in Earth’s atmosphere.

That’s equivalent to *4 cents out of \$1 million!* [Emphasis in original.]

The statisticians are not going to give up their hold without a fight. And the war over controlling the environment is going to be a bruising one. There is a lot riding on this. The financial bottom line is important, but an even more essential contest is being fought over the fundamental direction of the government.

Katie Tubb and Nicolas Loris of the Heritage Foundation comment:

The Trump administration’s approach begins to get at the heart of good environmental policy: that decisions should be site and situation specific, and that decisions should be made closest to the people who have the most to gain or lose by those decisions.

Economically the Trump approach wins as well. Using the Energy Information Administration’s energy model, they write, a Heritage Foundation analysis

shows that lifting needless and duplicative restrictions on energy production will increase employment by an average of 700,000 jobs through 2035.

Along with the jobs comes \$3.7 trillion in additional gross domestic product that translates into an additional \$40,000 of cumulative income per family of four by 2035. Opening America’s coasts for business is integral to that projected growth.

Both the federal and state governments will benefit from increased revenue collection, too. Royalties from oil and gas operations on the Outer Continental Shelf are shared by states and the federal government (where portions are devoted to environmental programs).

With so much at stake, don’t expect this battle to be fair. The war over “clean air” and “clean water” is really over power — overweening government force. That is why the fight is so dirty. ■

— WILLIAM P. HOAR

When Will They Blow Up **Mount Rushmore?**

The Taliban and Islamic state blow up ancient statues. Cambodia's communist Khmer Rouge aimed to erase the past and start history anew with their "Year Zero." As for our "devolutionaries," when will they destroy Mt. Rushmore? Answer: when they have enough power.

There's now a mad rush to tear down Confederate monuments and statues, with General Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, Jefferson Davis, and even rank-and-file Confederate soldiers being victims. This occurs despite a healthy

majority of Americans — including a plurality of blacks — believing the memorials should stand. Moreover, even more widely revered American figures are now in the cross hairs, with proposals to remove monuments to Founders such as George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. After all, they share the Confederates' unpardonable sin: having been slave owners.

The dirty little secret, however, is that this has nothing to do with slavery. It's not just that statues of Joan of Arc and even the "Great Emancipator," Abraham Lincoln, have also been vandalized. It's not just that today's not-so-great emancipators utter nary a word about the extant slavery in Africa and the Muslim world. It's this: What of Islam's "prophet," Mohammed? He owned and traded slaves (not his greatest sins, either), yet we don't hear calls to purge his name and teachings from the world. Nor will we. Some slavers are more equal than others.

In truth, until very recently, few figures in history rejected slavery. Ancient Greek philosophers Aristotle and Plato justified it. Spanish explorer Hernán Cortés imported slaves, and Christopher Columbus owned them, as did the New World natives (i.e., Aztecs, North American Indians) they encountered. The reality? Rejecting the teachings of slave owners/enablers would mean dispensing with the entire wisdom of the past (which illuminates the culture-renders' true motivation).

Then there's white supremacist Dylann Roof, who in 2015 murdered nine black congregants in a Charleston, South Carolina, church and whose embrace of Confederate symbols serves as a pretext for the current purge of them. Yet consider: Upwards of 90 percent of terrorism-related deaths are attributable to those claiming Islamic motivations and who generally scream "Allahu Akbar!" when working their evil. So, once again, why no corresponding calls to rid our nation of Islamic imagery and teaching?

It's the same reason why, while Western Civilization wasn't the first to practice slavery but was likely the first to eliminate



it, it gets no credit for such moral triumphs. The current cultural purge is not driven by hatred of slavery and racially motivated violence. It's driven by hatred of Western Civilization and its foundational faith, Christianity.

Their destruction is the ultimate goal; the Confederates are just the latest battlefield. And this goal has long been telegraphed in various ways. Early 20th-century communist media mogul Willi Münzenberg once reportedly said, "We will make the West so corrupt that it stinks." A contemporary, Italian Marxist Antonio

Gramsci, prescribed a "War of Position" designed to transform Western institutions. Rabble-rouser Jesse Jackson led the chant "Hey hey, ho ho, Western Civ has got to go" at Stanford University in 1987. And now a little more of it is gone with a very ill wind.

This is why no national foundation stone will be left unscathed. And the guilt-by-association tactic is universally applicable. Dylann Roof sported the Confederate flag, but Klansmen once carried Old Glory. Of course, vile slavers couldn't birth anything worthwhile, anyway, right? So every institution, the Constitution, and the Republic itself will have to go.

That is, once the culture-renders have that power. It's no different from when the French revolutionaries, the Soviets, the Khmer Rouge, and China's Red Guards sought to erase the past. In China this became known as the "Cultural Revolution" — and, make no mistake, cultural revolution is precisely what's occurring now. The only difference is that, since we're not an autocracy (yet), ours proceeds in fits and starts; a Christian symbol or sentiment here, a satanic invocation introduced there, a Confederate statue today, the Father of our Nation tomorrow.

Note that this is all happening under Donald Trump's watch, proving that no president can "Make America Great Again." For politics is downstream of culture, and the culture is shaped by entertainment, academia, and the media. Thus is it no surprise that our culture increasingly resembles the vision of Hollywood, UC Berkeley, and CNN.

The reality is that making America great is up to us; we must want to preserve the culture more than the devolutionaries want to destroy it. We must realize that since they won't accept just an inch, a foot, or even a yard, we shouldn't give even an inch.

Unless we halt this cultural revolution, we shouldn't be surprised if one day Mt. Rushmore gets the Taliban treatment. After all, how can we tolerate having four white guys — two of them slaveholders — looking across America as if they own it? ■

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In *The 5000 Year Leap*, author W. Cleon Skousen explains the 28 principles that our Founding Fathers thought were essential to peace, prosperity, and freedom, and that have brought about tremendous progress in the past two centuries.

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