

Elephant Talk

Plano Republican Women

TFRW Region No: 3 Senate District No: 8

August 2019

President's Byline:



The Democrat candidates for President say the rich should pay their fair share. They make rich people out to be like the greedy evil business man often found in children's media, claiming the rich all take advantage of tax loop holes to avoid paying taxes, and undercut workers because they simply don't care about the working or middle class. They claim to understand and advocate to punish the rich by taxing them at a higher percentage. However, these same people are millionaires themselves. They take the same tax deductions to reduce their tax burden, while saying the rich should pay more. They speak ill of the 1%, but they are the 1%. In other

words the Democrat candidates are hypocrites.

The following is a list of some of candidates net worth:

- Joe Biden - \$9 million (Joe has spent his adult life working as an elected official.)
- Elizabeth Warren - \$12 million (Before becoming a Senator, Elizabeth taught at Harvard.)
- Bernie Sanders - \$2.5 million (The self proclaimed socialist, who has worked in government for decades, has amassed a large amount of money and property over the years once from a family of humble financial beginnings. In other words, he has essentially achieved the American dream.)
- Kamala Harris - \$6 million (Before becoming an elected official Kamala and her husband worked at a private high power law firm.)
- Cory Booker - \$1.5 million (Booker got his money from selling his Netflix, Facebook, and Amazon stocks.)
- Bill de Blasio - \$2.5 million (Comrade de Blasio made his money from investments in real estate.)
- Robert O'Rourke - \$4 million (His money mostly comes from his wife and an investment in a \$2.5 million strip mall.)
- Andrew Yang - \$1 million (Andrew is one of the few candidates that ran his own business. He owned a test prep company. It was bought by the testing giant Kaplan.)

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Calendar of Events

**Board Meeting
September 3rd**

**September Meeting
September 17th**



Jennifer Groysman

president@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org

May Plano Republican Women Meeting

NOTE: We are no longer meeting at Reflections on Spring Creek

NEW INTERIM LOCATION: Aboca's Italian Grill, 100 S Central Expy Ste. 63, Richardson, TX 75080



Next PRW Meeting:

Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Nick Adams, Founder and Executive Director of FLAG

Born and raised in Australia, Nick Adams immigrated to America in 2016, with the United States government recognizing his 'extraordinary ability.' Nick's first challenge came at sixteen months. He was diagnosed with Stage IV Neuroblastoma (a rare form of childhood cancer), and given just a five percent chance of survival. Since these early trials, Nick has been blessed with great success in life. He attended the University of Sydney, earning both undergraduate and postgraduate degrees. While studying, he was publicly elected the youngest Deputy Mayor in Australian history in Sydney, at the age of twenty-one. Nick is a best-selling author, columnist and commentator, all achieved before he turned 30.

Nick has appeared on virtually every major television and radio program, and his work has appeared in newspapers around the world. His latest book, Green Card Warrior, detailing his journey to America, received special distinction in March 2017, with President Donald Trump declaring it "a must read." It was the first time in the history of the United States that a sitting President has ever endorsed a book. His previous two books were endorsed by Chuck Norris, Mike Huckabee, Sean Hannity, Ben Carson, Allen West, Glenn Beck, Dana Perino, Oli North, Hugh Hewitt, National Review, The Heritage Foundation, WORLD Magazine and the NRA, among others.

Nick has received several state awards including being commissioned as a Kentucky Colonel by the State of Kentucky (Gov. Bevin, 2017), and declared an Honorary Texan (Gov. Perry, 2013) and Honorary Oklahoman (Gov. Fallin, 2017).

The Foundation for Liberty and American Greatness (FLAG) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and providing high-quality civics education that informs students and families about the greatness of America and the power of the American Dream

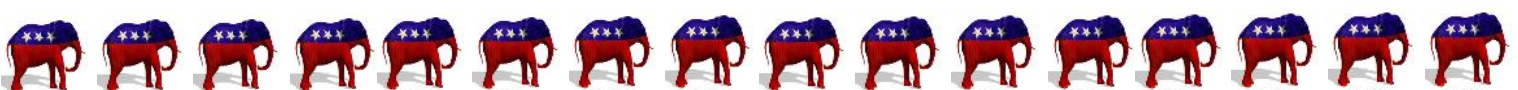
Location: Aboca's Italian Grill, 100 S Central Expy Ste. 63, Richardson, TX 75080

Time: 11:15 am: Arrive and check-in, 11:30 am: Meeting, Lunch & Program

PRW membership is not required to attend our meeting

Lunch is available with RSVP for \$20 in cash or check payable to PRW
RSVPs for lunch must be made by 5 pm the Thursday before the meeting

To RSVP send an email to: rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org
 Include your name in your email so we can reserve your place.



AMERICANISM REPORT

By Cleo Marchese, Americanism Chair



It has been said by some when the framers of our constitution drafted the Bill of Rights, they never meant for the 2nd Amendment to cover “modern guns” or to mean this country should never have some type of strong gun control. The founders of this country lived in different times with safer weapons and in a time of less strife. By today’s standards, guns are different than the Brown Bess, the Charleville Musket, or Black Watch Scottish Flintlock Pistol of the Revolutionary war. Some also argue, the right to keep and bear arms was only meant for the quick assembly of a militia at a time when we did not have a standing army. During the last Democrat debate, presidential candidates said all of these talking points and more. After a weekend of mass shootings in three of our cities in August, they took to the airways and Twitter to drive home these points. But are any of these statements true? Is the 2nd Amendment a relic of the past?

The main argument for gun control is the 2nd Amendment is unnecessary in the 21st century. The right to bear arms was for keeping a militia in a young country in case a threat outside the US came and we need to defend ourselves. With five branches of the military and the National Guard, it’s time to let go of our guns. They are unnecessary. We were a young nation, we had to fight for our freedom. Yes, a militia was necessary but the 2nd amendment was not just about defending ourselves from problems abroad but to protect us against internal threats as well such as a corrupt or overreaching government.

The second part of 2nd amendment is the right of the people to keep and bear Arms shall not be infringed. This was meant to give people hope and was the symbol of the Free Man. Our fore fathers and mothers had just fought a long, bloody war to free themselves from an oppressive government that controlled many aspects of their lives. Backed by a powerful army that could and did take what they wanted legally by decree of an unfeeling monarchy. The entire Bill of Rights, the first ten constitutional amendments if not read with a jaundice eye gives a shocking and stark portrait of what life was like under oppressive big government rule. The British Empire during the 1700’s was the largest empire in history, controlled 23% of the world’s population, 412 million people by Colonial Rule.

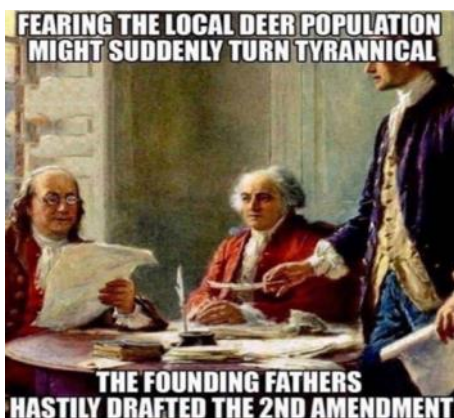
What the founding fathers said about the right to bear arms

Fire arms stand next in importance to the constitution itself. Firearms are the American people’s liberty teeth and keystone under independence. ~ George Washington

The Advantage of being armed is one which the Americans possess over the people of almost every other nation. ~James Madison, Federalist paper 46

A government big enough to give you everything you want, is strong enough to take everything you have ~ Thomas Jefferson.

Another argument used against the 2nd amendment is it was really meant for hunting. Through extensive research, I was unable to come up with one quote or direct reference to the second amendment and hunting by the founder fathers or the framers of the constitution. However, I did find a lot about gun confiscation during the Revolutionary War period. By 1775, the British feared rebellion in the Colonies. For months, tensions between the Crown and the Colonists were increasing. So they decided to send troops marching from Boston to Concord to seize large stores of gunpowder, a cannon and firearms. The British government felt it would be easier to seize total control if we were unarmed. So on May 18, 1775, the first shot fired over the Concord Bridge was to try and stop the British from coming confiscating guns and other munitions. Not to warn us they were coming to America, they were already here at their base in Boston. The real reason for Paul Revere’s famous ride and the other Sons of Liberty has been mostly sponged from modern history.



Some modern historians now place a lot of the blame on the Colonists for the American Revolution. Stating the first acts of aggressions were by them, citing instances of taring and feathering emissaries of the Crown over taxation and restricting certain rights. But they are careful to leave out the severity of the taxation or the rights restricted are the very reason for the first ten amendments of the Constitution. It was called the Bill of Rights for a reason.

Leaping forward to 2019 and the modern political climate, gun control is a hot issue. Politicians on both sides honestly believe the 2nd Amendment is outdated in our modern society and it was meant for hunting or forming a militia. They believe we have a large government that provides a large military to ensure our safety. In cities especially, guns should be banned because they are unnecessary. You have the police for personal defense or other good options like alarms, stun guns or pepper spray even though many of them have personal body guards armed to the teeth.

AMERICANISM REPORT

By Cleo Marchese, Americanism Chair

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Presidential Candidates stances on the second amendment:

Corrie Booker said we require licenses to drive, we should require license to own a gun. (June 2019) Driving a car is a privilege not a constitutional right. It is amazing a presidential candidate and senator doesn't seem to know that.

Kamala Harris said if congress won't act on guns, I will by executive action. (May 2019) How frightening a presidential candidate and another senator would try to abolish a constitutional right by the stroke of a pen.

Robert Francis O'Rourke "Beto" said weapons of war belong on the battle field not in our communities. (June 2019) The AR-15 he is referring to is semi-automatic and semi-automatic weapons not been used on the battle field since the beginning of WWII. A presi-

dential candidate should know the facts about any subject he is making a statement on.

Former candidate **Eric Swalwell** proposed a "mandatory" gun buy back in June of 2019, mass confiscation by force of Americans' properties without adequate compensation. I am not seeing "democracy" in that action.

Elizabeth Warren was quoted saying there is a huge difference between sportsman's guns and assault weapons. Thank you, Elizabeth. We know that, we also know both are protected by the Constitution.

Andrew Yang proposed making gun manufactures liable for mass shootings. I guess we are going to blaming inanimate objects for the actions of mentally unstable, crazed individuals. Are we going to start suing spoon manufactures for obesity or car manufactures for drunk drivers? Where does personal responsibility start and end? Irons burn, coffee is hot.

The proposed advancement of bigger government and the rise of "democrat socialism" is a constant assault on our civil liberties. We are building the very government our forefathers fought to unshackle themselves from. We are living in a time were almost every amendment in the Bill of Rights in under attack. We are increasingly being told what we can say, what to think, and states' rights are being superseded more and more by our federal government. If our founding were still alive today, they would be throwing tea in the harbor, and asking us what we have done to the gifts of Liberty and Freedom they fought and died for. As President Ronald Reagan said either you will control your government, or government will control you.

Trivia Facts:

Great Britain is the size of Louisiana and during the height of the British Empire they controlled a staggering twenty-four percent the world's land mass.

The average caliber of guns during the Revolutionary War like the Brown Bess "the assault weapon" of the Revolutionary War was .63 cal. The AR-15 is .223, less than a 1/3 in size.

The most popular firearms during Revolutionary War were the Brown Bess, Pattern 1776 infantry rifle, Black Watch Scottish Flintlock Pistol, Charleville Musket, the Dragoon Pistol, Kentucky Flintlock Pistol, and the Sea Service Pistol.



Now let me see if I have got all of this straight...

If we get Nuked, it'll be by:

Missiles built with technology given to China by Bill Clinton,

funded by Iran with money Obama gave them,

with warheads developed from Uranium sold to Russia by Hillary

and refined by Iran into weapons-grade plutonium in Russian centrifuges

bought with money Obama gave them.

And Trump's trying to undo this s*** storm, but he's the Traitor?

Amazing, just amazing!

Political Cartoons

A Democrat walks into a Bar
and asks
"what's the most popular drink?"
Bartender replies,
"a Russian Collusion"
the democrat orders one,
Bartender gives him
an empty glass...



"The next time some academics tell you how important diversity is, ask how many conservatives there are in their sociology department."

THINK ABOUT THIS

When this photo was taken back in 1987



Both Chuck Schumer and Nancy Pelosi were members of Congress, blaming Reagan for all our problems



32 years later, both are still in Congress, except now they are blaming Trump for all our problems



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Do You Understand that Democrats will Destroy America?

By [Carol Greenwald](#), July 26, 2019

I earn my living investing other people's money in the stock market. I am terrified contemplating how I am going to save my clients' money, as well as my own, if a Democrat is elected president. The policies that the Democrats are advocating will destroy the American economy, not just the stock market, but the whole US economy. My first instinct will be to raise cash ahead of the stock market crash, but even that is only a temporary safe harbor.

The Green New Deal, renewed regulations, Medicare for All, free college, as well as the 70-90% tax rates proposed by Democrats, will tank the stock market and US economic growth, leading to higher unemployment and reduced wage gains. All these programs require higher taxes and not just the soak the rich fantasy of the 70-90% rates. Most of the Democratic candidates have pledged to roll back the 2017 Republican tax cuts that fueled the renewal of economic growth in the US.

Open borders will flood the US with poverty-stricken immigrants and their competition for jobs will depress wages. The social welfare needs of the immigrants will skyrocket government expenditures. So while taxes receipts are falling due to slower economic growth rates, expenditures will be rising, leading to increased government debt and consequently higher interest rates. If the Federal Reserve tries to keep interest rates low to prevent a deepening recession, then the increase in the money supply and the expanding deficit will eventually destroy the value of the dollar. So much for my safe harbor in cash.

Immigration: What do Open Borders Mean?

[Milton Friedman](#) pointed out over a decade ago, you cannot have open borders and a social welfare state... the supply of immigrants will become infinite.

Virtually all of the Democratic candidates have advocated for [opening the border](#) to all who want to come. All the Democratic candidates on the second night of the debate supported [free health benefits](#) for illegal immigrants and several have advocated for [free college](#) for all. But even without these additional incentives, the level of living available in the US, even to the poorest Americans, far exceeds what many of the world's peoples can hope for in their own countries. No one starves in America. Our poor have cars, large screen TVs, air conditioning, video games for their kids and eat better than the average GI in World War II.

This is an invitation to all the world's poor to come to the US in unlimited numbers. All you need is to get to our southern border. The number of people living in poverty in Latin America in 2017 was [184 million](#).

But immigration will not be limited to the poverty stricken in our own hemisphere. There are [750 million](#) people who live below the international poverty line of \$1.90 a day. By that standard, those coming from Latin America are not the most desperate. People will find a way to come to the US from Africa, possibly trafficked by cartels and other criminal gangs, as are many coming from Latin America now. (Have you ever wondered how poverty stricken people manage to travel 1400 miles, often with children and obtain food and water for the trip, and then arrive at our southern border in non-ragged clothes?) Since May of this year, [1100 illegal immigrants from Africa](#) were interdicted at the southern US border. More will be coming.

With open borders, the economy of the US will sink under the demands for social services to be provided for a population that will overwhelm citizens living here now. But those advocating open borders do not put America first. They are "citizens of the world" and feel it is unfair that Americans have a higher standard of living than others. They will ensure that we don't for much longer.

Tax the Rich Delusion

The race for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination is quickly becoming a contest to determine which candidate wants to tax the rich the most. Democratic candidates have been attracted to Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez's proposal to tax incomes over \$10 million at [a 70% rate](#). Not to be outdone, Ilhan Omar has proposed a [90%](#) top rate.

But what are the benefits and costs of these proposals beyond the fun of calling to soak the rich? According to the Tax Foundation, a 70% tax on all income over \$10 million would raise [only \\$51.4 billion](#) over ten years and lose revenue in the first two years of its enactment because people would forego capital gains. The federal budget is estimated to collect [\\$3.645 trillion](#) in taxes in fiscal 2019, so the increased tax revenue will be trivial in terms of changing the actual amount of taxes the US government will have to spend, but it will have strong disincentives on entrepreneurship. It is America's high rate of innovation and entrepreneurship that account for American economic success and wealth.

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Throwing cold water on extreme heat hype

By Dr. Joel N. Myers, AccuWeather Founder and CEO
August 7, 2019



Baltimore Orioles outfielder Keon Broxton douses himself with water while taking a break between fielding and batting practice prior to a baseball game against the Boston Red Sox, Friday, July 19, 2019, in Baltimore. (AP Photo/Julio Cortez)

A story came to my attention recently that merited comment. It appeared in London's The Telegraph, and was headlined, "[Give heat waves names so people take them more seriously, say experts, as Britain braces for hottest day.](#)"

The story's leaping-off point was [a press release from the London School of Economics](#) (LSE), which noted, "A failure by the media to convey the severity of the health risks from heat waves, which are becoming more frequent due to climate change, could undermine efforts to save lives this week as temperatures climb to dangerous levels."

It added, "So how can the media be persuaded to take the risks of heat waves more seriously? Perhaps it is time ... to give heat waves names [as is done] for winter storms."

We disagree with some of the points being made.

First, and most important, [we warn people all the time](#) in plain language [on our apps](#) and on [AccuWeather.com](#) about the dangers of extreme heat, as well as all hazards. Furthermore, that is the reason we developed and patented the AccuWeather RealFeel® Temperature and our recently expanded [AccuWeather RealFeel® Temperature Guide](#), to help people maximize their health, safety and comfort when outdoors and prepare and protect themselves from weather extremes. The AccuWeather RealFeel Temperature Guide is the only tool that properly takes into account all atmospheric conditions and translates them into actionable behavior choices for people.

Second, although [average temperatures have been higher in recent years](#), there is no evidence so far that extreme heat waves are becoming more common because of climate change, especially when you consider [how many heat waves occurred historically](#) compared to recent history.

New York City [has not had a daily high temperature above 100 degrees since 2012](#), and it has had only five such days since 2002. However, in a previous 18-year span from 1984 through 2001, New York City had nine days at 100 degrees or higher. When the power went out in New York City earlier this month, the temperature didn't even get to 100 degrees – it was 95, which is not extreme. For comparison, there were 12 days at 95 degrees or higher in 1999 alone.

Kansas City, Missouri, for example, [experienced an average of 18.7 days a year at 100 degrees or higher during the 1930s](#), compared to just 5.5 a year over the last 10 years. And over the last 30 years, Kansas City has averaged only 4.8 days a year at 100 degrees or higher, which is only one-quarter of the frequency of days at 100 degrees or higher [in the 1930s](#).

Here is a fact rarely, if ever, mentioned: [26 of the 50 states set their all-time high temperature records](#) during the 1930s that still stand (some have since been tied). And an additional 11 state all-time high temperature records were set before 1930 and [only two states](#) have all-time record high temperatures that were set in the 21st century (South Dakota and South Carolina).

So 37 of the 50 states have an all-time high temperature record not exceeded for more than 75 years. Given these numbers and the decreased frequency of days of 100 degrees or higher, it cannot be said that either the frequency or magnitude of heat waves is more common today.

RELATED

[Summer that was a hot 'gritty nightmare' inspired famed Pulitzer-winning novel](#)

['A tragic loss' for the worldwide weather community](#)

[Doctor raises concerns over summer football workouts held during 'deadliest months'](#)

[Does 5G expansion threaten weather forecasting, 'national security' and the lives of Americans?](#)

Finally, there is the question of whether heat waves should be named. That's an easy one: I oppose naming heat waves.

If such warnings existed, what would be the cutoff point or the boundary line? A heat wave in one state is not in another? In other words, if you say the criteria is where the AccuWeather RealFeel Temperature is above some number, what happens in a nearby location that is one degree below the cutoff number? Of course some people still may be at risk because there is variability of risk. An AccuWeather RealFeel Temperature of 95 may be a risk to infants and the elderly but minimal risk to others. And if the cutoff is set too low, the naming of heat waves would become so frequent [it would be meaningless](#) and ultimately will undermine the credibility of meteorologists.

What else are these people going to suggest we name? Hurricanes and tropical storms already get names and they have since the 1940s,

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By [Carol Greenwald](#), July 26, 2019

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Medicare for All

The cost of [Medicare for All](#) means that the availability of Medicare for those on it now will be sharply reduced. The current level of Medicare cannot be provided to vastly more people without bankrupting the country. But even if it could, services would have to be cut sharply because we do not have the doctors and hospital beds to service vast new numbers of eligible people. Some candidates like Bernie Sanders admit that you will not be able to keep your [private health insurance](#) even if you want to, and that [your taxes will go up](#) to pay for this new benefit; others like [Joe Biden lie](#) and say if you like your plan you can keep your plan and [Sen. Kamala Harris denies](#) that your taxes will rise. But Medicare for all will be another costly program that will increase the national debt.

The Green New Deal

To those who believe that climate change is the existential threat facing America (not Iran or China), [destroying the US economy](#) to save the planet is a fair trade. Doing away with fossil fuels now that the US has become the world's largest provider of oil and natural gas and has become energy independent is a sure way to cripple the US economy and to hand economic might to China and Russia who will not face the same restrictions. So not only will the Green New Deal destroy the US economy, but possibly also our freedom, as we decline economically and our adversaries, China and Russia, continue growing in economic strength without these restrictions.

Trump is the only choice

Whatever you think of President Trump, you know by his record that he will put America first and that his policies have created a robust economy. Unless you want to see the US economy and your standard of life destroyed, there is no alternative to voting for President Trump.

https://www.americanthinker.com/articles/2019/07/do_you_understand_that_democrats_will_destroy_america_.html

Throwing cold water on extreme heat hype

By [Dr. Joel N. Myers](#), AccuWeather Founder and CEO
August 7, 2019

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and the names are selected by international agreement. Yet, even for them, the criteria of whether and when to name a particular storm or not has left some leeway to the judgment of forecasters at the National Hurricane Center. If we were to name heat waves, should we also name cold waves, high wind events, pollution events? What about whiteouts due to blowing snow? All that would do is cause more confusion. AccuWeather believes in clearly warning of all extreme weather and explaining what the impact will be on people.

Heat-related deaths are one of the deadliest extreme weather health outcomes in the United States, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which notes that many [heat-related deaths and illnesses are preventable](#). We agree.

AccuWeather's core mission is to save lives, protect property and help people and businesses prosper, a directive we take to heart 24 hours a day, seven days a week. That's one of the reasons why we developed the AccuWeather RealFeel Temperature and the guide that explains specifically what each number means, [which can be found on our website](#). It's also why AccuWeather meteorologists carefully consider the words we use in our forecasts so our users understand the risk of extreme weather to themselves and their families.

[Download the free AccuWeather app](#) to see the forecast for your location. Keep checking back for updates on AccuWeather.com and [stay tuned to the AccuWeather Network](#) on DirecTV, Frontier and Verizon Fios.

The views expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of AccuWeather, Inc. or AccuWeather.com

Political Cartoons

**I asked Siri
"How do I
Delete Emails?"
She Responded
"Ask Hillary"**



**Yes, this is a joke*

**DEMOCRATS CLAIM DACA KIDS
SHOULDN'T HAVE TO PAY FOR
THEIR PARENT'S CRIMES...**



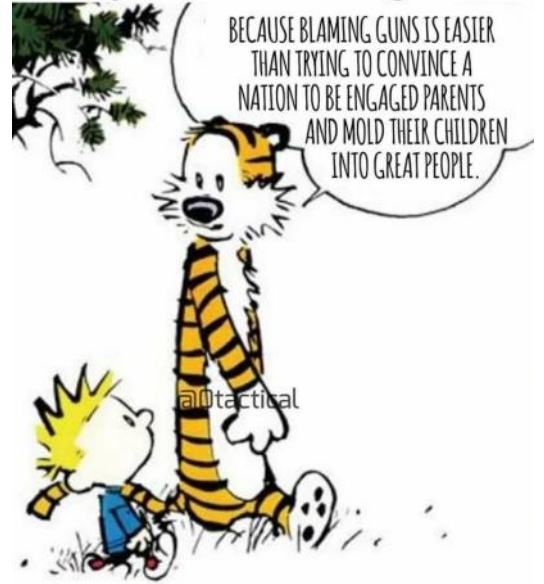
**...BUT WHITE PEOPLE ARE
STILL RESPONSIBLE FOR 17TH
CENTURY SLAVE OWNERS???**

Evil does not exist within a gun. It exists in the minds and hearts of those who pull the trigger for evil purposes.



THE SOLDIER'S SANCTUARY
www.thesoldiersanctuary.com

Why are we anti gun?



I am a criminal.

I don't buy guns at stores.

I don't care about your stupid gun laws.

Background checks won't stop me.

Keep focusing on the good people.

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I WANT.



Happy Hayride

I WANT OPEN BORDERS BUT SPENT YEARS FIGHTING TO KEEP AMERICANS OFF THE PUBLIC BEACH IN FRONT OF MY HOME.

YOUR WATER ON CAPITALISM



THE PATRIOT POST

YOUR WATER ON SOCIALISM

NEW YORK POST

Venezuelans turn to drinking sewer water amid blackouts

By Natalie Musumeci
March 12, 2019 | 12:22pm | Updated



People try to collect water from the sewer system amid a water shortage due to the power outage in Caracas, Venezuela.

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE CLINTON'S. Just putting this out there for my own safety...

George Washington Law Professor: Opposing Birthright Citizenship Is Not Racist

BY JOE SAUNDERS
PUBLISHED AUGUST 22, 2019 AT 3:05PM

When it comes to the law, this is one lesson liberals won't like at all.

After President Donald Trump on Wednesday [reopened the question](#) of possibly "birthright citizenship" for the children of illegal aliens, his remarks were greeted by the left with shrieks about "racism," and claims that even the idea violates the Constitution and the 14th Amendment. But one of the country's best known legal scholars had a considerably different view.

Jonathan Turley, a [professor of constitutional law](#) at George Washington University, penned a lengthy column published in [The Hill](#) on Thursday that explained the question is not nearly so clear-cut as most liberal commentators seem to think. And the word "racist" doesn't belong in the argument at all.

"One can be entirely on board with the outcome of the Civil War, not be a racist, and still oppose birthright citizenship," he wrote.

The column was headlined, fittingly enough: "No, it is not racist to question birthright citizenship."

In fact, Turley wrote, the history of 14th Amendment jurisprudence, and the wording of the amendment itself, can be seen to weigh in favor of Trump's argument that the authors never intended it to confer American citizenship on literally any human baby born on American soil.

The relevant part of the amendment — the first sentence of the first section — states: "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside."

The key, Turley wrote, is the clause "and subject to the jurisdiction thereof."

If that were not in the document, there would be little question the words were intended to cover all births and convey citizenship to any child who came into this world "in the United States."

But the inclusion of "and subject to the jurisdiction thereof" changes the picture. And the words were included for a reason, Turley wrote.

"At the time it was written, the sponsors expressly stated its purpose as protecting freed slaves and not the offspring of foreign citizens," he wrote. "Republican Senator Jacob Howard, who was a coauthor of the 14th Amendment, said that it was 'simply declaratory' of the Civil Rights Act to protect freed slaves. He assured senators, 'This will not, of course, include persons born in the United States who are foreigners, aliens, or who belong to the families of ambassadors or foreign ministers.'"

Another drafter of the amendment, Illinois Republican Sen. Lyman Trumbull, was even more explicit, according to Turley. Trumbull "stressed that the six words only included those 'not owing allegiance to anyone else,'" Turley wrote.

That makes it pretty clear that the actual men who devised the 14th Amendment never intended it to open American citizenship to those whose parents were not themselves citizens or at least lawful residents of the country.

Meanwhile, where the Supreme Court has ruled on 14th Amendment questions, Turley wrote, the results have not been conclusive.

Some high court decisions from the 19th century leaned toward restricting the amendment's application. But the 1898 case of [U.S. v. Wong Kim Ark](#) established that the court "affirms the ancient and fundamental rule of citizenship by birth within the territory, in the allegiance and protection of the country, including all children here born of resident aliens."

That's the ruling supporters of birthright citizenship roll out, the big guns of the argument. But as Turley pointed out, there's a huge caveat: The parents in that case were *legal residents* of the United States.

For anyone to pretend then that the decision is a rock-solid precedent governing questions of *illegal residents* of the United States is to deny reality.

"So what does all of this mean?" Turley wrote. "It means that anyone who claims that this question is clear is being less than candid. There are strong arguments on both sides of this question."

That's far more than any commentator on MSNBC or CNN is likely to grant. And even many conservative legal scholars consider the question closed.

But as Turley pointed out the question of birthright citizenship is far from settled. If Trump goes through with his executive order overturning it, a Supreme Court fight is not only guaranteed, all sides should welcome it.

It would be a guaranteed lesson for the whole country in how a nation of laws really works.

And if nothing else, liberals could stop yelling "racist" at everyone who disagrees with them.

Guns By the Numbers

This summer we had two mass shoots. One in TX and the other in Ohio. While the politicians talk about gun control laws, I would like you to remember the following numbers.

- In an average year in the US there are 15,000 gun homicides.
- 2.5 million times per year private citizens use a gun for self defense.
- According to the CDC. Firearms are 80 times more likely to be used to save a life not harm life.
- Of those 80,000 to 200,000 involve women defending themselves against sexual assault. That comes from the Journal of Criminal Law.
- 290 million guns are privately owned in the US.
- In 1995 the number was 210 million. A 29% increase in 20 years.
- During that same time violent crime fell by over 50%.
- Violent assaults fell by 55%.
- The US has the most guns per cap-ta in the world. Yet we are not in the top 10 for homicides. According to the UN were are 103rd.
- Using the UN data a Harvard study concluded there is a negative correlation between gun ownership rates and gun homicides rates. In other words more guns does equal less crime.
- The UK has some of the most restrictive gun laws. It also has a crime rate 4x more then US or 2034 violent crimes for every 100,000 people.
- The US has 466 violent crimes per 100,00 people.
- Police kill an average of 606 criminals a year.
- Private citizens kill 1527 criminals in self defence a year.

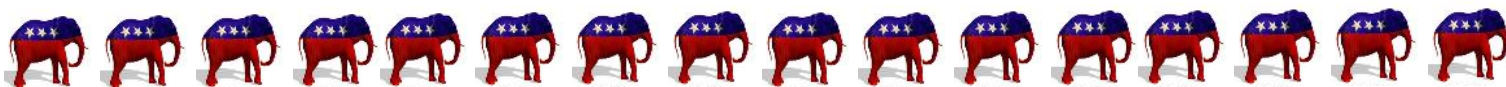
I know that was a lot of numbers. If you remember one number, remember the number of times a gun is used for self defence a year, 2.5 million. If those people did not have guns because a group of politicians passed a gun control law, we would have 2.5 million more crime victims every year. Please take these numbers, share them with your elected officials and friends .

HERE'S A LIST OF AMERICA'S DEADLIEST CITIES

| RANK | TOWN | POLITICAL LEANING |
|------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | St. Louis, MO | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 2 | Baltimore, MD | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 3 | Detroit, MI | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 4 | New Orleans, LA | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 5 | Birmingham, AL | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 6 | Jackson, MS | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 7 | Baton Rouge, LA | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 8 | Hartford, CT | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 9 | Salinas, CA | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 10 | Milwaukee, WI | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 11 | Washington, DC | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 12 | Kansas City, MO | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 13 | Cincinnati, OH | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 14 | West Palm Beach, FL | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 15 | Memphis, TN | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 16 | San Bernadino, CA | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 17 | Oakland, CA | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 18 | Atlanta, GA | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 19 | Richmond, VA | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 20 | Kansas City, KS | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 21 | Pittsburgh, PA | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 22 | Dayton, OH | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 23 | Philadelphia, PA | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 24 | Chicago, IL | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |
| 25 | North Charleston, SC | DEMOCRAT MAJORITY |

Source: FBI Uniform Crime Report

**WE DONT NEED GUN CONTROL
WE NEED DEMOCRAT CONTROL!**



Texas Federation of Republican Women

32nd Biennial Convention

October 3-5, 2019

Moody Gardens Hotel, Spa, and Convention Center
Galveston, Texas

Our club gets to send 8 delegates and 8 alternates. At convention delegate and alternates here from speakers and elected officials. Workshops are available on lots of subjects. They also have vendors selling everything republican, like elephant jewelry and more. If you are interested in going please let Jennifer know.

If Obama Believes in Climate Change, How Come He Bought a \$15 Million Beach Home That'll Soon Sink

BY JOSH MANNING
PUBLISHED AUGUST 24, 2019 AT 7:36AM

Martha's Vineyard got a new resident this week (or at least was picked to get a new resident) when word of a real estate purchase made by former President Barack Obama teletyped its way across the media.

Obamas. Purchase home. \$15 million. On 29 pristine beachfront acres.

Man oh man, that whole trashing-the-rich-and-standing-for-the-poor thing pays really, *really* well.

But who cares. Obama earned that money — sort of. Kind of the same way [Kim Kardashian](#) did. It's his to do with as he likes. If he wants a massive home that could double as a castle or be auctioned off and the proceeds used to feed 3,750 families for an entire year, that's his right.

Obama's flush wallet isn't the interesting part of this purchase. It's his choice of location that's intriguing — because it raises one very, very difficult question.

Obama's reported new home sits atop acres of prime beachfront property in Martha's Vineyard.

Beachfront property. You know, that stuff that's [not supposed to exist in 10 years](#) (or 12 years or 15 years or 20 years depending on which leftist prognosticator you listen to).

The question, then, is why in the world would anyone make a lifetime investment (of \$15 million, no less) for a home he genuinely thinks will be under trillions of tons of sea water in the next decade or two?

The answer is that such a person doesn't genuinely believe the home will be flooded.

And that's okay. You don't have to believe that. I certainly don't. But you *should* believe it if you've been going around for over a decade talking about how the sea levels, atmospheric warming, and carbon levels are going to wreak havoc on a suddenly (and unexpectedly) fragile earth.

Now this is where it gets prickly and should be pretty uncomfortable for Obama. What does he actually believe?

If he believed the talking points he and his media allies have disgorged onto innocent Americans for years, he never (ever, not even in a million years) would have bought that home unless he's a truly moronic home buyer. (I know, I know: we can't completely discount that possibility.)

I mean, even if he did believe the [climate change hokum](#) and figured he'd flip the house after running some guns and hosting a beer summit or two, home values should start sinking pretty darn soon since, you know, the land is going to start sinking pretty darn soon. It's a bad investment, if Obama believes what he's said.

Tempting as the idea of a stupid Obama is, there's a more likely explanation (that's surprisingly even more satisfying).

What if Obama just doesn't believe any of it? What if he used the idea of climate change, global warming, and rising sea levels to push for economic changes that would punish American success and hand huge advantages to American rivals?

If that seems unlikely to you, remember the truth about the Green New Deal that finally came out? The minions of New York Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez [finally admitted](#) that the focus of the GND was never the environment. The focus was fundamentally changing the American economy.

Sounds an awful lot like ["fundamentally transforming America,"](#) doesn't it?

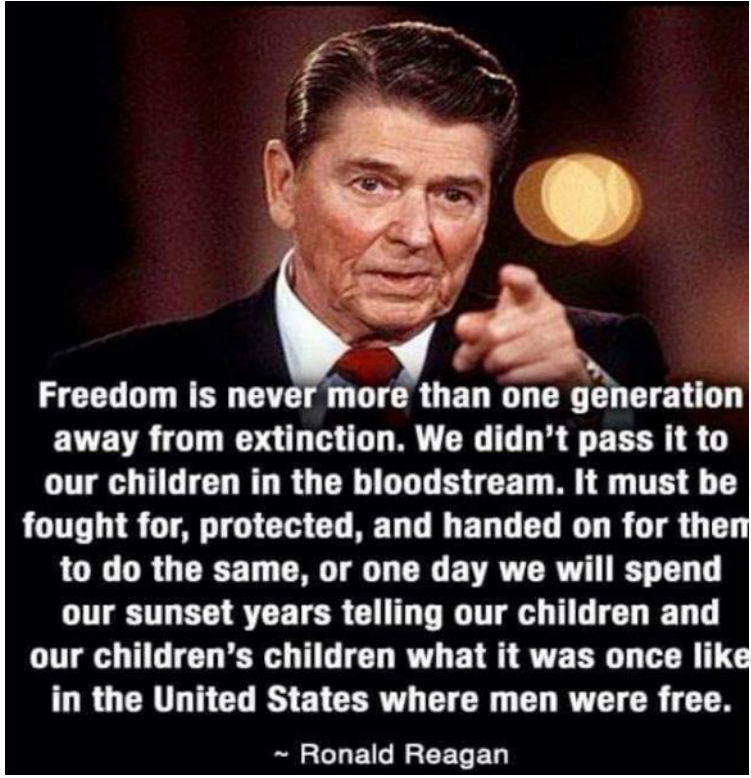
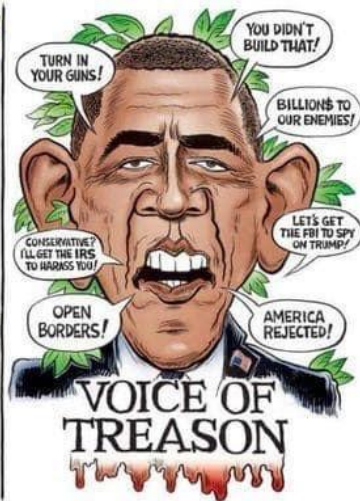
Time to face facts. Obama's not stupid. He knows that the 40 years the left has spent creating an issue out of extreme environmentalism can pay off. He knows the issue can be used to scare people, and he knows that scared people have an unfortunate tendency to surrender control to anyone who comes along looking like he's in charge.

No, Obama's not stupid. He's cunning. He's used the bugbear of climate change to advance his political agenda for years. Remember how [he himself would stop the seas from rising?](#)

He knows none of it's true, and he knows he can never admit that. But he also wanted a pretty nice house.

And, honestly, picking up a nice house that so obviously violates the image you've carefully crafted isn't that big a deal for a leftist. Remember, for them the mantra is always "good for me, but not for thee."

Political Cartoons



Truth In History - The Underground Railroad

by Kate Dalley



-A Note from KrisAnne: One of our missions at KrisAnneHall.com is to bring truth back into history. History is our greatest teacher, our founders often referred to history and experience as being an invaluable oracle used to make a better tomorrow. Consistent with that effort, our friend Kate Dalley has written a wonderful article on the History of the Underground Railroad & Harriet Tubman's role in that era of history. With Kate's permission we are publishing it in our Guest Article series.



I'm not sure how to put this, so I'll just hope people realize I'm not looking to disparage anyone but our American history is grossly inaccurate and I'd like to correct one historic exaggeration that is affecting our nation right now in major headlines. Even if history bores you, please take two minutes and read this.

This is one of the reasons I do my daily radio show. Is to find the truth and hopefully get the truth out there. Had they told the following story accurately, I doubt this race war context would be a big headline.

When you think of the Underground Railroad (secret slave escape routes before the Civil War), what comes to mind? Probably the name Harriet Tubman. They have made her into an icon and called her the "Moses of Her People". Most of us think she founded the Underground Railroad and if you google it - it all but proclaims her to be the founder. But, if you look a little deeper, they use odd language when describing her as the "actual" founder. They don't really say that- they just heavily insinuate it in every way possible. They say she's the "face" of the railroad, or the "spirit" of the movement.

And it's not true.

She wasn't born until 1820 and didn't escape until 1849 using the UR herself -when a white neighbor gave her the name of a location to run to and a white family gave her a ride in their wagon. At that time, already 100,000 slaves used the UR to escape! 100,000!

The Underground Railroad actually started right after our country's founding- in 1787.

Slaves couldn't read or write and could hardly speak to other slaves living in other towns so coordinating the concept and on -the-ground locations would have been impossible for them to do under such oppression. So, who came up with all the safe houses, the secret code name concept of the "railroad terminology" like "stockholders" (those who funded it) "conductors" (those who guided people from location to location "Station master" (Regional coordinator) and so on, back in 1787? Who built up this huge network all the way to Canada? Who put in all of the time, money and resources and kept it secret? As soon as the ink was dry on the Constitution, there was a huge movement to stop a widely accepted horrible practice of slavery and who had a love for mankind strong enough to risk losing everything to help free the slaves?

It was the white Quakers.

The man known to operate the first cell of the railroad, was a WHITE man named Issac Hopper- a Quaker in his late teens even, who risked everything to liberate over 1000 slaves himself and that number is modest.

Also the "President" of the UR was Levi Coffin. A WHITE Quaker who, along with his wife helped over 3300 slaves acquire freedom. Thomas Garrett several decades later, also a Quaker helped over 2700 slaves. They got entire Quaker congregations to hide people, pay money to help out and to create safe houses. There were at least 8 wealthy white men noted in history who were behind it but there were thousands more who helped. They made sure to compartmentalize the big plan so that no one person knew the whereabouts of all the safe houses -so they couldn't be coerced into giving info if in-prisoned.

Harriet Tubman didn't use the railroad herself until it was in its final 15 years of existence - the UR had already been going for almost 65 years strong.

She made 13 runs on the railroad with small groups that included her own family members and is responsible for freeing about 70 people.

Some of those 13 runs were only partly aiding those that were already in the process of escaping already. I'm not saying that isn't wonderful or wasn't brave- it was-but why she is called Moses and referred to in text as the founder or face of the movement? This is very inaccurate.

White Quakers, Native Americans, and Free Blacks worked together to free slaves. Those entire Quaker congregations knew they were risking their lives and wealth to participate but did it anyway.

The reason Harriet Tubman was recognized for this was because a friend of hers wanted to raise money for her and wrote a book about her in the late 1800's about her efforts- a very glowing account that exaggerated her efforts into claiming she had rescued thousands and thousands and William Still wrote about her because he joined the movement at the end as well and wrote about several people involved.

I'm glad they acknowledge the following in the African American Experience (source)-

Truth In History - The Underground Railroad

by Kate Dalley

"The exact year in which the system began is unknown, but it is believed the Quakers started it in 1787. By the time Mrs. Tubman made her escape in 1849, escape via the Underground Railroad had become a frequent practice and it involved a much larger network of people....

By 1857, she had helped free dozens of slaves (not the hundreds often touted in history books; Tubman believed the figure was closer to 70), including her own parents and other family members". Source-AAE

Books claimed that she sheltered people on her property as a philanthropist- but she actually ran a boarding business and charged people. They said she was a political activist in the women's vote but if you look deeper, they said she "felt strongly about women voting and "LIKELY worked among those LIKE Susan B Anthony"- they don't exactly say she did. There aren't any actual accounts of this. They said she worked as a spy for the military and risked her life in battle as the first black woman to do so. Well, truth be told she found a couple of scouts for them to bring them into battle because she didn't know the areas and wasn't on the front lines.

I mean it's great - she helped out, but they have grossly exaggerated her biography. She has since had museums, bridges, a naval ship, a postage stamp, streets, parks, statues- all named after her, movies made about her starring Cicely Tyson and also almost landed on our 20 dollar bill. And does anyone remember hearing about Issac Hopper in history class as the founder and inventor of the UR? I'm guessing not so much.

A writer in 1940 tried to write the truth - Earl Connor - and received threats and condemnation for wanting to write the truth. (This makes sense knowing that our public education system was hijacked by the Carnegie Foundation to change our American history in the early 1900's- as found right in their meeting's written notes from 1908 and exposed in Congress hearings later on. Their main directive was to "re-educate" teachers with watered down and completely altered American history. By 1920, our nation was touting Tubman as the name associated with the UR- source Norman Dodd sent to investigate Carnegie Foundation by Congress).

They wanted a black woman to be the face of the Underground Railroad and that was that- regardless of true history. Apparently they also wanted to make it appear as though all white people were racist and loved slavery.

Can you imagine what our conversations would be like right now in America if we were constantly sharing this info about all of the White people that wanted to free those in slavery, risked it all and THEY made it happen- all along?

To make sure the UR was successful, many different religions, Methodists, Presbyterians and all kinds of clergy risked their lives. It took so many people from all over that cared about ensuring freedom and changing the (sadly) widely accepted practice of slavery. There were white slaves, Irish slaves and yes, black owners of black slaves.

By the way, this is also NEVER talked about, but starting in the 1600's black AND white slaves were brought over together by ship and "indentured or "Durante vite"-meaning- in order to "pay for their voyage" - they had to be a slave for 4-7 years to pay for the voyage they didn't want to take and work it off as a slave. They were also called "redemptioners"- they were the poorest amongst us and sold poor orphans too.

At the end of their pay back period they got 3 bushels of corn and some clothes when set free. Horrifying? Yes. But our history.

You can find all of this online. It is written about. But with today's headlines and political posturing - you'd never guess that anyone ever read about this.

Ironically and shockingly, the first slave to be given "for life" instead of 4-7 years, was to a BLACK SLAVE OWNER in 1640's - Anthony Johnson - who had black and white slaves by the way- and argued to the court that John Casor of the Virginia's Colony, a black slave that he purchased, was to be for life and the court/Judge sided with Johnson that he would be his slave for life. A BLACK slave owner and his black Slave. "Johnson, insisting he knew nothing of an indenture, fought hard to retain what he regarded as his personal property, stating, "hee had ye Negro for his life." On March 5, 1655 the presiding judge, Captain Samuel Goldsmith, ruled that "the said Jno Caster Negro shall forthwith bee returned to the service of his master Anthony Johnson."

Johnson was one of the original "20" black slaves brought over from Africa and ironically, paid off his own indentured servitude and the bought slaves for himself- among them John Casor. - (source- Smithsonian Magazine Horrible Fate of John Casor).

Our media never mentions this though.

Harriet Tubman was a brave black woman who endured a lot in a very difficult time. No doubt. But she was hardly the face of or founder or "Moses" of her people. Many others sacrificed so much more, for so many decades and in a time when this practice had become so accepted, they also were brave in dedicating their lives and prosperity for the love of their "neighbor". George Washington also was the first to say he would give up his own slaves and help this cause as he felt slavery was wrong.

I just want us to give history it's due. Right from the start of America, we sought to correct accepted wrongs and America was the only land that espoused the religious and economic freedom for anyone to come and make a better life. Not every white person was a racist slave owner nor was every black person was a slave, either. We didn't just passively let slavery happen for a 80 years- as soon as we declared our

Truth In History - The Underground Railroad

by Kate Dalley

Independence - whites, blacks and Native Americans sought to end slavery. We are not a racist nation now and were not then. Only a select group - not our entire nation- were considered truly racist (full of hatred toward other human beings for skin color only) and saw others as non-human. To most it was horrible yes, but just economical to them. White Irish slaves (over 300K) were indentured slaves as well. They never talk about this.

The truth matters and our history book lies and misinformation have shaped our thinking of this country and it's so unfortunate.

Had this been taught all along- how different would the last 100 years have been for us? How different would our headlines be right now and how different would our perceptions be for people of all color. How would this have impacted what became the Civil Rights Movement in the South?

We need to start educating people about the truth. It matters. The truth matters.

-Kate Dalley



Kate Dalley is a cutting-edge nationally recognized radio host! She is nationally syndicated in multiple markets -live - including Chicago and on Red State Talk Radio in drive time (the world's largest political online 24 hour station with 1 million listeners) along with other online outlets as well. Listeners from around the globe listen and stream her daily 3-hour political talk show (First hour Utah topics, followed by the 2 hour nationally syndicated show).

<http://katedalleyradio.com/>

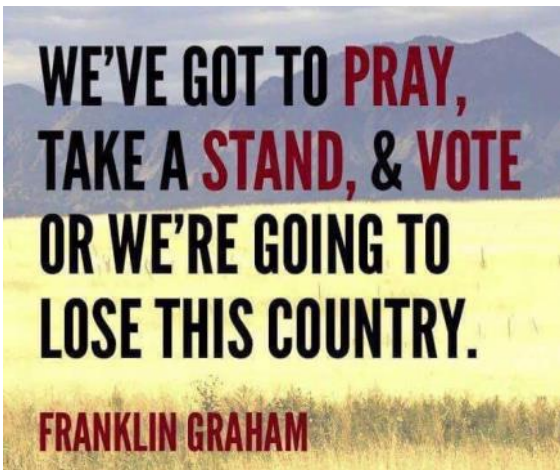


WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT AND E.T.?



<http://hillaryclintonsucks.xyz>

E.T. LEARNED TO SPEAK ENGLISH AND WANTED TO GO HOME!



FRANKLIN GRAHAM



Photos From August Meeting



Socialism Is a Rigid Ideology That Always Ends in Tyranny

Lee Edwards / March 06, 2019

Q: What did [socialists](#) use before candles?

A: Electricity.

It's an old joke, sure. But it's no laughing matter. Just ask the people of [Venezuela](#).

The socialist regime there nationalized the electricity sector a dozen years ago. Today, blackouts in the once-prosperous Latin American nation have become routine.

Electricity isn't all that's in short supply. [Gasoline is scarce](#) in the oil-rich nation, as are food and medicine.

[Meanwhile](#), the regime concentrates on violently repressing protests and burning humanitarian aid as it approaches its borders.

After 20 years of socialism, Venezuela is a failed state.

And that should surprise no one. Socialism is a rigid ideology that always ends in tyranny.

The prime example is the Soviet Union. Lenin and Stalin's iron rule brought death to 20-25 million victims. "Enemies of the state" were executed by firing squads, sent to forced labor camps in the Gulag, perished in country-wide forced famines, experimented on in "psychiatric" hospitals, and summarily deported from their homes to the distant steppes of Russia.

No less totalitarian in their practices were the Castro brothers, who promised freedom and democracy when they came to power in Cuba. Six decades later, the Cuban people are still waiting for the first free election.

Socialism always promises progress, but it inevitably delivers scarcity, corruption, and decay.

Eastern Europe under communism became a monument to bureaucratic inefficiency and waste. Throughout the Soviet bloc, life expectancy declined dramatically and infant mortality soared.

Upon gaining independence, India trod a socialist path for 40 years. It led to a never-ending cycle of poverty and economic deterioration. Finally, Indian leaders began looking to Adam Smith rather than Karl Marx to guide their economy. Today, it boasts the largest middle class in the free world.

Socialism has little regard for the middle class. It's all about securing and maintaining power for the ruling class.

Consider the People's Republic of [China](#). Mired in Maoist revolutionary rhetoric, it was one of the world's poorest countries for its first three decades. Then, Deng Xiaoping introduced "socialism with Chinese characteristics."

Forty years later, the People's Republic of China boasts the world's second-largest economy, but its citizens remain deprived of basic human rights and civil liberties.

The Communist Party does not allow a free press or free speech, competitive elections, an independent judiciary, free travel, or a representative parliament. Instead, President Xi Jinping has instituted a cult of personality that rivals the one-time worship of the so-called Great Helmsman, Mao Zedong.

Nicaragua's Marxist leader Daniel Ortega is another example of the lust for power and control that characterizes socialism. His underreported reign of terror has resulted in the deaths of more than 300 dissidents in just the last few years.

All of these horrors are inevitable because socialism is built on a fatal conceit.

Modern socialists believe that the world has become so complicated, so complex, so globalized, that regular citizens just can't manage things. We, and only we (say the socialists), are equipped to run things.

Hence, for example, it's imperative to nationalize health care, since "the little people" can't be trusted to make intelligent, informed decisions about their health care.

Rather than empower the common man, socialists believe in empowering bureaucracy. In their minds, bureaucrats will always make decisions based on science and dispassionate reason—and make sure those decisions are implemented and enforced efficiently.

It's an elitist, intellectually arrogant belief, and it's dangerous.

As Ronald Reagan noted in a long-ago campaign speech for Barry Goldwater: "Either we accept the responsibility for our own destiny, or we abandon the American Revolution and confess that an intellectual [elite] in a far-distant capitol can plan our lives for us better than we can plan them ourselves."

In "The Road to Serfdom," the Nobel Laureate F. A. Hayek dismissed the utopian dream of "democratic socialism" as "unachievable." Why? Because it is based on the fatal conceit that a galaxy of bureaucrats can collect, analyze, and direct the individual actions of 300 million Americans.

"America will never be a socialist country!" So President Donald Trump declared last month in his rousing State of the Union speech. That should be the fervent prayer of all Americans who prize liberty and wish to live our lives our way.

Originally published by [Fox News](#)

Slavery In America Did Not Begin In 1619, And Other Things The New York Times Gets Wrong

By [Lyman Stone](#), AUGUST 23, 2019



The 1619 Project isn't mostly about helping Americans understand the role of slavery in our history. It's mostly about convincing Americans that 'America' and 'slavery' are synonyms.

The New York Times has published a series of essays about slavery, race, and American politics under the heading "1619 Project." These essays cover an enormous amount of terrain: music, constitutional theory, economics, management, ethnic identity, and more.

Many conservatives responded negatively, which at first perplexed me. Slavery was a huge part of American history and has affected every facet of our society. A collection of articles outlining this history seems as good a topic as any to write about.

But zoomed out from the mostly mundane minutiae of individual articles — in the absence of slavery and thus without as much African influence in our music, what *would* American music sound like? — a larger concern animates the 1619 Project. The project's central purpose is not simply to educate Americans about the history of labor accounting from plantation to data visualization, or an account of the history of brutal sugar cultivation, but to give a specific narrative about *what America is*.

The project's summary makes the aim quite clear: "[The 1619 Project] aims to reframe the country's history, understanding 1619 as our true founding, and placing the consequences of slavery and the contributions of black Americans at the very center of the story we tell ourselves about who we are."

Considered this way, the 1619 Project looks very different. It isn't *mostly* about helping Americans understand the role played by plantation agriculture in American history. It's mostly about convincing Americans that "America" and "slavery" are essentially synonyms.

It's mostly about trying to tell readers they should feel sort of, kind of, at least a little bit *bad* about being American, because, didn't you hear? As several articles say explicitly, America, in its basic DNA, is not a liberal democracy, constitutional republic, or federation. It's a slave society.

Let's Start with the First Thing Wrong Here

There are a lot of ways to attack this story. But the simplest place to start is the central conceit of the project: that year, 1619.

1619 is commonly cited as the date slavery first arrived in "America." No matter that [historians](#) mostly consider the 1619 date a red herring. Enslaved people were working in English Bermuda in 1616. Spanish colonies and forts in today's Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina had enslaved Africans throughout the mid-to-late 1500s: in fact, [a slave rebellion in 1526](#) helped end the Spanish attempt at settling South Carolina.

The presence of Spanish power continued to inhibit English settlement of the deep south basically until the Revolutionary War. In some sense, the 1526 San Miguel de Guadeloupe rebellion cleared the way for English settlement of South Carolina.

Of course, when the English did arrive in South Carolina, they struggled to make a living. Early settlers survived on a trade of buckskins and vegetables. It was not until South Carolinians fought the [Yamasee Wars](#) of 1715-1717, and sold between 20,000 and 50,000 kidnapped Native Americans into slavery into New England and the Caribbean, that South Carolinians had the capital to buy enough African slaves to get rice and indigo plantations up and running.

But before 1526, slavery was already ongoing in the eventual United States. The earliest slave society in our present country, and our *most recent* slavery society, was in Puerto Rico. The island's Spanish overlords were enslaving the Taino natives by 1500. By 1513, the Taino population had shrunk dramatically due to brutal violence and disease. Thus, Spain brought the first African slaves to Puerto Rico.

Chattel slavery in Puerto Rico continued, despite many "Royal Graces" easing life for free blacks and sometimes promising eventual emancipation, until 1873. Even then, slaves had to buy their own liberty. It's not clear when the last slave was free in Puerto Rico, but it would still have been a fresh memory in 1898 when the United States gained control from Spain.

Slavery in America did not begin in 1619. It began in 1513. Any argument for a 1619 date implicitly suggests that the American project is an inherently *Anglo* project: that other regions, like Texas, California, Louisiana, and Puerto Rico, have subordinate histories that aren't really, truly, equal as American origin stories.

In essence, the 1619 date for the beginning of slavery sets up a story of America as an essentially Anglo project that African-Americans were forced into and now claim their share of. But in reality, our country has many origins: French Cajuns and Huguenots, Swedes in Delaware, Dutch in New York, Russians in Alaska, Mexicans in the southwest, Spanish in Florida and Puerto Rico, and of course Native Americans everywhere.

Slavery In America Did Not Begin In 1619, And Other Things The New York Times Gets Wrong

By Lyman Stone, AUGUST 23, 2019

Missing Essential Stories about American Slavery

Native Americans point to another vital reality: African-American identity and a personal history of enslaved ancestors are not synonymous. Some African-Americans, like President Obama, have no ancestry among enslaved Africans in America. Many people enslaved in America, most notably the first slaves, Native Americans, are not of African descent.

Furthermore, “unfree labor” did not end with the end of race-based chattel slavery. Unfree Asian labor in Hawaii and the Pacific west continued almost until the 20th century, while today prisoners of all races are often press-ganged into underpaid labor.

This is not to diminish the African-American experience of slavery: the overwhelming majority of enslaved people in America were of African descent, and the overwhelming majority of people of African descent in America are descended from ancestors who were enslaved. Today, it is reasonable to speak of the African-American experience and the experience of enslavement as essentially and inexorably connected.

But when we talk about *history* and *origins* of our society, when we try to untangle the web of events that brought us to where we are today, we have to be more careful. Slavery in America began with Spanish enslavement of Native Americans. In the most enslaved parts of America like South Carolina, slavery largely began with the enslavement of Native Americans.

Like Americans whose origins are in non-Anglo colonies, so too the 1619 Project’s narratives seem to miss a significant part of the legacy of slavery: Native Americans, who remain significantly poorer than African-Americans, less educated, and often with shorter life expectancies. Undoubtedly the 1619 Project’s writers have genuine sympathy for Native Americans. I’m sure they would read my comment here as disingenuous: do I really support Native American rights to land and reparations? For the record, yes, I do.

The 1619 Project’s narratives seem to miss a significant part of the legacy of slavery.

But beyond that, the 1619 Project bills itself as helping Americans see the *real story* of American origins. And the *real story* as the 1619 Project tells it is that slavery began in 1619 with 20 Africans. This isn’t true. This ignores the experience of Puerto Rico, where slavery began earlier, and lasted longer.

Furthermore, a serious accounting for slavery has to wrestle with the experience of Native Americans and Hawaiian islanders, and especially the status of their ancestral lands and sovereign rights. More broadly, to wrestle adequately with the painful historical reality of America’s “labor freedom,” we have to be able to talk about less-than-free Asian migrant workers in California and Hawaii, as well as the indenturehood of the Scots-Irish and subsequent Appalachian poverty.

That these peoples are not treated as subaltern today to the same extent that Native Americans or African Americans still are should not exclude them from a project concerned with history. Plus, many poor whites in Appalachia with accents still experience a version of ethnic subaltern status. We should let them speak without writing it off as white racial grievance.

The United States Was a Footnote in Slavery’s History

Finally, it’s worth exploring the specialness of American slavery. The New York Times is an American publication, so it makes sense to explore the American experience. But a wider-angle lens can help us understand that experience.

Those early slaves in 1619 that The New York Times focuses on arrived on the *San Juan Bautista*. If that name doesn’t sound English, that’s because it isn’t. It was a Portuguese ship en route to Spanish Mexico. Off the coast of Mexico, it was attacked and captured by English pirates masquerading as Dutch. They sold their enslaved human cargo at Jamestown.

Slavery is no more ‘native’ to the American experience than, well, anything.

From its earliest moments in the Spanish colony of 1526, Puerto Rico in 1513, or even Jamestown in 1619, the truth is that America was a footnote to a larger world of slavery. We did not invent this evil. We enthusiastically embraced it.

But when we explain the role played by slavery, we have to recognize that slavery is no more “native” to the American experience than, well, anything. We stole the first slaves from Portugal. Slavery struggled to “take off” in much of the South because managing a plantation is extremely technical and complicated, and many Americans were not good at it. It was an influx of experienced human traffickers, slave-torturers, and large-scale agribusiness experts from Haiti and other Caribbean colonies in the 1700s that gave much of the Deep South enough “expertise” in the abuse of humanity to develop a thriving slave economy.

Lacking much home-grown ingenuity, U.S. slavery had reached an economic bottleneck by the 1780s: tobacco destroyed soil nutrients and was unsustainable, rice and indigo couldn’t be widely cultivated, the colonies had a bad climate for sugar, and the de-seeding process for “upland cotton” was prohibitively expensive, meaning only Caribbean-style “Sea Island” cotton could be cultivating on a large scale. It took a clever abolitionist New Englander, Eli Whitney, to invent the cotton gin.

Slavery In America Did Not Begin In 1619, And Other Things The New York Times Gets Wrong

By Lyman Stone, AUGUST 23, 2019

He thought he was sparing slaves the tedious work of de-seeding Sea Island cotton. He didn't realize he was opening the door to cotton cultivation, and thus a slave economy, throughout the interior south.

The history of slavery is not one of some evil creativity unique to Americans.

In other words, the history of slavery is not one of some evil creativity unique to Americans. We emulated models of slavery pioneered elsewhere. We "improved" on it, of course; the American zeal for "efficiency" drove escalating brutality (although Anglo cotton plantations never reached the perigee of inhumanity achieved by the Francophone sugar plantations of Haiti and Louisiana).

We are covered in the blood-guilt of millions of enslaved people. But when we try to tease out the strands of American identity, slavery, like so many other pieces of America, is an immigrant. To the southern Tidewater colonies, to their eternal ignominy, it was a welcome one. But many inland southerners and to many northerners, slavery was a baleful evil they—perhaps incorrectly—saw as forced upon them by Britain.

America's Story Is of Increasing Refusal to Tolerate Slavery

This story of slavery as something somehow "foreign" to many Americans will read as *a bit much* to many enthusiasts of the 1619 Project. If Americans were so unhappy with slavery, *why didn't they abolish it?*

My answer is simple: *we did*. At the risk of historical absurdity, it must be noted that when Georgia was founded in 1732, slavery was banned, making it the first place in the Western hemisphere to ban slavery. But alas, the appeal of plantation wealth was too great, and by 1752 the King George II (the father of the George we rebelled against) had taken over Georgia as a royal colony, and instituted slavery.

In 1780, still amidst the guns of war, Massachusetts' constitution rendered enslavement legally unenforceable, and the judiciary soon abolished it.

Thus, in 1775, there was no free soil anywhere in the Western hemisphere. Slavery was a universal law. While I cannot say for certain, it is possible there was no free soil in the entire world—that is, no society that categorically forbade all slavery.

But then something changed. Revolutionary agitation led to war in 1776, and by 1777, Vermont's de facto secession from New York and New Hampshire created the first modern polity in the western hemisphere to forbid the keeping of slaves. In 1777, war with Britain was barely begun.

Vermont was hardly secure. But in their opening salvo to a watching world, Vermonters made clear what they thought America was about: liberty for all mankind. In 1780, still amidst the guns of war, Massachusetts' constitution rendered enslavement legally unenforceable, and the judiciary soon abolished it.

Numerous states followed suit. Their exact procedure varied: some immediately emancipated all slaves, some used gradual emancipation, and some tried other "creative" methods. But the point is that, unlike in some early-abolition countries like France or Peru, or in Georgia's early free status, abolitionism *stuck* in America.

The fledgling Confederation Congress set aside the majority of the land ceded from Great Britain as free soil. Despite concerted attempts by southerners to "flip" both Indiana and Illinois as slave states, the early commitment to abolition held fast. Likewise, the United States was the second country, by a matter of weeks, to outlaw the international trade in slaves, after Great Britain. Countries like Spain and Portugal continued thereafter to trade slaves for decades, and Brazil did not outlaw slavery until 1888.

In other words, Americans were early adopters of abolition. We were the first to establish formally abolitionist constitutions and states, the second to ban the trade in slaves, and middle-of-the-pack in achieving uniform abolition of slavery.

No, Slavery Does Not Define America

Undoubtedly, we still must atone for much. Slavery lasted longer than any conscience should have allowed. The Christian consciences of America's founders should have stirred them to intolerance of a single day of slavery on our shores. Alas, it did not. This is a moral failure.

The history of America is not defined by some romance with enslavement, as the 1619 Project seems to suggest.

But the history of America is not defined by some romance with enslavement, as the 1619 Project seems to suggest. The high points of American history, the ones we celebrate, memorialize, emphasize, and teach to our children as *who we are*, and as examples to be emulated, are moments of liberation.

The Jamestown founding of America has no national holiday, in part because most Americans sense that slavers looking for gold is, while part of our history, not the part we want our children to emulate. But when Thanksgiving comes, we celebrate the Plymouth colony: religious dissidents seeking liberty.

Slavery In America Did Not Begin In 1619, And Other Things The New York Times Gets Wrong

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While fictionalized to some extent, it speaks well of Americans that Thanksgiving is presented as a collaboration between religious dissidents and Native Americans: the story we tell to our children, the example we hold up as *how Americans ought to live*, is that they ought to tolerate diversity of opinion and actively seek cooperation and peace with extremely different neighbors.

The history of America is indelibly marked by the sin of enslavement of many peoples, African and Native American. To remind Americans of this, and to carefully trace how slavery has impacted our society today, is a good thing.

What Defines Us Isn't Our Worst Moments

America has been blessed by courageous black voices for centuries reminding the mostly white body politic of this sin, and calling us to repentance and reconciliation. This call to repentance has often come at considerable cost to those African-Americans who speak up in a society that, like all human societies, dislikes being reminded of its sins.

The American story is not a story of a country defined by slavery, but a country defined by trying to figure out what it means to live with liberty and self-government.

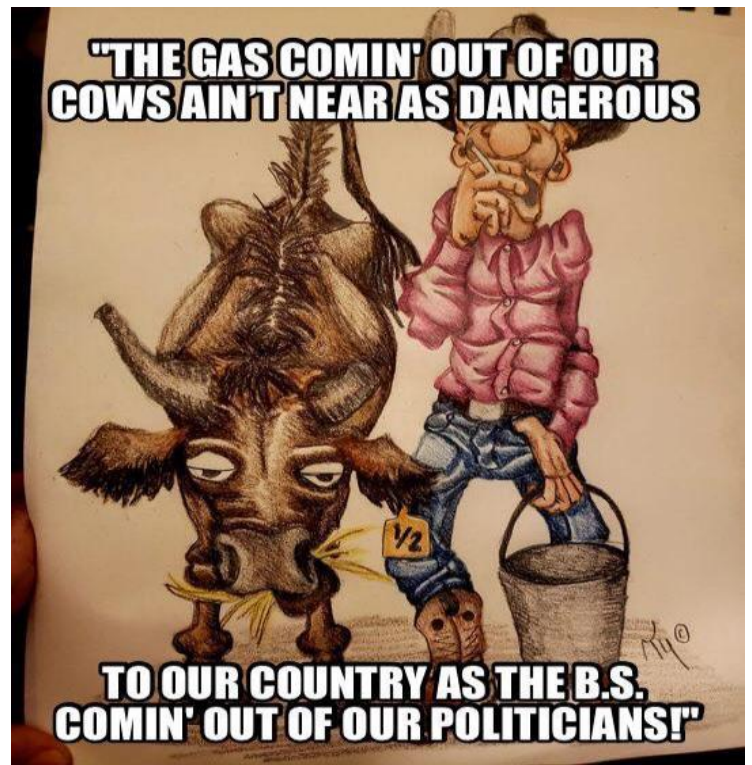
Much of the straight history presented in the 1619 Project is good, insightfully presented, and will be news to many Americans. As a Lutheran, I applaud the authors of the 1619 Project for confronting Americans with the law of God, holding a mirror to our sins, past and present.

Yet I also wonder if that mirror of our ugliness is truly who we are. Is a person who he is in his darkest moment? If we record people in their most vicious hour, when they most succumb to the temptations that nag on all of us, is that video who they truly are?

I think not. I think we are not defined by who we have been, and we are not defined by our worst national sins. The American story is not a story of a country defined by slavery, but a country defined by trying, in fits and starts, with faltering and hesitance, but also with moments of glory, to figure out what it means to live with liberty and self-government.

It is altogether fitting, then, to conclude as a great, glorious, flawed, struggled, penitent, but courageous American concluded, when discussing what it meant to be American in a time of great division. "We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."

Lyman Stone is a Research Fellow at the Institute for Family Studies, and an Advisor at the consulting firm Demographic Intelligence. He and his wife serve as missionaries in the Lutheran Church-Hong Kong Synod.



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GREG WILLIS
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Cheryl Williams
Commissioner, Precinct 2

2300 Bloomdale Road, Suite 4192, McKinney, TX 75071
Metro (972) 424-1460, Ext. 4626 • Cell (214) 471-3126
Email cdwilliams@collincountytx.gov



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jdwebb@collincountytx.gov • www.collincountytx.gov

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Certified Public Accountant

方菲菲 會計師
CATHY FANG C.P.A.

6300 Stonewood Dr. Suite 308
Plano, TX 75024

email: fcfang@hotmail.com
Tel: (972) 769-8588
Fax: (972) 769-0788



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COURT OF APPEALS
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GEO. ALLEN COURTS BLDG.
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FAX 214-745-1083



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JUDGE
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September Birthdays

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I would never ever want another 9/11, but I miss the America of 9/12.

Stores ran out of flags to sell because they were being flown everywhere.

People were Americans before they were upper or lower class, Jewish or Christian, Republican or Democrat.

We hugged people without caring if they ate at Chick-Fil-A or wore Nikes.

ON 9/12, WHAT MATTERED MORE WAS WHAT UNITED US, THAN WHAT DIVIDED US.





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