

**Three outstanding new conservative books:**

**The Secret Knowledge: On the Dismantling of American Culture** by David Mamet

**Your Teacher Said WHAT?!** by Joseph and Blake Kernan

**Reckless Endangerment** by Gretchen Morgenson and Joshua Rosner

"The same democracy, then, which in its nonelected quality (civilization) inexorably populated the world, ever widening the polity, and obliterating the Tribe and its supposed blessings, is held by the Left to be that tool capable of reversing the process and restoring us to the Tribe, its campfire, its wise elders, its superabundance of untouched wilderness and game. We're going to vote on it, and when we have enough votes, we're going to return to the campfire. There will be no more pollution, for we will vote to stop our polluting ways; there will be no more wars, as all sovereign States will be subsumed into a large tribe of the mutually understanding (cf. the United Nations), there will be no more Poverty; because the Earth Holds Enough For All, and lacks only that Wise Leadership which will see to its Just Distribution (a dictator). And all that stands between this utopia and our present state of stupid error are the Conservatives, who believe only in Greed."

—David Mamet, *The Secret Knowledge*

Sadly, it may soon be necessary to cleanse the earth of Muslims. What a worthless system of values.

### **Christian brothers crucified by Ouattara forces in Ivory Coast**

from Pamela Geller, 30 June 2011

... Two peasant brothers were brutally crucified on "the example of Christ" as forces loyal to Ivory Coast President [Muslim] Alassane Ouattara continue to target perceived supporters of his ousted Christian predecessor, Laurent Gbagbo.

Raphael Aka Kouame died of his injuries; incredibly his younger brother, Kouassi Privat Kacou, survived the ordeal. The pair were badly beaten and tortured before being crudely nailed to cross-shaped planks by their hands and feet with steel spikes on 29 May.

The brothers were falsely accused of hiding weapons in their home village of Binkro, which has been targeted by Ouattara supporters as the birthplace of a key enemy. They are looking for Prefect Koko Djei, President of the General Council of Oumé and an official in Gbagbo's Ivorian Popular Front party, who is accused of distributing weapons to young Oumé men. The brothers repeatedly denied any involvement in a weapons cache, but their pleas were ignored.

After crucifying the brothers, Ouattara's men took them on an extensive search of Binkro, but they found only a store of medical equipment and supplies, which they looted. The seriously wounded pair were then taken to prison in Oumé, where Raphael died in the night...

**More:** [http://atlasshrugs2000.typepad.com/atlas\\_shrugs/2011/06/christian-brothers-crucified-by-muslim-forces-in-ivory-coast.html](http://atlasshrugs2000.typepad.com/atlas_shrugs/2011/06/christian-brothers-crucified-by-muslim-forces-in-ivory-coast.html)

### **"One dog less" - Muslim youths disrupt Christian funerals in Holland**

by Okzident1, 25 June 2011

**Watch:** [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wpImdawOJLw&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wpImdawOJLw&feature=player_embedded)

This is a splendid piece, except for one thing. Mr. Pethokoukis endorses an AEI study that says, inter alia,

*"To achieve this goal, the income tax system would be replaced by a progressive consumption tax, in the form of a Bradford X tax. To address environmental externalities in a more cost-effective and market-based manner, energy subsidies, tax credits, and regulations would be replaced by a **carbon tax**."*

As attractive as ditching the income tax might seem, that plan is a sop to global warming hysteria. And it would surely result in more corruption and graft than all the things it would supposedly replace.

### **Why the GOP shouldn't go wobbly on taxes**

by James Pethokoukis, 27 June 2011

<http://blogs.reuters.com/james-pethokoukis/2011/06/27/why-the-gop-shouldnt-go-wobbly-on-taxes/>

"If the Victim is Always Right, and if the Arabs, being darker and poorer, must be the Victim, then Israel must be wrong." — David Mamet, *The Secret Knowledge*

A vivid and interesting bio of Michele Bachmann.

## **Queen of the Tea Party**

by Matthew Continetti, 4 July 2011 issue

[http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/queen-tea-party\\_575540.html](http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/queen-tea-party_575540.html)

## **Rep. Kucinich praises Syrian dictator on Syrian television [includes video]**

30 June 2011

...In an exclusive video obtained by The Daily Caller, Kucinich openly praises Assad, whose regime has reportedly killed over 1,300 demonstrators and injured many more since protests against the dictatorship began earlier this year...

**More:** <http://dailycaller.com/2011/06/30/thedc-exclusive-rep-kucinich-praises-syrian-dictator-on-syrian-television-video/>

## **MSM heavyweight Mark Halperin accidentally tells the truth about the President [includes video]**

30 June 2011

MSNBC senior political analyst Mark Halperin was suspended on Thursday by the cable network after he called President Obama "a dick" on a popular morning show and then quickly apologized.

"I thought he was a kind of a dick yesterday," Halperin, who also is an editor at large for *Time*, said on *Morning Joe*, referring to the president's conduct during his press conference.

A couple of hours later, MSNBC issued a statement, saying, "Mark Halperin's comments this morning were completely inappropriate and unacceptable. We apologize to the president, the White House and all of our viewers. We strive for a high level of discourse, and comments like these have no place on our air. Therefore, Mark will be suspended indefinitely from his role as an analyst..."

**Read on (or not):** <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0611/58098.html>

## **Nature vs. Neuter**

by John Kass, 30 June 2011

...Unleashing the gender police on children to snuff out dangerous proclivities toward gender roles tells me one thing. It tells me that Swedish bureaucrats don't have kids. But it also tells me that the entire nation will probably become extinct in two generations.

And as we wait for this eventuality, I was fascinated to learn the reason for the gender police: Even in politically liberal Sweden, males are considered to have an unfair edge. And so, apparently, the idea is to neuter them all in preschool, boys and girls, so their minds won't be poisoned by sexual identity...

**More:** <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/columnists/ct-met-kass-0630-20110630,0,4939256.column>

## **Missile defense malpractice**

*Investor's Business Daily* editorial, 30 June 2011

...Bush initially planned a missile defense umbrella using the more capable and faster ground-based interceptors (GBIs) such as those deployed in Alaska and California. They would be deployed in Poland and guided by radar based in the Czech Republic. Obama canceled the plans after Moscow objected, and in exchange for a campaign promise fulfillment in the form of the New Start Treaty. Moscow says that treaty forbids U.S. missile defense enhancements and has said any improvements would cause it to withdraw from the treaty.

As for current plans, Shelby says, the "report's unclassified conclusion is that (Missile Defense Agency) plans to achieve an early intercept capability as part of the phased-adaptive approach are simply not credible."

Critics of the phased-adaptive approach have noted that without the larger GBIs as part of the mix, Europe-based missile defense will not be able to defend the Eastern U.S. against Iranian missiles. And without the "early intercept" capability, shooting down missiles in their vulnerable boost phase is almost impossible...

...Virtually all we had to do was drill the holes and pour the concrete for the silos. "Now it looks like the nation may be left with an inadequate defense in Europe and no boost-phase intercept capability," Shelby said...

**Unintended (?) consequences:** <http://www.investors.com/NewsAndAnalysis/Article.aspx?id=576878&p=1>

## The religious fanaticism of Bill Maher

by David Cohen, 29 June 2011

...Maher embodies the worst traits that he ascribes to people of faith: He holds his left-wing views not with mere passion, which I could respect, but with downright *certitude* (if I may attempt to reclaim a word forever made icky by Anthony Weiner). He is therefore completely intolerant of those whose views differ from his own.

Maher's attitudes mirror not those of the typical religious believer, but rather those of the extremist who is drawn to religion for all the wrong reasons. Since Maher believes in no higher being, his political ideology is left, by default, in the paramount position of importance that others reserve for their religion. His ideology has become his religion. And he attacks those who are heretics against his secular faith with a fervor that can only be described as religious...

**Read the rest:** <http://dailycaller.com/2011/06/29/the-religious-fanaticism-of-bill-maher/>

## Reagan gets no credit, Obama gets no blame

by Larry Elder, 30 June 2011

...What most people care about are jobs. By that standard, Reagan faced an even tougher economy. Throw in a higher rate of inflation—1980's 13.5 percent average vs. 2011's 2.6 percent—and much higher prime interest rates—20 percent vs. 3.25 percent—and the early '80s looked even grimmer than The Great Recession.

Krugman gives no credit to the Reagan policies of lower taxes, deregulation and a slowdown in the rate of government spending. He believes Reagan's policies *harmed* the economy. Krugman approvingly quotes Bill Clinton, who, as a presidential candidate, said: "The Reagan-Bush years have exalted private gain over public obligation, special interests over the common good, wealth and fame over work and family. The 1980s ushered in a Gilded Age of greed and selfishness, of irresponsibility and excess, and of neglect."

Enter President Barack "Hope and Change" Obama, with a Democratic majority in the House and a supermajority filibuster-proof Senate. Out went policies like reductions in income taxes, corporate taxes, capital gains and dividends. In came transfers of money from one pocket to another to "spread the wealth."

Under ObamaCare, the Democrats placed the entire health care system under the command and control of the federal government. Through a nearly \$1 trillion "stimulus" package, Democrats spent money on "shovel-ready" projects with a promise to "save or create" 3.5 million jobs. To rein in "greed" and to fight "climate change," the Obama administration imposed billions of dollars' worth of new regulations on businesses. Through "quantitative easing," the Federal Reserve effectively printed money to keep interest rates low, a widely disputed policy designed to encourage banks to lend and businesses to borrow.

So where is it? When do we see the massive bounce-back from this "deeply depressed" economy, at minimum the kind of bounce-back that occurred in the '80s in spite of the allegedly harmful policies of Reagan?...

**More:** <http://patriotpost.us/opinion/larry-elder/2011/06/30/economy-reagan-gets-no-credit-obama-gets-no-blame/>

## Marrage cannot be redefined

by Jeff Jacoby, 29 June 2011

...By now, of course, the idea that same-sex couples should have the same freedom to marry as interracial couples has become a favorite gay-rights trump card. So has the view that opponents of gay marriage occupy the same moral and legal swamp as the segregationists who thought Mildred and Richard Loving's marriage should be a crime. Today those who insist that society retain the timeless definition of marriage as the union of male and female can expect to be **excoriated as bigots and haters**, and to be assured that history will revile them just as it reviles **Bull Connor** and **Lester**

**Maddox.**

I'm not so sure.

There is no disputing the emotional power of linking the campaign for gay marriage to the struggle over anti-miscegenation laws in the civil rights era. I agree that the two are connected. But not in the way same-sex marriage advocates think.

When the Supreme Court ruled in June 1967 that Virginia's law penalizing interracial marriage could not stand, it was not changing the fundamental and enduring meaning of marriage: It was *affirming* it. It was upholding the integrity of marriage by protecting it from irrelevant — and unconstitutional — racial manipulation. Virginia had interfered with the core elements of marriage in order to promote white supremacy, a value completely alien to marriage. Marriage is designed to bring men and women together; anti-miscegenation laws frustrated that design, and could not stand...

**More:** [http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/editorial\\_opinion/oped/articles/2011/06/29/marriage\\_cannot\\_be\\_redefined/](http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/editorial_opinion/oped/articles/2011/06/29/marriage_cannot_be_redefined/)

## **The demons in Krugmanomics**

Paul Krugman's affection for markets fell as he became obsessed with inequality, market instability and catastrophic climate change.

*by Peter Foster, 29 June 2011*

<http://opinion.financialpost.com/2011/06/28/peter-foster-the-demons-in-krugmanomics/>

## **A Supreme Court win for political speech and political money**

*by George F. Will, 28 June 2011*

The fate of Arizona's Clean Elections Act, which the Supreme Court on Monday declared unconstitutional, was foreshadowed March 28, during oral arguments. Lawyers defending the law insisted its purpose was to combat corruption or the appearance thereof. The court has repeatedly said this is the only constitutionally permissible reason for restricting the quantity of political speech. The law's defenders insisted its purpose was not to "level the playing field" by equalizing candidates' resources, which the court has declared an unconstitutional reason for regulating speech. But Chief Justice John Roberts replied: "Well, I checked the Citizens Clean Elections Commission Web site this morning, and it says that this act was passed to 'level the playing field' when it comes to running for office." Game over...

**Read on:** [http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/a-supreme-court-win-for-political-speech-and-political-money/2011/06/28/AGVX0mpH\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/a-supreme-court-win-for-political-speech-and-political-money/2011/06/28/AGVX0mpH_story.html)



## **Oriana Fallaci** (June 29, 1929—September 15, 2006)

**Rage and Pride** 30 Sept 2001

**Rage, Pride, and Doubt** 13 March 2003

**Prophet of Decline** interview by Tunku Varadarajan, 23 June 2005

**The Enemy We Treat Like A Friend** 23 July 2005

**Oriana Fallaci and the War Against Islamofascism** speech by David Horowitz, 29 Nov 2005

## **The importance of college: A self-fulfilling prophecy**

by *Daniel Indiviglio*, 27 June 2011

...So why is there demand for education if it's so unnecessary? Because make no mistake: employers do want smart employees. You don't want to hire someone to whom you have to explain something three times before he or she gets it. Or worse, you don't want to hire someone who will never be able to grasp that thing, due to inferior reasoning ability. As a result, a college degree has become a proxy for determining whether a job applicant has a minimum level of intelligence necessary to perform a job. But with many private college educations exceeding \$120,000 these days, that's a pretty expensive means for identifying adequate intelligence.

Unfortunately, this may describe all a college degree has become. There was a time when a high school degree served this purpose. But when high school standards declined and college became more popular, some applicants stood out above others as being more educated and potentially smarter than those with only a high school diploma. If the trend keeps up, however, a time will come when a college degree isn't enough either: masters degrees will be commonly sought, as the value of college degrees fall to be worth as little high school degrees are today, since so many applicants will have them. If this trend keeps up forever, perhaps we'll one day have locksmiths with PhD's.

At some point, we have to ask when the madness will stop. As college gets deemed more and more essential, it also gets more and more expensive...

**More:** <http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2011/06/the-importance-of-college-a-self-fulfilling-prophecy/241092/>

## **Bachmann vindicates Daniels**

by *Don John*, 28 June 2011

Michele Bachmann is **doing** exactly what Mitch Daniels advocated in his CPAC speech in January. But in Daniels' case, Rush Limbaugh and others *had a cow* and called him a RINO. Does that make Bachmann a RINO, too?

"...Though she is well-known for her staunch, socially conservative views, the three-term congresswoman avoided mentioning in her announcement speech hot-button issues like abortion and gay marriage, which have played central roles in the Iowa discourse during past presidential cycles.

Instead, Bachmann focused her remarks almost entirely on the nation's economic woes, as she made the case for a return to the simple tenets of spending cuts and a return to the libertarian-leaning values that she suggested had defined the country's foundation..."

## Mainstream media covers up horrifying Obama mistake

by Michael Barone, 28 June 2011

<http://washingtonexaminer.com/blogs/b>

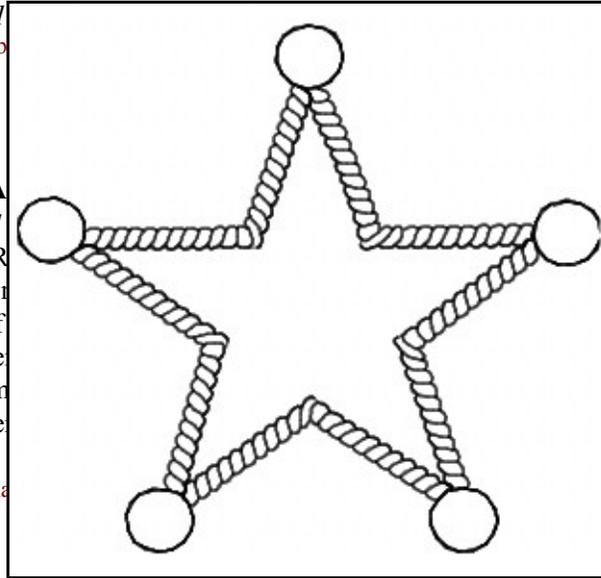
### Britain's 'subversive' Archbishop

by Mark D. Tooley, 24 June 2011

Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, during the 1980s, *The Telegraph* reported that the British government's trimming of the Church of England's secularism was an aesthetic rather than a pastoral move.

The Church of England's secularism is more of an aesthete than a pastor. His long-time secularism, however, has furthered the Heavenly good sense, have furthered the theology...

**What a moonbat:** <http://frontpagemag.com>



[http://washingtonexaminer.com/blogs/b](#) ng-obama-mistake

Britain's internal security service public denunciation of the affluence and indignation." union, is more professor and h from earthly reality and a schism regarding sex and

"I prefer the company of those who are proud of their country, and proud of their religion—the African Americans have it right, the American Liberal Jews are wrong; there is neither beauty, utility nor safety in identification with one's oppressors. Liberalism is a religion. Its tenets cannot be proved, its capacity for waste and destruction demonstrated. But it affords a feeling of spiritual rectitude at little or no cost. Central to this religion is the assertion that evil does not exist, all conflict being attributed to a lack of understanding between the opposed."

—David Mamet, *The Secret Knowledge* (2011)

## The Flotilla of Fools off to Gaza

by Phyllis Chesler, 23 June 2011

...European and North American activists, journalists, and mercenaries have set sail—or are about to do so—on fifteen boats with passengers from twenty-two mainly Western countries to “break the Israeli blockade of Gaza.” Spurred on by the anti-Potemkin Village images of Palestinian Arabs living in wretched refugee hovels, fenced in by an allegedly “apartheid” Israeli wall, oppressed by “Nazi” Israeli soldiers for “racist” reasons (and not because the Palestinian leadership practices both Islamic gender and religious apartheid as well as terrorism)—the Good People are sailing to the rescue... They say they plan to “non-violently” “provoke” Israel into a forbidden display of self-defense...

...These self-styled activists and presumed anti-racists are slumming, partying, cruising for cheap thrills and even cheaper publicity. They yearn for cut-rate, no “burn” glory. They are ultimate conformists, careerists, “making their bones,” adding to their activist resumes by sticking it to the Jews. This is meant to prove that they are brave and principled.

In essence, they are engaged in a highly self-destructive form of political theatre: they are concretely manipulating symbols in the same way that Osama bin Laden did on 9/11. In the name of “caring,” these activists are surrendering to the most dangerous totalitarian and misogynist Islamist regime—but in the name of “freedom” and “justice.”

It is something that Orwell would appreciate. The flotilla activists do not care about the facts on the ground, they refuse to understand that **Gaza is filled with luxury** hotels, office buildings, palatial villas, nightclubs, beach clubs, and well-stocked markets. They focus only on the artificially maintained poverty-stricken areas, and not on the true reasons for it: namely, that the Arab and the Palestinian leadership have spent more than 60 years milking the West of both its guilt and its money on behalf of this single falsely created refugee population.

Novelist and poet Alice Walker is also on board the *The Audacity of Hope*. She has been giving interviews and

publishing op-ed pieces about her upcoming flotilla folly...

**Read on:** <http://frontpagemag.com/2011/06/23/the-flotilla-of-fools-sets-sail-to-gaza/>

## "We Don't Estimate Speeches"

by Yuval Levin, 27 June 2011 (July 4 issue)

On June 22, the Congressional Budget Office released its annual "Long-Term Budget Outlook." To call the document grim would be a grave understatement. It describes a massive wave of debt that threatens very soon to drown us—and that, thanks to the weak economy and the continuing growth of spending, is coming at us very fast.

In last year's outlook, which was alarming enough, the CBO projected that our national debt would be 91 percent of GDP in 2021. The agency now says debt will be 101 percent of GDP in 2021—that is, a decade from now our debt will be larger than our economy, and still growing quickly. By 2030, CBO projects debt will top 150 percent of the economy, and by 2037 it will be 200 percent and growing. At that point, the federal government would be spending almost a tenth of the nation's GDP on interest payments alone, up from 1 percent today.

No nation could prosper under such a massive burden of debt...

...But rather than propose an alternative of their own, or take the Republican budget as an invitation to negotiate, Democrats have demagogued the Republican plan—scaring seniors about a Medicare reform that would not even affect them, for instance—and have otherwise offered nothing.

The Democratic Senate has not proposed a budget in either of the last two years. In February, President Obama offered a budget that would actually *increase* the deficit. Then in a speech in April he essentially retracted it, and offered in its place a vague and incoherent series of policy goals that left Democrats with no particular agenda. On June 23, at a hearing of the Budget Committee, CBO director Douglas Elmendorf was asked what his agency made of the proposals in that presidential address. "We don't estimate speeches," he said. "We need much more specificity than was provided in that speech."

Republicans have no way to force the Democrats to be more specific and to take the crisis seriously. But they are doing their best to use the fight over raising the government's debt ceiling—a fight the Democrats cannot avoid—to compel some responsible action...

**Read the rest:** [http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/we-don-t-estimate-speeches\\_575542.html](http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/we-don-t-estimate-speeches_575542.html)

## Obama's environmentalists destroy marine environment

by Humberto Fontova, 24 June 2011

The most prolific marine ecosystem on earth is being systematically destroyed on orders of the U.S. Department of the Interior. Where the BP oil spill failed miserably, Obama's Dept. of the Interior now triumphs...

...Accidentally drop your boat anchor over coral off the Florida coast and you'll be fined up to \$25,000 pursuant to federal regulations. Catch and keep a Gag Grouper, Amberjack or more than 2 Red Snapper per fishing trip in any U.S. federal waters and you'll be fined \$600 per fish, pursuant to federal regulations.

Yet endangered coral in the Gulf of Mexico is being blown up, blow-torched, and winched out of the Gulf by the ton to bleach in scrapyards — as *mandated* by federal regulations. Tons of Red Snapper, Grouper, Amberjack and thousands of other "endangered" or "threatened" fish species are being dynamited in the Gulf of Mexico and left as shark-chum—as *mandated* by the same federal regulations. Most of these "facilities," you see, are "dismantled" with explosives detonated around their legs below the Gulf floor. Behold the usual **collateral damage here**.

"It smells like death here," said Texas fishing captain Brent Casey about a Gulf coast scrapyards piled with sections of dismantled oil platforms. "I wish you could see these 75-foot piles of metal covered in coral. It's just insane. Forty years of habitat — gone."

Not exactly "gone." After the production of endangered fish stops and the endangered coral is sandblasted off, the habitat is mostly sold as scrap metal to China, as reported by David Sikes of the *The Corpus Christi Caller-Times*.

So, where are the greenies on this, you ask? They're with the despoilers...

**More:** <http://frontpagemag.com/2011/06/24/obama%e2%80%99s-environmentalists-destroy-marine-environment/>

These black "youths" need to be made aware of the consequences of their crimes. They're turning America into a battlefield in a new civil war, where everyone's uniform is his skin color. **This cannot possibly turn out well for black**

people. Wise leaders like Allen West, Herman Cain, Condi Rice, Thomas Sowell, Walter E. Williams, and Star Parker should explain this to them.

## **Peorians living in fear**

26 June 2011

This eye-witness account is from Paul Wilkinson, president of the Altamont Park Neighborhood Association.

<http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:IHzJ2PFQcMEJ:peoriachronicle.com/+http://peoriachronicle.com/&cd=1&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=us&source=www.google.com>

## **Teenage gang charged under lynching law after 'savage attack on 18-year-old student'**

by Fiona Roberts, 26 June 2011

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2008252/Teenage-gang-charged-lynching-law-savage-attack-18-year-old-student.html>

## **Ann Coulter calls *New York Times* 'America's greatest newspaper'**

Daily Caller, 23 June 2011

<http://dailycaller.com/2011/06/22/ann-coulter-calls-new-york-times-americas-greatest-newspaper/>

Hillary Clinton's valet (Anthony Weiner's wife) is up to her ears in IslamoNazi connections. And all the useful idiots—including Hillary—refuse to see it.

## **The dark Muslim Brotherhood world of Huma Abedin**

by Walid Shoebat and Jamie Glazov, 24 June 2011

<http://frontpagemag.com/2011/06/24/the-dark-muslim-brotherhood-world-of-huma-abedin/>

## **Class-action sanity**

Wal-Mart wins — and workers do, too.

Chicago Tribune editorial, 24 June 2011

The U.S. Supreme Court decision Monday in a case alleging sex-discrimination at Wal-Mart prompted a predictable reaction over the course of the week: Big business won, workers lost.

Not so. The ruling will restore the integrity of the class-action legal system, but it will not deny wronged workers their day in court.

...The court did not determine whether women who worked for Wal-Mart faced discrimination in hiring or promotions. Rather, it determined that *this case* over-reached in pooling a broad class of alleged victims.

That leaves a legal path for smaller groups of women who, say, worked in the same store, to bring litigation over alleged discrimination. The court still says it's OK to unite plaintiffs who have common interests. It is not OK to lump together every woman who has worked at Wal-Mart since 1998. The attorneys who brought the case say they will continue to pursue some cases...

**More:** <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/editorials/ct-edit-walmart-20110624,0,1393641.story>

## **Obama's (e)con job**

by Colin McNickle, 26 June 2011

The White House is bending over backward to insist that it's not bending over forward sound economic policy. But that defies credulity...

**Read all about it** [http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/opinion/s\\_743796.html](http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/opinion/s_743796.html)

## **Egypt: Christian girls kidnapped and 'sold'**

by Raymond Ibrahim, 24 June 2011

...What will become of Christine and Nancy? Since the exorbitant ransom will likely not be raised, will the teenage girls be killed—like the Christian Iraqi youth who was recently **beheaded** when his family couldn't ransom him from his abductors? Probably not; as females, their lot is to be raped, enslaved, and sold off to some rich, sexually-depraved man who believes it his divine right to own infidel sex-slaves.

Therefore, next time you hear about an Egyptian Muslim preacher boasting that Islam permits Muslims to **abduct and ransom infidels** as a great way to make a living and own female sex-slaves, or when you hear about a Kuwaiti political activist praying to Allah that Kuwait would formally **institutionalize sex-slavery**, do not brush these aside as mere words, for here are their fruits.

**A poisonous "culture":** <http://frontpagemag.com/2011/06/24/egypt-christian-girls-kidnapped-and-%e2%80%98sold%e2%80%99-2/>

## The facts about fracking

The real risks of the shale gas revolution, and how to manage them.

*Wall Street Journal editorial, 25 June 2011*

...As recently as 2000, shale gas was 1% of America's gas supplies; today it is 25%. Prior to the shale breakthrough, U.S. natural gas reserves were in decline, prices exceeded \$15 per million British thermal units, and investors were building ports to import liquid natural gas. Today, proven reserves are the highest since 1971, prices have fallen close to \$4 and ports are being retrofitted for LNG exports.

The shale boom is also reviving economically suffering parts of the country, while offering a new incentive for manufacturers to stay in the U.S. Pennsylvania's Department of Labor and Industry estimates fracking in the Marcellus shale formation, which stretches from upstate New York through West Virginia, has created 72,000 jobs in the Keystone State between the fourth quarter of 2009 and the first quarter of 2011.

The Bakken formation, along the Montana-North Dakota border, is thought to hold four billion barrels of oil (the biggest proven estimate outside Alaska), and the drilling boom helps explain North Dakota's unemployment rate of 3.2%, the nation's lowest.

All of this growth has inevitably attracted critics, notably environmentalists and their allies. They've launched a media and political assault on hydraulic fracturing, and their claims are raising public anxiety. So it's a useful moment to separate truth from fiction in the main allegations against the shale revolution...

**Read it all:** <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702303936704576398462932810874.html>

## Speechworld vs. Realworld

The widening gulf between Obama's rhetoric and reality.

by Mark Steyn, 25 June 2011

...If we hadn't been assured by the *New York Times* that this man is the Greatest Orator of All Time, there would be something offensive in the leader of the Brokest Nation in History bragging that we're not the guys to shirk a challenge, however grueling and demanding it may be, no sirree. The salient feature of America in the Age of Obama is a failed government class institutionally committed to living beyond its means, and a citizenry too many of whom are content to string along. Remember Peggy Joseph of Sarasota, Fla.? "I never thought this day would ever happen," she gushed after an Obama rally in 2008. "I won't have to worry about putting gas in my car. I won't have to worry about paying my mortgage." Is Peggy really the gal you'd want to hike a steep hill with?

In Speechworld, nation-building can be done through flatulent rhetoric. In Realworld, nations are built by people, and in America the productive class is battered and reeling. Obama wasted a trillion dollars on a phony stimulus that stimulated nothing but government, and wants to try it one mo' time. That's what yokes "nation-building" near and far. According to the World Bank, the Western military/aid presence now accounts for 97 percent of Afghanistan's GDP. The bit that's left doesn't function, not least because it doesn't need to. How can, say, Helmand develop an economic base when everybody with a whit of sense is making massively inflated salaries as a translator for the Yanks or a security guard for some EU outreach project? When the 97 percent revenue tide recedes with the American withdrawal, what's left will be the same old 3 percent ugly tribal dump Afghanistan was a decade ago. It will leave as little trace as the Obama stimulus...

**Read it all:** <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/270460/speechworld-vs-realworld-mark-steyn>

## Obama's Thomas L. Friedman moment

by Matt Welch, 24 June 2011

...Like all **vacuous Thomas L. Friedman metaphors**, "**nation building at home**" dissolves long before contact with reality. After all, the president is *not* advocating "**the use of armed force in the aftermath of a conflict to underpin an enduring transition to democracy**." Whatever policy emanates from this soundbite will likely *not* be "characterised by massive investment, military occupation, transitional government, and the use of propaganda to communicate governmental policy." At least we hope.

The phrase is even more inapt than inaccurate—we do not need, and in any case cannot afford, the federal government going on a militarized spending binge to magically rebuild our civil and public institutions...

...If the *rebuild-our-infrastructure* vow sounds familiar, that's because Barack Obama has been demanding we do precisely that since **campaigning for president**, being **elected president**, pushing through a **\$787 billion stimulus package** in early 2009, announcing a **\$50 billion infrastructure-building plan** in September 2010, making his 2011 **State of the Union address**, and on and on. Why, it's almost as if his repeated promises to stimulate the economy by rebuilding infrastructure results in precisely neither of those things happening!

There are plenty of **tangible ideas** about how to better build, maintain, and improve the country's decaying infrastructure; see **Puerto Rico Governor Luis Fortuño** for multiple **examples**. But if history is any guide, preference for vacuous political sloganeering is inversely proportional to the willingness to figure out the nuts and bolts of getting difficult things done...

**More:** <http://reason.com/blog/2011/06/24/obamas-thomas-l-friedman-momen>

## Those graphic new cigarette labels won't help, psychology says

Valerie Ross, 24 June 2011

Starting in September 2012, the FDA will require every pack of cigarettes sold in the US to be emblazoned with a large, text-and-image health warning, similar to the labels already seen in Canada, the United Kingdom, Brazil, and several other countries. The FDA **unveiled the nine label designs** earlier this week; several are **quite graphic**, including photos of cancerous lungs and lips and a man exhaling smoke through his tracheotomy hole.

These graphic images, however, may not be an effective way to get smokers to quit, or deter new smokers from starting. Several neuroscience and psychology studies show that these fear tactics have little effect—and may at times do more harm than good...

**More:** [http://blogs.discovermagazine.com/80beats/2011/06/24/those-graphic-new-cigarette-labels-wont-help-psychology-says/?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+80beats+%2880beats%29](http://blogs.discovermagazine.com/80beats/2011/06/24/those-graphic-new-cigarette-labels-wont-help-psychology-says/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+80beats+%2880beats%29)

## Runaway Agency

National Review editorial, 22 June 2011

...Such anti-democratic initiatives are dear to the heart of America's union bosses, whose power is declining along with union membership, as is the income they derive from forced union dues. Their numbers are declining because they have been extraordinarily successful in organizing capital-intensive industries such as steel and automobile manufacturing, and then destroying them, driving jobs and investment overseas to more investment-friendly climes. (And "investment-friendly" does not mean "low wage"; does Nagoya look poorer than Detroit to you?)

None of this should be surprising. When President Obama installed labor radical Craig Becker, formerly the top lawyer for the Service Employees International Union (a key Obama ally), at the NLRB, it was obvious that the administration intended to fundamentally reshape our labor laws — without ever holding a vote in Congress.

Taken alongside such abuses as targeting Boeing for having the audacity to expand its operations in a right-to-work state, the NLRB is the very picture of a runaway agency pursuing a narrow, partisan political policy rather than any legitimate public mandate. The increasing radicalization of the NLRB invites a proportional response — a national right-to-work law would be an appropriate remedy...

**Appalling details:** <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/270200/runaway-agency-editors>

## Follower in Chief

Lead? President Obama would prefer not to.

by *Fred Barnes, 27 June 2011 issue*

...On almost every major issue since he took office in January 2009, Obama has dumped responsibility on someone else, merely paid lip service, or let the issue quietly fade away. Just this year, the issues that have gotten the no-leadership treatment from Obama include: the deficit, the debt, Medicare, Social Security, Medicaid, energy, corporate taxes, medical liability, immigration, and Libya...

...Why is Obama so leadership averse? For one thing, it gives him flexibility since he's not tied irrevocably to what congressional Democrats come up with. And it limits his accountability. He's free to attack Republican proposals without attaching himself to an alternative that Republicans could attack.

Obama is comfortable talking about a range of issues. But more often than not he adopts a vague or equivocal position (or no position at all) and fails to lean on Congress to take action. Obama has frequently advocated a cut in the corporate tax rate this year, for example, then done nothing to achieve it...

**More:** [http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/follower-chief\\_574848.html](http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/follower-chief_574848.html)

## **Obama's oily desperation**

by *Ross Kaminsky, 24 June 2011*

...The minuscule potential economic benefit from a temporary addition of supply to the oil market will be more than offset by the further retrenching of American business into a defensive cocoon as it aims to wait out the reign of the most economically incompetent president since FDR.

Of all the misguided policies implemented during the Obama Administration, this release of oil from our Strategic Petroleum Reserves is the most puzzling and the most representative of its utter cluelessness about markets, business, and economics. It sends multiple wrong messages. The little that it might accomplish will be temporary. And the longer-term response by markets and businessmen will be more than an equal and opposite reaction.

**Read the rest:** <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/06/24/obamas-oily-desperation#>

## **Asking voters for ID is not a race issue**

by *Mary Kate Cary, 24 June 2011*

So I was sick last week and went to the emergency room, where I had to show ID before I was seen by a doctor; he thought it might be appendicitis and sent me for a CT scan. Again, I had to show ID before being scanned. (By the way, I'm fine, just a bad stomach bug.) As I think about it, over the last month I've had to show ID to rent a car, fly on a plane, and get a hotel room. I've been asked for ID at the grocery store in order to buy a six-pack of beer, at office buildings in Washington so I could get past the lobby security guard, and at the bank to get a cash withdrawal. We all know what a hassle it is to have your wallet stolen—it's not that the canceling of the credit cards is so bad, it's the losing of the ID that makes it a crisis. These days, you have to show your ID for just about everything...

**Continue:** <http://www.usnews.com/opinion/blogs/mary-kate-cary/2011/06/24/asking-voters-for-id-is-not-a-race-issue>

## **Obama vs. ATMs: why technology doesn't destroy jobs**

Doing more with less is what economic growth is all about. .

by *Russell Roberts, 22 June 2011*

The story goes that Milton Friedman was once taken to see a massive government project somewhere in Asia. Thousands of workers using shovels were building a canal. Friedman was puzzled. Why weren't there any excavators or any mechanized earth-moving equipment? A government official explained that using shovels created more jobs. Friedman's response: "Then why not use spoons instead of shovels?"...

**Read on:** [http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304070104576399704275939640.html?mod=WSJ\\_Opinion\\_LEADTop](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304070104576399704275939640.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEADTop)

Professor Naomi Oreskes is a boob.

## **Science and smear merchants**

by *S. Fred Singer, 21 June 2011*

## Reverend Wright brings his anti-American crusade to Baltimore

by *Marta Mossburg*, 21 June 2011

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/opinion/oped/bs-ed-mossburg-wright-20110621,0,1855821.column>

## Geert Wilders Acquitted

by *Mark Steyn*, 23 June 2011

Geert Wilders has been acquitted of all charges at his show trial in Amsterdam...

**More:** <http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/270312/geert-wilders-acquitted-mark-steyn>

## Geert Wilders Walks

by *Baron Bodissey*, 23 June 2011

<http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/06/geert-wilders-walks.html#more>

## Inflation climbs to 3.6% in May. Palin was right!

by *Howard Richman & Raymond Richman*, 23 June 2011

Back in November, Governor Palin took on QE2 and President Obama's defense of it. Her predictions have turned out to be correct. When making her case against QE2, she argued that it could cause inflation, but would not much help U.S. net exports and business investment, the two factors needed to grow the U.S. economy...

...Indeed, so far Palin has been correct. QE2's effect upon net exports appears to have been temporary. Although U.S. net exports worsened more slowly in November and December, they resumed their economy-sapping slide in February, as shown in the graph below...

...The mainstream media pretend that Palin is stupid. But she is actually blessed with a very rare commodity these days—economic common sense. She is the only potential presidential candidate currently advocating the three basic principles that would restore economic stability and long-term growth to the American economy...

**More:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/06/inflation\\_climbs\\_to\\_36\\_in\\_may\\_palin\\_was\\_right.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/06/inflation_climbs_to_36_in_may_palin_was_right.html)

## All the biased news they see fit to print

by *Michael Goodwin*, 22 June 2011

...Having grown up at the Times under the great Abe Rosenthal, I find it appalling that Keller has so little regard for the standards that were the true mark of professionalism. Taking over eight years ago after the tumultuous tenure of Howell Raines, Keller is a reluctant leader. He was effectively voted into the job by the staff, and exercised a light touch.

With reporters and other editors free to default to their own beliefs instead of the facts, the opinions in the news stories often made the editorial and op-ed pages redundant. No wonder the Times is often called the propaganda arm of the Democratic Party.

But the Keller Times didn't just promote liberalism. It became overtly partisan and routinely attacked conservatives and Republicans in its national news coverage, often stretching to score a point for its team. Thus, a television critic could describe a gigolo in a pornographic show as having "bleached blond hair and a Boehner-orange tan."

Other smears were on the front page, such as the innuendo-laden attack on John McCain's relationship with a lobbyist during the 2008 campaign. That article connects with a straight partisan line to the recent hit piece on Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and now Keller's piece on Palin.

On the other side, the fawning coverage of Obama is cringe-inducing, given his record and the nation's problems...

**Read the rest:** [http://www.nypost.com/p/news/national/bucking\\_disaster\\_4Z0IGsUckO2dBVfVDYvYxN](http://www.nypost.com/p/news/national/bucking_disaster_4Z0IGsUckO2dBVfVDYvYxN)

## Mixing up Mamet, Hayek, Hitchens, and Sowell

by Christopher Chantrill, 21 June 2011

[http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/06/mixing\\_up\\_mamet\\_hayek\\_hitchens\\_and\\_sowell.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/06/mixing_up_mamet_hayek_hitchens_and_sowell.html)

### A phony tale of woe

*Investor's Business Daily* editorial, 22 June 2011

The story currently making the rounds about the guy who robbed a bank for \$1 to get free jailhouse health care is supposed to expose how terrible our medical system is. It actually exposes something worse...

...There's just one little, inconvenient fact missing from all this coverage. Verone had access to free care — outside of jail — and plenty of it. The dirty secret about our health care system is that it is, in fact, very generous to the poor. A recent study from the N.C. Justice Center notes that North Carolina hospitals provided \$694 million in free care in 2008.

Nationwide, hospitals provide more than \$34 billion in unpaid care. Then there are all the private charities, Medicaid, and various other state and federal programs that offer the poor and destitute access to care.

A hospital in Gastonia, N.C., — Gaston Memorial Hospital — offers discounts up to 100% to low-income patients. There's also a free health clinic just five miles from where Verone robbed that bank, and many more in nearby Charlotte.

If he wanted to travel a bit farther, Verone could have availed himself of the state-of-the-art medical facilities at the University of North Carolina, whose mandate is to provide "medically necessary health care to the citizens of North Carolina, regardless of their ability to pay."...

**More:** <http://www.investors.com/NewsAndAnalysis/Article/576074/201106211840/A-Phony-Tale-Of-Woe.htm>

Bing West is the author, most recently, of *The Wrong War: Grit, Strategy and the Way Out of Afghanistan*. He served as an assistant secretary of defense in the Reagan administration and was a Marine infantry officer in Vietnam.

### The real question: How to achieve Afghanization

by Bing West, 22 June 2011

<http://www.cnn.com/2011/OPINION/06/22/west.afghanistan.draw.down/>

### To avoid double-dip recession, remember lessons of 1980s

by Amity Shlaes, 20 June 2011

Is our economy headed back into a recession? A look at a past double-dip, the recessions of 1980 and of 1981-1982, suggests we are due. That double-dip also suggests the Federal Reserve should raise interest rates earlier and faster than you might think.

In fact, the 1980s experience points to something horrible: We need a recession to get a true recovery...

**Read on:** <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-06-20/to-avoid-double-dip-recession-remember-lessons-of-1980s-echoes.html>

### The 'Jim Crow' Lie

How could asking for ID be discriminatory only when it comes to voting?

by James Taranto, 21 June 2011

...Today railroads and hotels, along with almost all providers of public accommodations in almost all circumstances, are prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race. So what happens when you ride on Amtrak, the government-subsidized railroad? You hear an announcement over the PA system advising you to be prepared to show your identification if the conductor asks to see it.

Likewise, these days there is a good chance you will be asked for identification when you check into a hotel. You need ID to board an airplane or to drive a car. Recently we visited a doctor whose office is in a hospital. Just to enter the premises, we needed to present ID to a security guard.

If black people have trouble producing identification, how come nobody ever claims that these requirements are discriminatory?

Another important aspect of civil rights is equal employment opportunity. Under the 1986 immigration law, when

you are hired for a job, you are required to provide your employer with documents proving both your identity and your citizenship or legal residency. How come nobody ever claims these requirements discriminate against blacks?...

**More:** [http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304520804576343410729769144.html?mod=WSJ\\_Opinion\\_LEADTop](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304520804576343410729769144.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEADTop)

## **Is Jon Stewart correct that Fox News viewers are "the most consistently misinformed media viewers"?**

*by Nick Gillespie, 21 June 2011*

<http://reason.com/blog/2011/06/21/is-jon-stewart-correct-that-fo>

## **Here Come the Extremists!**

*by Mona Charen, 21 June 2011*

It isn't quite panic yet, but the sounds emanating from Obamaland are certainly nervous. If you are David Axelrod, chief strategist for President Obama's re-election campaign, you are well aware of your idol's fall and doubtless less than thrilled to get this question from CNN's Candy Crowley:

"Something that the president said this week struck me ... he said it's not as cool to be an Obama supporter as it was in 2008... I think he's right. I think it's not as cool to be an Obama supporter now. How do you get cool back into this?"

Gee, how do you compare a campaign that was based entirely on vapid promises and vaporous sentiment with a referendum on actual job performance? Axelrod denied (unconvincingly) that the 2008 campaign had been a "cult of personality" and assured Crowley that once the campaign gets "fully engaged and the choices become clear, you are going to see a great deal of activity out there on his behalf." In a signal of just how feeble the case for Obama's re-election is, Axelrod fell back on the bogeyman...

**Read the rest:** <http://patriotpost.us/opinion/mona-charen/2011/06/21/here-come-the-extremists/>

## **The Accountable Care fiasco**

Even the models for health reform hate the new HHS rule.

*Wall Street Journal editorial, 19 June 2011*

...And no wonder, since the 429-page rule is a classic of top-down micromanagement. ACOs will need to comply with a kitchen sink of 65 clinical measures that are meant to produce efficiencies, like reducing infections or ensuring that patients take their medications after hospital discharge. If care at an ACO costs less than Medicare predicts it will cost under the status quo, then the ACO will receive a share of the savings as a bonus payment. The rule also includes financial penalties if an ACO misses its targets.

Incredibly, the ACO teams won't know in advance which patients they're supposed to manage. Seniors will be "retrospectively assigned" to an ACO at the end of every year, based on an arbitrary algorithm, for the purposes of calculating costs.

Think about that one: The Geisinger model works because Geisinger patients are treated by Geisinger physicians. Yet this rule is written to ensure that seniors can take "advantage of the full range of benefits to which they are entitled under the Medicare FFS program, including the right to choose between healthcare providers and care settings." So ACOs are going to transform health care, but individual patients don't need to be part of the transformation if they don't feel like it.

Oh, and HHS reserves the right to conduct site visits and audits and "to inspect all books, contracts, records, documents, and other evidence" to ensure that health systems are complying with the ACO rule. The mystery is why even 7% say they'll participate...

**More:** [http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304520804576343410729769144.html?mod=WSJ\\_Opinion\\_LEADTop](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304520804576343410729769144.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEADTop)

## **A 'Fast and Furious' border fiasco**

*by Michael A. Walsh, 20 June 2011*

There's a war along the Mexican border all right, but it's not necessarily the one you're thinking of. In fact, this one

has spread all the way to the halls of Congress.

This week, the Obama administration is expected to fire Kenneth Melson, the acting head of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives—tossing him under the bus as a symbolic gesture to a congressional committee headed by Rep. Daryl Issa (R-Calif.). Issa's Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is investigating an insane ATF operation—a supposed sting that involved the deliberate funneling of thousands of weapons to ultra-violent Mexican drug cartels...

**It gets worse:** [http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/opedcolumnists/fast\\_and\\_furious\\_border\\_fiasco\\_TJPBzp26firXjfdeZitzpL](http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/opedcolumnists/fast_and_furious_border_fiasco_TJPBzp26firXjfdeZitzpL)

## Whirling economics

As panic sets in, Obama spins from one vague idea to another.

by *John E. Sununu, 20 June 2011*

...It's difficult to get excited about an economic program that contains proposals like "make it easier to visit the US through improved visa processes." Expanding tourism is wonderful, but is this the best they can do? The banality of the recommendations only reinforces the view that, for the White House, this is an exercise in public relations.

Another idea was to "put construction workers back to work." Why not just recommend "put everyone back to work" and be done with it?...A third idea, labeled "streamline permitting," actually used the phrase "cut red tape." Did it really take three months to come up with that? And would it be too much to ask for the council to say which pieces of red tape they wish to cut? When Republicans suggest cutting red tape, they are usually accused of wanting to poison children or resurrect the robber barons...

...The truth is that the role of government isn't to create jobs; it's to create an environment where entrepreneurs, businesses, and investors can make investments that create new opportunities for others. Yet elected officials, most with little private-sector experience, have a hard time seeing the difference between policy that creates a good environment and policy that simply subsidizes a particular behavior. The two are not created equal...

**More:** [http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/editorial\\_opinion/oped/articles/2011/06/20/obamas\\_whirling\\_dervish\\_economic\\_policy/](http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/editorial_opinion/oped/articles/2011/06/20/obamas_whirling_dervish_economic_policy/)

## Extinguishing the lights all over Europe

by *Baron Bodissey, 16 June 2011*

A few days ago the Dutch Defence League was **forced to fold** after the authorities in the Netherlands told it that they could no longer guarantee the safety of the leaders of the DDL.

Last night Tommy Robinson, the leader of the English Defence League, was "fitted up" with a new set of bogus police charges. This stratagem was designed to put him out of action during the long hot summer, since the conditions of his bail included a **ban on all EDL-related activities**.

So this is what it has come down to in Europe. The authorities are desperate, and getting more desperate every day.

All other methods have failed, so the gloves are off, and we are seeing the police state in action. There's no more pretense about the rule of law, no more democratic process, just straightforward totalitarian repression...

**More:** <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/06/extinguishing-lights-all-over-europe.html#more>

## Victory on Okinawa

*April 1 to June 21, 1945*



*The aircraft carrier USS Bunker Hill, after being hit by two kamikaze planes within 30 seconds on May 11. Very heavily damaged, she was repaired in the U.S. and remained afloat (in various classifications) until 1973.*

The Battle of Okinawa, codenamed Operation Iceberg, was fought on the Ryukyu Islands of Okinawa and was the largest amphibious assault in the Pacific War. The 82-day-long battle lasted from early April until mid-June, 1945.

The battle has been referred to as the "Typhoon of Steel" in English, and tetsu no ame ("rain of steel") or tetsu no bōfū ("violent wind of steel") in Japanese. The nicknames refer to the ferocity of the fighting, the intensity of gunfire involved, and to the sheer numbers of Allied ships and armored vehicles that assaulted the island. The battle resulted in one of the highest number of casualties of any World War II engagement. Japan lost over 100,000 troops, and the Allies suffered more than 50,000 casualties. Simultaneously, more than 100,000 civilians (12,000 in action) were killed, wounded, or committed suicide. Approximately one-quarter of the civilian population died due to the invasion. Five divisions of the U.S. Tenth Army, the 7th, 27th, 77th, 81st, and 96th, and two Marine Divisions, the 1st and 6th, fought on the island while the 2nd Marine Division remained as an amphibious reserve and was never brought ashore. The invasion was supported by naval, amphibious, and tactical air forces.

The main objective of the operation was to seize a large island only 340 miles away from mainland Japan. After a long campaign of island hopping, the Allies were approaching Japan, and planned to use Okinawa as a base for air operations on the planned invasion of Japanese mainland, coded Operation Downfall...

**Much more:** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Okinawa\\_campaign](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Okinawa_campaign)

**National Archives footage, described by E.B. Sledge (National Museum of the Marine Corps)**

**WWII: Battle of Okinawa** slideshow by *Life* magazine

**U.S. military on the Battle of Okinawa**

**Operation Iceberg Operational Documents** Combined Arms Research Library, Fort Leavenworth KS

**Oral history interview: Mike Busha, a member of the 6th Marine Division during the Battle of Okinawa**

**Oral history interview: Albert D'Amico, a Navy Veteran who was aboard LST 278 during the landing**

Taxing taxes—a Democrat dream.

## **Why Obama's hometown has the highest gas prices in America**

by Ed Lasky, 19 June 2011

[http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/06/why\\_obamas\\_hometown\\_has\\_the\\_highest\\_gas\\_prices\\_in\\_america.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/06/why_obamas_hometown_has_the_highest_gas_prices_in_america.html)

## Why liberals fell for 'Muslim lesbian blogger' hoax

by Mark Steyn, 19 June 2011

Last week was a great week for lesbians coming out of the closet—coming out, that is, as middle-aged heterosexual men. On Sunday, Amina Arraf, the young vivacious Syrian lesbian activist whose inspiring blog "A Gay Girl In Damascus" had captured hearts around the world, was revealed to be, in humdrum reality, one Tom MacMaster, a 40-year-old college student from Georgia. The following day, Paula Brooks, the lesbian activist and founder of the website LezGetReal, was revealed to be one Bill Graber, a 58-year-old construction worker from Ohio. In their capacity as leading lesbians in the Sapphic blogosphere, "Miss Brooks" and "Miss Arraf" were colleagues. "Amina" had posted at LezGetReal before starting "A Gay Girl In Damascus." As one lesbian to another, they got along swimmingly.

The *Washington Post* reported: "Amina often flirted with Brooks, neither of the men realizing the other was pretending to be a lesbian."

Who knows what romance might have blossomed had not "Amina" been arrested by a squad of Baath Party goons dispatched by Syrian strongman Bashar al-Assad...

**It gets better:** <http://www.ocreger.com/opinion/lesbian-304907-amina-one.html>

## The March of the Morons

by Baron Bodissey, 17 June 2011

...For the last hundred years or so, stupidity has gained a selective advantage. I ascribe this phenomenon to the ascendance of advanced technology and the welfare states it has enabled. Intelligent people, who are more likely think carefully and plan ahead, tend to exercise prudence and have fewer children than average. Their intelligence also makes them more productive, and they are thus paying for the system that allows the rest of the population — the stupid people who fail to act with prudence — to have lots of kids.

This reverses an evolutionary trend that lasted 500,000 years or more. During the 20th century, the intelligence that was selected for over all those millennia enabled the creation of a meta-society, a "machine", if you will. That environment allowed — encouraged — unintelligent people to survive at the expense of those with high IQ. In other words, natural selection works against the likes of *us* right now.

You may object that this situation is very temporary, and you may well be right. The "machine" requires good mechanics to maintain, repair, and improve it. Such people will mostly die out within two or three generations, and the complex system they created will collapse without the intelligent folks who are necessary to keep it going.

When that time comes, the old selective pressures will reassert themselves, and intelligence will once again have survival value. However, this selection will of necessity occur amidst the smoking rubble of what used to be our civilization, within a degraded and feral remnant of what was once a great and civilized people...

**More:** <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/06/march-of-morons.html#more>

## Blame the ATM!

Obama's silly explanation for unemployment shows he has no clue on the jobs crisis.

by Kyle Smith, 19 June 2011

...What is plaguing the US economy is unrelated to the "structural problem" of too much innovation. It is a hangover from the era of federally subsidized cheap credit and the housing bubble it inflated. Households are paying down debt instead of spending, and people aren't building and flipping second houses with the expectation that they're bound to double in value in a few years.

Obama prolonged the woes by handing out subsidies for cars and houses. He discouraged business and raised gas prices with new restrictions such as his moratorium on deep-water oil drilling. His health-care law makes it more expensive for employers to hire, a fact his administration has implicitly acknowledged by granting more than 1,000 waivers from the law to businesses including McDonald's.

None of this has anything to do with technological advances. The only "structural issue" is the structure of Obama's mind, which keeps telling him to pass a law or regulation first and pick up the pieces later...

**Read the rest:** [http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/opedcolumnists/blame\\_the\\_atm\\_bYOxM7q80LsrTUBZP6TDrN](http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/opedcolumnists/blame_the_atm_bYOxM7q80LsrTUBZP6TDrN)

## Libya and the Potemkin alliance

by George F. Will, 17 June 2011

...Obama, a novel kind of commander in chief, explained in passive syntax that “it is our military that is being volunteered by others to carry out missions.” These “others” would rather finance their welfare states than their militaries, so they cannot wage war for 10 weeks without U.S. munitions and other assets.

Last month, [this column noted](#) that NATO was created in 1949 to protect Western Europe from the Soviet army; it could long ago have unfurled the “Mission Accomplished” banner; it has now become an instrument of mischief, and when the Libyan misadventure is finished, America should debate whether NATO also should be finished. Defense Secretary Robert Gates had another purpose — NATO’s revival — but he recently fueled that debate when, in Brussels, he predicted “[a dim, if not dismal future](#)” for the military alliance unless its members reinvest in their militaries.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, U.S. military spending has more than doubled, but that of NATO’s 27 other members has declined 15 percent. U.S. military spending is three times larger than the combined spending of those other members. Hence Gates warned that “there will be dwindling appetite and patience in” America for expending “increasingly precious funds on behalf of nations that are apparently unwilling to devote the necessary resources or make the necessary changes to be serious and capable partners in their own defense.” Already, U.S. officers in Afghanistan sometimes refer to the NATO command there — officially, the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) — as “I Saw Americans Fighting.”...

**More:** [http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/libya-and-the-potemkin-alliance/2011/06/17/AGdQ2UZH\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/libya-and-the-potemkin-alliance/2011/06/17/AGdQ2UZH_story.html)

Dr. Hayek made a serious attempt to clarify the true meanings of such words as *conservative*, *liberal*, *radical*, *socialist*, *progressive*, *Tory*, and *Whig*—as they'd been understood (and misunderstood) from the 1700s to 1960. But in the middle portion of the essay, seven of the characteristics he describes as "conservative" would not be recognized as such by any post-1975 conservative in the Anglosphere. See if you can spot them. They're mostly *reactionary* traits, which have as little to do with 21st century conservatism as Barack Obama & Co. have with classical liberalism.

## Why I am not a Conservative

by Friedrich Hayek in *The Constitution Of Liberty (1960)*

...This difference between liberalism and conservatism must not be obscured by the fact that in the United States it is still possible to defend individual liberty by defending long-established institutions...

**6,000 words:** [http://www.fahayek.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=46](http://www.fahayek.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=46)

## Obama, the new Caesar

President’s claim on power to besiege Libya will not stand.

by Jeffrey T. Kuhner, 16 June 2011

...By flagrantly transgressing the War Powers Act, Mr. Obama has sparked a constitutional crisis.

House Speaker John A. Boehner, Ohio Republican, is demanding that the Obama administration explain why it has passed the deadline without seeking or getting congressional approval for the Libyan campaign. The White House's response: Get lost. The administration sent a report to lawmakers defending the NATO-led Libyan war. For Mr. Obama, the War Powers Act does not apply because U.S. forces apparently are not engaged in "sustained hostilities" with troops loyal to strongman Col. Moammar Gadhafi. Moreover, U.S. air and missile strikes are only being conducted in a "supporting" role. Hence, there is no need to have congressional buy-in.

This is postmodern humanitarian interventionism. According to the liberal apparatchiks in the White House, Mr. Obama can bypass Congress simply by redefining "hostilities." War is no longer war. It is whatever Mr. Obama says it is—or isn't. George Orwell warned that the perversion of language is the first step on the dark road to authoritarianism...

...Mr. Obama may pretend that our involvement is minimal or somehow not the equivalent of a full-scale war because of the lack of ground troops. But it is shameless propaganda. Col. Gadhafi and the Libyan army consider America to be at war, as do the civilians who suffer collateral damage from NATO's missiles and bombs...

**More:** <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/jun/16/obama-the-new-caesar/>

## **Siding with the truth**

On Peter Coleman's *The Last Intellectuals*.

by David Pryce-Jones, Apr 2011

Peter Coleman is a free spirit. He was once the editor of *The Bulletin*, an Australian magazine that backed the United States in Vietnam at a moment when that mattered. Then he became editor of *Quadrant*, an Australian magazine whose main purpose was to expose Communist ideology and practice. During those fraught Cold War years, the Congress for Cultural Freedom, an organization that was official though not declared to be so, sponsored *Quadrant* as an integral part of its defense of Western and democratic values. As a result, the Congress and the magazine and everyone connected with them were subjected by the left to constant abuse. Coleman participated in the Congress, and has written forcefully about it. In one of the essays in this collection he judges the world to be a conflict between the will to power and the will to truth. He takes the side of truth....

**Continue:** <http://www.newcriterion.com/articles.cfm/Siding-with-the-truth-7021>

## **UN climate panel makes misleading claims**

by Oliver Wright, 16 June 2011

The world's foremost authority on climate change used a Greenpeace campaigner to help write one of its key reports, which critics say made misleading claims about renewable energy, The Independent has learnt...

**Climate hysterics never seem to learn:**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/climate-change/climate-change-panel-in-hot-water-again-over-biased-energy-report-2298055.html>

## **The 'declarant presidency' era must end**

by Hugh Hewitt, 13 June 2011

<http://washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/columnists/2011/06/declarant-presidency-era-must-end>

## **Thoughts on the Greek madness**

by Victor Davis Hanson, 16 June 2011

...There is no way out except either sudden or gradual default because of the complex mentality of a xenophobic Greek public that assumes expansionary entitlements as an earned birthright and would treat any who would cut them as some sort of existential enemy. That narrative works out to something like a greedy predatory northern European or American bondholder wanting to pile up even more needless profits by enforcing quite unfair and amoral terms of payback on the courageous, brave, and long-suffering Greek collective.

Once a society descends into that mindset, there is little alternative but the get-real shock therapy of default, which, in the Greek case, would return it to something like the early 1970s when I first visited: a nonconvertible, widely fluctuating drachma, a standard of living more akin to the southern Balkans or western Turkey than France or the Netherlands, a vibrant black market in money exchanges, tight controls on the possession of foreign currencies and a curtailment of imported goods, and very little new infrastructure construction or repair.

The Hellenic disease in its lesser forms is spreading here in California, where entitlements have soared, illegal immigrants have vastly increased, and pensions and benefits of public employees have skyrocketed, while investments in infrastructure were largely neglected to fund redistributive payouts — all at a time when the affluent, income-tax-paying, and job-creating minority are leaving the state. The therapeutic California attitude is similar to the Greek in which even the slightest suggestion of cutbacks evokes class-warfare and a litany of sanctimonious reasons why more, not less, public funds are critical for all sorts of victimized categories...

**Read the rest:** <http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/269768/thoughts-greek-madness-victor-davis-hanson>

## **Book: Liberal media distorts news bias**

by Paul Bedard, 16 June 2011

The liberal bias of the mainstream media tilts so far left that any outlets not in that political lane, like the Drudge Report and Fox News Channel, look far more conservative than they really are, according to a UCLA professor's new book out next month.

In a crushing body blow to the pushers of the so-called "Fox Effect," which claims the conservative media is dragging the left into the center, UCLA political science professor Tim Groseclose in *Left Turn* claims that "all" mainstream news outlets have a liberal bias in their reporting that makes even moderate organizations appear out of the mainstream and decidedly right-wing to news consumers who are influenced by the slant.

"Fox News is clearly more conservative than ABC, CBS, CNN, NBC and National Public Radio. Some will conclude that 'therefore, this means that Fox News has a conservative bias,'" he writes in an advance copy provided to Washington Whispers. "Instead, maybe it is centrist, and possibly even left-leaning, while all the others are far left. It's like concluding that six-three is short just because it is short compared to professional basketball players."...

**More:** <http://www.usnews.com/news/blogs/washington-whispers/2011/06/16/book-liberal-media-distorts-news-bias>

***Left Turn: How Liberal Media Bias Distorts the American Mind*** is due out July 19.

## Isolationist? Really?

by Jonah Goldberg, 16 June 2011

Our own Alex Della Rocchetta wrote the other day that there's a growing "isolationist" tide in America. In fairness, she was encouraged to use the term by the **Pew Research Center** and other outlets (see, for instance, **this discussion** of GOP politics and the opening for an "isolationist" candidate).

I'd like to dissent from all of this. None of the GOP contenders are isolationist. The growing popular dissatisfaction with the war in Afghanistan and the skepticism toward the Libyan adventure have very, very little to do with anything that can seriously be understood as isolationism...

**Continue:** <http://blog.american.com/2011/06/isolationist-really/>

## Libya, War Powers, and hawkish conservatives

by Stanley Kurtz, 15 June 2011

President Obama is now **arguing** that the War Powers Act does not apply to our operation in Libya because our involvement does not rise to the level of "hostilities." However the legalities may be resolved—and they are inherently ambiguous—the Libyan intervention has been mishandled, in more ways than one...

...There is something fundamentally wrong when an American president takes us to war—and that is what he has done—having paid far more attention to novel doctrines of international law than to the opinion of Congress. If there were a consensus in the country and in Congress on the Libya issue, failure to gain congressional approval would matter less. If the very purpose of the operation was not to set precedents for United Nations authority over the deployment of American military force, lack of congressional authorization would also matter far less. Combine the breadth of public skepticism about our Libyan action with the internationalist aims of the intervention, and congressional authorization becomes more important, the legalities of the War Powers Act aside...

...Our Libyan intervention is driven by an agenda that seeks to put international laws and international bodies in authority over sovereign states, on behalf of goals many Americans do not share...A Samantha Power-style action in Libya wouldn't have met with my approval five years ago either. I believe many conservatives feel the same way...

**Full column:** <http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/269713/libya-war-powers-and-hawkish-conservatives-stanley-kurtz>

## Is Carter a best case scenario?

by Walter Russell Mead, 14 June 2011

...Midway through 2010, President Obama looked less like Lincoln *redux* and more like a Clinton *manqué*. By the end of that year, the penultimate dissing of the President began; friends and foes began to ask whether President Obama might not be, gasp, the new Jimmy Carter...but increasingly there's another specter frightening the Obama administration: the ghost of Herbert Hoover...

...Hoover was the great progressive hope of his day — he had supported Teddy Roosevelt's 1912 Bull Moose campaign and was seen as much more forward looking and progressive than the party machine...

...In office, Hoover showed many of the same foreign policy instincts as President Obama. He was a strong

supporter of disarmament, focusing on naval buildups as the greatest danger of the day. He began the withdrawal of US forces his predecessors had committed in Haiti and Nicaragua, hoping to push the reset button on US relations with Latin America. He sought to avoid confrontational US statements and to downplay possible grounds for conflict. His strong humanitarian instincts (he had led efforts to relieve starving Europeans during and after World War One) made him reluctant to use force but also left him concerned about the well being of people in other countries.

But what worries — or should worry — the White House is this: despite his long record of progressive politics, his personal appeal and his sympathy for the downtrodden, President Hoover is best remembered for failing to master the Great Depression. Six months into his term, the stock market crashed; for the next three and a half years the economy continued to deteriorate. By the time of the 1932 presidential election, Hoover was so widely discredited in the minds of shell shocked voters that Franklin D. Roosevelt swept into office...

**More:** <http://blogs.the-american-interest.com/wrm/2011/06/14/is-carter-a-best-case-scenario/>

And Mr. Mead might have added that FDR actually ran on a relatively conservative platform!



**John Enoch Powell MBE** (June 16, 1912—February 8, 1998)

**Biography**

**Like the Roman, I seem to see the River Tiber foaming with much blood.** speech, 20 Apr 1968

**Churchill from the Dimension of Time** speech, 22 Oct 1988

**Enoch Was Right (video of speeches, etc.):** [Part 1](#) [Part 2](#) [Part 3](#)

**Leftist mob shuts down Chicago traffic – 24 arrested**

*by Jim Hoft, 15 June 2011*

<http://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2011/06/24-radical-leftists-arrested-at-chicago-protest/>

**Dems disconnected from economic reality; 2.5 million jobs lost during Obama's presidency (video)**

*by Jim Hoft, 15 June 2011*

The **Republican Senate Conference** highlighted the failed economic policies of the Obama Administration including the fact that the country has lost 2.5 million jobs since he moved into the White House...

**More:** <http://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2011/06/dems-disconnected-from-economic-reality-2-5-million-jobs-lost-during-obamas-presidency-video/>

## **The Roots of the Financial Crisis**

*Rush Limbaugh, 14 June 2011*

[http://www.rushlimbaugh.com/home/daily/site\\_061411/content/01125109.guest.html](http://www.rushlimbaugh.com/home/daily/site_061411/content/01125109.guest.html)

## **Wisconsin Supreme Court upholds law limiting public employee unions**

*by Thomas Lifson, 14 June 2011*

The public employee unions lose a big one, as the high court upholds the law passed by the Republican-led legislature and signed by Governor Scott Walker. Recall that this is the law that led to 14 Democrat state senators fleeing the state, and to raucous, often vulgar and destructive demonstrations in the state capitol in Madison.

Amy Merrick of the **Wall Street Journal** reports...**Fox News** reports...**Legal Insurrection's** Professor Jacobson calls it a "sweeping victory."...

**More:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/06/wisconsin\\_supreme\\_court\\_upholds\\_law\\_limiting\\_public\\_employee\\_unions.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/06/wisconsin_supreme_court_upholds_law_limiting_public_employee_unions.html)

## **I, Pencil: My Family Tree**

*as told to Leonard E. Read, December 1958*

<http://www.fee.org/library/books/i-pencil-2/>

## **Durbin, Tester, lobbyists, and the Dodd-Frank corruption machine**

*by Timothy P. Carney, 14 June 2011*

If your goal were to foster more political cronyism, reward lobbyists, entrench incumbents, enrich the politically connected, and get the revolving door spinning faster, you would have a hard time crafting a more useful piece of legislation than the Dodd-Frank financial regulation bill...

**Read on:** <http://washingtonexaminer.com/blogs/beltway-confidential/2011/06/durbin-tester-lobbyists-and-dodd-frank-corruption-machine>

## **My take on the New Hampshire debate**

*by Michael Barone, 14 June 2011*

<http://washingtonexaminer.com/blogs/beltway-confidential/2011/06/my-take-new-hampshire-debate>

## **Obama's economic experiment has failed; time to get back to what works**

*by Rep. Paul D. Ryan, 13 June 2011*

...This recovery pales in comparison to past, private-sector-led recoveries. Unemployment today has fallen by just 1 percentage point from its recessionary peak. By contrast, unemployment at the same point in the past ten recoveries dropped by an average of 5 percentage points in past recoveries. The dismal jobs record underscores the fact that the Great Recession is far from over for millions of American families. There are three main reasons why the president's policies have made this recovery weaker than usual...

...By contrast, the Republicans have put forward a plan to tackle each of these problems head-on. Our budget, which we call The Path to Prosperity, reduces regulatory uncertainty for businesses by repealing the new health care law. It reduces tax uncertainty by promoting low, stable rates and clearing out loopholes and deductions that go primarily to the well-off. And it reduces debt uncertainty by dealing with our long-term unfunded liabilities, saving Medicare from bankruptcy, and putting us on a path to pay off the debt. This debate comes down to one big philosophical difference: **Who should we put in the drivers' seat when it comes to jobs and the economy: government bureaucrats in Washington, or a vibrant private sector freed from uncertainty?**

The president's economic experiment has failed. It is time to get back to what we know works: empowering free citizens with the tools they need to prosper...

**More:** <http://www.foxnews.com/opinion/2011/06/13/obamas-economic-experiment-has-failed-time-to-get-back-to-what-works/>

## Uncertainty is not the problem

by Clifford Asness, 14 June 2011

Many commentators blame our continuing economic woes on "uncertainty." They allege that recent and anticipated dramatic policy changes make business planning difficult, and that this is retarding growth and employment. This view is not wrong—but our main problem is not the uncertainty surrounding new policies. It is the policies...

**More:** [http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304259304576375950266610760.html?mod=WSJ\\_Opinion\\_LEADTop](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304259304576375950266610760.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEADTop)

## Dems play the default card

by Stephen Moore, 12 June 2011

...Mr. Toomey has proposed legislation that is designed to make sure that there will be no default. His bill would guarantee that if the debt ceiling is not extended, bondholders would be paid first from tax revenues collected each day. This would mean that other nonessential activities of government may not get funded until an agreement were reached on the debt ceiling.

Nevertheless, Democrats on Capitol Hill and in the White House who are arguing about how dangerous a default would be are also opposing Mr. Toomey's bill to ensure that this will never happen. Economists note that the continued slide in interest rates on 10-year Treasury bonds to 3% suggests almost no market fear that default is a realistic option. If investors were truly worried about a default and a downgrading of the debt, we would see a rise in interest rates to reflect this higher risk.

House Speaker John Boehner, who's involved in the negotiations with the Obama administration, wants to cut \$1 of spending for every \$1 of debt increase. The goal is to secure \$2 trillion of savings before the August debt ceiling deadline. The first \$1 trillion reportedly has been agreed to, but the White House is balking on the second trillion in cuts.

What is going on here is a political game, says GOP Rep. Michele Bachmann of Minnesota, who's contemplating a run for president. "Democrats just don't want to cut any spending."

**More:** [http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304259304576377653874901510.html?mod=WSJ\\_Opinion\\_MIDDLESecond](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304259304576377653874901510.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_MIDDLESecond)

## The Sarah Palin I Know

by John Ziegler, 13 June 2011

...I've fought so hard for Sarah, I'm almost unemployable.

But in spite of being approached by Sarah's husband Todd only a month ago and specifically discussing the possibility, I won't be working on any Palin presidential campaign. Why? Well, first of all, contrary to what geniuses like Andrew Sullivan and Howard Dean may want you to believe, there is absolutely no way that she can be elected. I've told this to her directly; more than once. While many pundits mistakenly think what she is doing is some Trump-like PR stunt, I'm pretty convinced she is running and in doing so will damage the prospects of *any* conservative defeating Barack Obama in 2012.

These aren't my only concerns. There's also the fact that Sarah's entire operation is increasingly managed like a CIA field office; that she's adopted a bunker mentality; that she's trusting the wrong people, some of whom I know are simply exploiting her. As a result, even those most loyal to her get tossed under the bus, with little or no effort to avoid the collateral damage. Which raises the question: if people like me who would once have taken a bullet for Sarah (and at least figuratively I did many times) can't get behind her any more, what the hell happened?...

**6,000 words:** <http://dailycaller.com/2011/06/12/the-sarah-palin-i-know/print/>

## Set free our risktakers

Debt strangles the economy as regulations hamstring businesses.

by Jack Kelly, 12 June 2011

...What Mr. Obama said at the Jeep plant "is one of the most misleading collections of assertions we have found in a short presidential speech," wrote the *Washington Post's* fact checker, Glenn Kessler. "Virtually every claim made by the president concerning the auto industry deserves an asterisk, just like the fine print in that too-good-to-be-true car loan."

...Mr. Obama is spinning mightily to try to distract attention from two damning facts: The unemployment rate today is much higher than it was when he took office (in January of 2009, it was 7.6 percent), and is higher than what his chief economic adviser at the time said it might be if his stimulus package were not passed.

The stimulus bill, the auto bailouts and schemes to prop up housing have taken great gobs of money from taxpayers and transferred a fair amount of it to the president's political cronies. But the massive debt they've incurred is crippling the economy rather than helping it. Our national debt was \$10.7 trillion when Mr. Obama took office. It's \$14.29 trillion now.

Still, the president is intent upon heaping additional burdens on the private sector...

**More:** <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/11163/1152820-373-0.stm?cmpid=bcpanel2>

It's not just young rabbis, or just young Jews. Young people throughout the civilized world seem to be turning against their own countries and cultures—all under the spell of airy-fairy notions of a Great Big Brotherhood of Man.

## **Are young rabbis turning on Israel?**

*by Daniel Gordis, June 2011*

...As Rabbi Scott Perlo, another respondent to my *Jerusalem Post* column, wrote: "I readily concede that there is a decided slant to the left of center in most of our seminaries....But people misunderstand the nature of this slant. We are not the generation of rabbis hoping to abandon Israel. We are the generation of rabbis who hope that God will give us the merit to be peacemakers."

How a rabbi holding a pulpit in West Los Angeles is going to become a peacemaker in the Middle East is never explained. But one thing is clear from Perlo's article: peacemaking, this generation believes, requires imagining that we do not have enemies. Neville Chamberlain would have appreciated the company...

**Read it all:** <http://www.commentarymagazine.com/article/are-young-rabbis-turning-on-israel/>

## **Ben Smith—the president's man at Politico**

*by Hugh Hewitt, 12 June 2011*

...Now it is very true that the most influential talker of all, Rush, blasted Romney's remarks on climate change last week and is no fan of the individual mandate in Massachusetts, but even Rush's vigorous criticism of Romney on these issues is a far, far degree from Smith's lead description—from *Smith's meme*. Ask Rush who he would prefer to be the GOP nominee and he won't give you an answer, yet. But ask him who he'd vote for in a contest between Romney and Obama, and like every other conservative in the country, he'd say Romney. So would every other conservative talker and 95% of conservative bloggers.

The meme that Smith is pushing—that the flip-flopping Romney isn't popular with conservative influencers—like the meme that Pawlenty is boring and not popular with conservative influencers or that Perry is a secessionist extremist and not popular with conservative influencers or that Huntsman is a liberal and not popular with conservative influencers—is designed to brand the candidates in advance of the general while bleeding them in the primary. It is pure Obama prattle, and one wonders where the editors are at Politico. Does it matter that what Ben Smith writes is simply not true? Romney has some critics of some policies in talk radio but many of the biggest talkers also say great things about him, and some bloggers blast him while others support him. Again, does it matter that the Smith assertion is simply not true? It isn't an exaggeration for dramatic effect, though one wonders why that would pass muster in an allegedly objective, reported piece as opposed to an opinion column, but flat out false. Does that matter to Politico's #1 editor, John Harris?

...

**Read the rest** <http://www.hughhewitt.com/blog/g/b9e4e17a-bba5-4626-a45a-25cf882945f1>

## **Government by the 'experts'**

*by George F. Will, 10 June 2011*

...The point of PPACA [ObamaCare] is cost containment. This supposedly depends on the Independent Payment Advisory Board. The IPAB, which is a perfect expression of the progressive mind, is to be composed of 15 presidential appointees empowered to reduce Medicare spending — which is 13 percent of federal spending — to certain stipulated targets. IPAB is to do this by making "proposals" or "recommendations" to limit costs by limiting reimbursements to doctors. This, inevitably, will limit available treatments — and access to care when physicians leave the Medicare

system.

The PPACA repeatedly refers to any IPAB proposal as a “legislative proposal” and speaks of “the legislation introduced” by the IPAB. Each proposal *automatically* becomes *law* unless Congress passes — with a three-fifths supermajority required in the Senate — a measure cutting medical spending as much as the IPAB proposal would.

This is a travesty of constitutional lawmaking: An executive branch agency makes laws unless Congress enacts legislation to achieve the executive agency’s aim.

And it gets worse. Any resolution to abolish the IPAB must pass both houses of Congress. And no such resolution can be introduced before 2017 or after Feb. 1, 2017, and must be enacted by Aug. 15 of that year. And if passed, it cannot take effect until 2020. Defenders of all this audaciously call it a “fast track” process for considering termination of IPAB. It is, however, transparently designed to permanently entrench IPAB — never mind the principle that one Congress cannot by statute bind another Congress from altering that statute...

**Diabolical:** [http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/government-by-the-experts/2011/06/09/AGpU1KPH\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/government-by-the-experts/2011/06/09/AGpU1KPH_story.html)

## **Panic at the Home Office**

*by Baron Bodissey, 10 June 2011*

Last night Tommy Robinson, the leader of the English Defence League, was invited to a meeting with Home Secretary Theresa May. The invitation did not come from the Home Secretary herself, but rather from a constituent who had arranged a meeting with her, and invited Mr. Robinson along for the occasion. The EDL leader took the opportunity to speak to Mrs. May about the deficiencies of Britain’s immigration policy and the government’s outrageous demonization of the EDL.

The Home Office has recently suffered a series of embarrassing revelations, including last week’s headlines reporting that the government had shelled out £60 million in grants to prevent “extremism”, but gave the money to radical Islamic organizations that support terrorism. This came on the heels of the release of the latest immigration figures, which are at a record high, despite the coalition government’s promise to change course on immigration.

So Mrs. May has a lot on her mind these days, and is already having to negotiate a political minefield, even without finding the EDL on her doorstep.

She seems to have panicked after learning that Channel 4 had had a video crew on the scene and taped Tommy Robinson’s arrival at the meeting. Her media team hurried to feed its own spin to the press, and *The Daily Mail* slavishly provided just what was required, under the headline “Theresa May ambushed at constituency meeting”...

**Continue:** <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/06/panic-at-home-office.html>

## **Politically correct Washington Supreme Court overturns murder conviction**

*by Selwyn Duke, 11 June 2011*

In 2007, Kevin L. Monday Jr. was convicted for the murder of Francisco Green and received 64 years in prison. The incident was caught on a 3-minute video recording shot by a street performer, and the footage clearly shows Monday coolly and calculatingly firing 11 shots at Green on a crowded Seattle, Washington, street corner. Thus, despite the reluctance of witnesses to testify, it was an open-and-shut case.

But now the Washington Supreme Court, in an 8-1 ruling, has overturned the conviction and a lower court that upheld it—thus forcing a retrial—claiming that the prosecutor used “racist” arguments. What is the supposed problem? While questioning witnesses, veteran King County deputy prosecutor James Konat cited a no-snitching street code in the black community and made references to the “PO-leese”...

...Let’s be blunt: The majority has been brainwashed and is insane. Like so many today, they have “racism” on the brain and will subordinate everything to it.

This brings us back to my earlier question: The Left does say that something can be “racist” even if it’s true. And it is yet another reason why the r-word has been rendered meaningless. A prerequisite for “bigotry” or “prejudice” always was that a given belief must not only be negative, but also *untrue*. But “racism” was originated by the Left; it is their word and they define it. And in their relativistic fantasy-world—in which their feelings have usurped morality’s position as the yardstick for judging behavior—“racism’s” dictates trump all: It matters not if something is true, only whether it’s “racist.” This is why, in places such as Canada, we will hear nonsense about how the truth is no defense against a hate-speech charge...

**More:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/06/politically\\_correct\\_washington\\_supreme\\_court\\_overturns\\_murder\\_conviction.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/06/politically_correct_washington_supreme_court_overturns_murder_conviction.html)

## Media's bias on display in hatred of Palin

*Investor's Business Daily editorial, 11 June 2011*

The *New York Times* and *Washington Post* have asked their readers' help in scouring 24,000 emails from Sarah Palin's governorship, released Friday. They hate her — really hate her. Imagine a newspaper in 2008 asking readers' help in perusing Barack Obama's emails as U.S. senator and Illinois state senator. Or for that matter, help in unearthing his college records. The howls from "mainstream" journalists and Democratic politicians would have been deafening...

...The twin anti-Palin projects are telling in a number of ways — with other papers, like the *Los Angeles Times* and Britain's *Guardian*, catching their own cases of Palin email fever.

These once-formidable journalistic institutions, in decline as online competitors kill their revenues, obviously want for once to scoop the blogs and avoid the embarrassment of a Matt Drudge or Andrew Breitbart doing what only Woodwards and Bernsteins used to do...

...The vendetta also shows how fearful the establishment media are of a Palin presidency. Apparently they don't share the view of so many that she has no chance of beating President Obama next year...

**More:** <http://www.investors.com/NewsAndAnalysis/Article/575090/201106101902/A-Lower-Low-In-Media-Bias.htm>

## Are the mainstream media enameling Sarah Palin with Teflon®?

*by Thomas Lifson, 11 June 2011*

...The fact that the Times and Post both begged their readers for help in going through to documents says much about the essentially tribal nature of their audiences. The goal of both publications now is obviously the advancement of a political agenda, not the publication of significant news.

The contrast with the studied disinterest in the many lacunae in the documentation of Barack Obama's political career could not be more blatant. Stanley Kurtz, scholar and journalist, spent much time studying archives in Illinois to paint a picture of Obama's early career, but the former state senator made sure to destroy his own files from his service in Springfield (unlike other contemporary Illinois state senators, whose archives Kurtz was able to examine). Not only did mainstream media outlets decline to make an issue of Obama destroying his paper trail, they did not report what Kurtz was able to find.

Then there are the media organs who actively obstruct public access to important evidence of Obama's history...

**More:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/06/are\\_the\\_mainstream\\_media\\_enameling\\_sarah\\_palin\\_with\\_teflon.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/06/are_the_mainstream_media_enameling_sarah_palin_with_teflon.html)

## Wait till Medicare crashes

*by Christopher Chantrell, 10 June 2011*

...It's tempting to accuse the Democrats of shameless demagoguery on Medicare, but I think we should give them credit for believing in their belief system. Democrats believe that the way to help the poor and the marginalized is with comprehensive and mandatory government programs inspired and directed by the educated class. They honestly look at the premium subsidy program of Rep. Paul Ryan and say: well what about the people who can't afford any Medicare premium? What about seniors, e.g., with dementia, who can't even rationally decide what Medicare option to choose?

The liberal conceit is that, given the fact that *someone* is going to fall through the cracks, a government program is the answer, a government program inspired and directed by evolved, educated people like themselves. This is the central faith of our liberal, educated elite. Liberals are the most educated, evolved people in America. By virtue of their education and their advanced social views and their rational ethics they are the only people with the standing to decide all social and political matters, and to design rational and equitable programs to implement their advanced and evolved views...

...We Americans are not going to be able to resolve the central political questions of our time until our liberal friends have crashed in ruins. They may—they probably will—still cleave to their liberal faith after the crash. But nobody else in America will believe...

**More:** <http://roadtothemiddleclass.blogspot.com/2011/06/wait-till-medicare-crashes.html>

## It's all bumps, no road in Obamaville

*by Mark Steyn, 11 June 2011*

<http://www.ocregister.com/opinion/obama-304001-new-road.html>

## Why is this not treason?

by Paul Weston, 20 May 2011

...Nine out of ten new jobs were taken by immigrants, along with eighty-five percent of new housing. Muslims are grossly over-represented within Britain's jails and within Britain's welfare state, which supports fifty percent of Muslim males and seventy-five percent of females who reproduce like belt-fed mortars rather than going out to work...

...When our racial / religious society cedes territory to a rival society, then we are losing a battle. When the state enacts laws to reward the aggressive incomer and to penalise the passive native, then we are losing a battle. When our children are brainwashed into the belief that they are evil and worthy only of displacement, then we are losing a battle. When our women and children are raped and abused whilst the state remains silent, then we are losing a battle.

And when finally we become too defeated even to breed whilst we pay the aggressor to demographically swamp us, then we have not just lost a battle, we are in the midst of losing a war, our homeland, and our civilisation. We are rapidly on our way to extinction.

We have been betrayed. Tony Blair and the Labour Party have committed treason. The British people were never asked if they wished Muslim immigrants to colonise Britain in such large numbers that it constituted invasion. Had they been asked they would have replied with a resounding *No!*

Although lawyers may argue over the precise meaning of the word "treason." everyone else understands it only too well, including Tony Blair, which (along with the EU sell-out) is presumably why he repealed the treason laws. The Labour government was elected to represent the best interests of the British people, not those of Mirpur.

It does not really matter whether the third world was imported for revolutionary or electoral gain. All that matters is that Tony Blair's Labour Party systematically allied itself with the massed imported ideologues of the Western world's most persistent historical aggressor, and actively sided against Britain and the British people...

**Read the rest:** <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/05/why-is-this-not-treason.html>

## Left-wing talking heads wrongly blame Andrew Breitbart while helping Anthony Weiner spread his lies

by Andrea Tantaros, 9 June 2011

[http://www.nydailynews.com/opinions/2011/06/09/2011-06-09\\_leftwing\\_talking\\_heads\\_helped\\_spread\\_anthony\\_weiners\\_lies\\_about\\_sexting\\_lewd\\_twi.html?print=1&page=all](http://www.nydailynews.com/opinions/2011/06/09/2011-06-09_leftwing_talking_heads_helped_spread_anthony_weiners_lies_about_sexting_lewd_twi.html?print=1&page=all)

## The death of the American Dream II

by Walter Russell Mead, 3 June 2011

... From this standpoint, suburban America looks like a watered down but still potent blend of the original American farmer's republic. The inherited values and culture coming to us from the old days plus the still potent force of mass home ownership have kept the United States from retracing the steps of older democracies on their slow decline. So far.

But our consumer republic is clearly in trouble. Economically, as I wrote earlier this week, the model is breaking down. The consumer republic is based on debt and depends on high consumption. We are nearing the limits of that kind of economy. The country's external debt, the explosive growth of federal debt and the weak balance sheets of consumer households are all pointing in the same direction.

The cultural and social weaknesses of the consumer state are if anything more troubling. While suburbia is not the kind of alienating horror show that Marxist critics make it out to be, it is a less effective school for citizenship and character than the family farm. Daniel Bell wrote about the cultural contradictions of capitalism more than thirty years ago; life in a consumer society does not support the virtues and ideas that a healthy society requires.

More broadly, Huck Finn was right and the Widow Douglass was wrong: a holistic life in which family, work, education, leisure and production are all blended and mixed is healthier than an existence in which every sphere of life is rigidly set off from the others. It is not good for children to work long hours in textile mills; it is also not good for them to grow up without participating in and learning about the productive labor that is such a big part of what it means to be human...

**Fascinating:** <http://blogs.the-american-interest.com/wrm/2011/06/03/the-death-of-the-american-dream-ii/>

## **SCOTUS makes it official: California a failed state**

*by Walter Russell Mead, 27 May 2011*

...When you produce so many criminals that you can't afford to lock them up, you are a failed state. Virtually every important civil institution in society has to fail to get you to this point. Your homes and houses of worship are failing to build law abiding citizens, much less responsible and informed voters. Your schools aren't educating enough of your kids to make an honest living. Your taxes and policies are so bad that you are driving thousands of businesses away. Your management systems must be fouled and confused to the max for you to create something so dysfunctional, so wildly beyond your means, that the Supreme Court of the United States (wisely or foolishly is another question) starts to micromanage your jails.

...Representative government in California is not failing because Californians are stupider than other people. It is not failing because we somehow can't find the right mix of redistricting, constitutional amendments and other chicken-wire-and-spit fixes to kludge a working government together.

Representative government is failing in California because we keep using the wrong template. You can't run a big city through a series of New England town meetings; you can't run the 8th biggest economy in the world with an institutional mix designed for much smaller, more homogenous units in a much simpler time. California is a region, not a state, and until we adopt the political institutions that match this reality, the state will continue to fail — our very own Sudan by the sea.

California isn't the only state with this problem, by the way. New York, Florida, Texas and Illinois are obvious candidates for break up; figuring out how to decentralize and localize state government is an important part of making America work in the 21st century...

**More:** <http://blogs.the-american-interest.com/wrm/2011/05/27/scotus-makes-it-official-california-a-failed-state/>

A really outstanding piece.

## **The con man and his pet columnist**

*by James Kirchick, June 2011*

...Mortenson played Kristof for a sucker, and suckered Kristof remains. To him and others like him, the answers to the problems of a country such as Afghanistan are simple: just build more schools, be less "belligerent," and you'll solve the world's problems. For the Mortensons and Kristofs of the world who evangelize their cause with a certainty that borders on the religious, there is scant room for complexity. As someone who lectures "hawks" about their unthinking reliance on a simplistic doctrine—for supposedly believing American military force can solve everything—Kristof displays little self-awareness.

The problem with such thinking is that it rarely acknowledges that worthy ends—educating girls in Third World countries, preventing genocide in Darfur, etc.—might occasionally warrant "militaristic" means. It's hard to build schools to educate Afghan girls, after all, when religious fanatics threaten to burn them down. This reality doesn't faze Nicholas Kristof...

...It is comforting to believe that simple acts of kindness are enough to withstand the brute power of the Taliban. Comforting, and wrong. In his decades of work as a foreign correspondent and columnist for the country's paper of record, Nicholas Kristof has accomplished a feat of remarkable irony: he has spent more time traveling the globe than perhaps any other living human being but has somehow retained the worldview of a high school sophomore proudly on his way to fix the world at a Model United Nations.

**Read it all:** <http://www.commentarymagazine.com/article/the-con-man-and-his-pet-columnist/>

## **Europe Is Warning Us**

*by Victor Davis Hanson, 9 June 2011*

...A European technocratic class in limousines that runs government bureaus and international organizations—for example, disgraced former International Monetary Fund chief Dominique Strauss-Kahn—lives like 18th-century aristocrats at Versailles as they mouth socialist platitudes...

...An acknowledged despair now seems to permeate Western Europe. A glorious past is equated with tourist dollars, not appreciation of the European Renaissance or the Enlightenment. Majestic churches are more moneymaking

museums or tourist stops than honored hallmarks of past culture and current faith. European Christendom often helped to preserve humanity through horrific crises, but you would never learn that from the average cynical European, who appears either indifferent to or apologetic about both his religion and the hallowed European origins of Western Civilization, responsible for much of what is good in the world today.

All this European turmoil raises a paradox. If dispirited Europeans are conceding that something is terribly wrong with their half-century-long experiment with socialism, unassimilated immigrants, cultural apologies, defense cuts and post-nationalism, why in the world is the Obama administration intent on adopting what Europeans are rejecting?

**More:** <http://patriotpost.us/opinion/victor-davis-hanson/2011/06/09/europe-is-warning-us/>

## Radioactive politics over nuclear storage at Yucca Mountain

*Washington Post editorial, 7 June 2011*

...Now, the House is holding hearings after a Government Accountability Office (GAO) report found that after decades of study and \$15 billion spent, the Energy Department did not have technical or safety grounds on which to end the Yucca Mountain project. In fact, admitted Assistant Energy Secretary Pete Lyons last Wednesday, the administration's decision-making concerned "a question of social, public acceptance." Yet the DOE rapidly dismantled the program in a way that makes it difficult to restart work should the politics change. The administration claimed that there are more attractive alternatives but didn't say what they were, instead appointing another panel...

**More:** [http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/radioactive-politics-over-nuclear-storage-at-yucca-mountain/2011/06/03/AGiNJQLH\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/radioactive-politics-over-nuclear-storage-at-yucca-mountain/2011/06/03/AGiNJQLH_story.html)

## Different Decisions

*by Thomas Sowell, 7 June 2011*

...Anyone familiar with the low standards and mushy notions in the schools and departments of education that turn out our public school teachers might think that these teachers would have all they can do to make American children competent in reading, writing and math.

Anyone familiar with how our children stack up with children from other countries in basic education would be painfully aware that American children lag behind children in countries that spend far less per pupil than we do. In other words, teachers and schools that are failing to provide the basics of education are branching out into all sorts of other areas, where they have even less competence.

Why are teachers so bold when banks are so cautious? The banks pay a price for being wrong. Teachers don't...

...Sex indoctrination is just one of innumerable "exciting" and "innovative" self-indulgences of the schools. There is no bottom line test of what these boondoggles cost the children or the country.

Incidentally, conservatives who think that schools should be teaching "abstinence" miss the point completely. The schools have no expertise to be teaching sex at all. We should be happy if they ever develop the competence to teach math and English, so that our children can hold their own in international tests given to children in other countries.

Schools are just one government institution that take on tasks for which they have no expertise or even competence... Having spent years ruining the housing markets with their interference, leading to a housing meltdown that has taken the whole economy down with it, politicians have now moved on into micro-managing automobile companies and medical care. They are not going to stop unless they get stopped...

**More:** <http://www.creators.com/opinion/thomas-sowell/different-decisions.html>

## The energy disaster continues

*by John Hinderaker, 10 June 2011*

...Obama wasn't kidding when he said, as a candidate, that his policies would cause electricity prices to "skyrocket." *U.S. News* reports that Obama's EPA is promulgating regulations that will cause hundreds of thousands of Americans to lose their jobs...

...Today, American Electric Power announced that it will close down five coal-fired power plants and spend billions to comply with the EPA's proposed regulations...

...Of course, the administration is trying to block development of natural gas, too. Of all of the Obama administration's perverse economic policies, its anti-energy agenda is most likely to make Obama a one-term president.

**More:** <http://www.powerlineblog.com/archives/2011/06/029211.php>

## Wisconsin union protesters disrupt a Special Olympics ceremony

MacIver News Service, 8 June 2011

**Watch:** [http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=dcuqM1LEi5c](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=dcuqM1LEi5c)

## How to talk about climate change on the campaign trail

by Steven Hayward, 8 June 2011

...The climate campaign's monomania for near-term suppression of greenhouse gas emissions through cap and trade or carbon taxes or similar means is the single largest environmental policy mistake of the last generation. The way to reduce carbon emissions is not to make carbon-based energy more expensive, but rather make low- and non-carbon energy cheaper at a large scale, so the whole world can adopt it, not just rich nations. This is a massive innovation problem, but you can't promote energy innovation by economically ruinous taxes and regulation. We didn't get the railroad by making horse-drawn wagons more expensive; we didn't get the automobile by taxing the railroads; we didn't get the desktop computer revolution by taxing typewriters, slide-rules, and file cabinets. It is time to stop ending the charade that we can enact shell game policies like cap and trade that will do nothing to actually solve the problem, but only increase the price of energy and slow down our already strangled economy. I support sensible efforts for government to promote energy technology breakthroughs, but am against subsidizing uncompetitive technologies...

...Keep two basic facts of climate arithmetic in mind. First, the emissions targets for the year 2050 that climate policy orthodoxy requires—an 80 percent reduction by the year 2050—would require reducing fossil fuel use to a level last seen in the U.S. in the year 1910, and on a per capita basis (since the U.S. only had 92 million people in 1910, but will have over 400 million in 2050), would require taking us back to a level of fossil fuel use last seen in 1875. This. Is. Loony. Toons. It will not happen. Climate campaigners, who usually contest every tiny deviation from orthodoxy, simply change the subject or spout mindless clichés when presented with the arithmetic on this. (Or, more often, display their total innumeracy about the matter.) I have been presenting the arithmetic on this inconvenient truth for nearly four years now, and have not once had my math challenged on the subject. By anyone. Usually the climate campaigners will challenge every small point to the bitter end. But not this one...

**Read the rest:** <http://www.powerlineblog.com/archives/2011/06/029197.php>

## The coming crash of 2013

by Peter Ferrara, 8 June 2011

...Right after the election, the Fed will stop the merry go round to finally pull the plug on burgeoning inflation. But that extended monetary malpractice will only make the downturn withdrawal from the monetary crack high all the more nasty. From the comprehensive tax rate increases, to the soaring energy costs, to the costly regulatory burdens, to the monetary policy mindlessness, all of this adds up to one whopping double-dip downturn in 2013. The extended unemployment exploding into double digits will be effectively another depression. Once it starts feeding on itself, there is no telling just how far it will go...

...Because of the willfully mindless irresponsibility and ideological self-indulgence of Obamanomics, America is mortally vulnerable to another recession at any time soon. The result would be precisely the national bankruptcy of Greece, where we cannot raise in the world credit markets the further debt to finance what will be well over half of our budgeted federal spending. We are already borrowing and adding to the debt to finance 43% of our federal spending today...

...Our potential military enemies will be quite aware of this historic vulnerability of America. Just as Reagan brought us Peace through Strength, Obamanomics will be inviting War through Weakness. With a 2013 American economic collapse that will also disable the entire West, the world's uncivilized rogues from Russia, to China, to North Korea, to the Middle East Islamists dreaming of renewed world conquest, will all be tempted probably beyond resistance and reason to strike. They don't need even to attack the homeland to deal America a decisive defeat. They can just decimate our suddenly overwhelmed allies, from Israel to South Korea to Taiwan to our allies in the Middle East, let alone some even in Europe.

The only way to get off this bullet train to oblivion is to radically reverse Obamanomics in dogged detail. The American people get one more chance to do that in 2012.

More: <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/06/08/the-coming-crash-of-2013>

## **Fanniegate: gamechanger for the GOP?**

by *Walter Russell Mead*, 7 June 2011

Democrats, watch out. The Republican Party and especially its Tea Party wing have just acquired a new weapon of mass destruction — and it has nothing to do with any of Congressman Wiener’s rogue body parts. If they deploy this weapon effectively in the next election cycle — a big if — then they have the biggest opportunity to move the country rightward since Ronald Reagan took the oath of office back in 1981.

The Tea Party WMD stockpile is currently stored in book form: **Reckless Endangerment: How Outsized Ambition, Greed, and Corruption Led to Economic Armageddon**. By Gretchen Morgenson, one of America’s best business journalists who is currently at *The New York Times*, and noted financial analyst Joshua Rosner, *Reckless Endangerment* gives the best available account of how the growing chaos in the mortgage and personal finance markets and the rampant bundling of dubious loans into exotically toxic securities plunged the world, and millions of American families, into the gravest financial crisis since World War Two. It is gripping reading as well, and its explanations are clear enough that readers without any background in finance will have no trouble following the plot. The villains? An unholy alliance between Wall Street, the Democratic establishment, community organizing groups like ACORN and La Raza, and politicians like Barney Frank, Nancy Pelosi and Henry Cisneros...

More: <http://blogs.the-american-interest.com/wrm/2011/06/07/fanniegate-gamechanger-for-the-gop/>

## **Another “WTF” Obama foreign policy moment**

by *Sarah Palin*, 9 June 2011

President Obama wants to *give* Russia our missile defense secrets because he believes that we can buy their friendship and cooperation with this taxpayer-funded gift. But giving military secrets and technologies to a rival or competitor like Russia is just plain dumb. You can’t buy off Russia. And giving them advanced military technology will not create stability. What happens if Russia gives this technology (or sells it!) to other countries like Iran or China? After all, as Woolsey points out, Russia helped Iran with its missile and nuclear programs. Or what happens if an even more hardline leader comes to power in the Kremlin?

We tried buying off the Kremlin with technologies in the 1970s. That policy was a component of “detente,” and the hope was that if we would share our technologies with them, they would become more peaceful. Things, of course, didn’t work out that way. The Kremlin took western technologies and embarked on a massive military building program. History teaches that peace comes from American military strength. And a central component of that has always been technological superiority. Why would President Obama even dream of giving this away?...

More: [https://www.facebook.com/note.php?note\\_id=10150203463153435](https://www.facebook.com/note.php?note_id=10150203463153435)

**This is what happens in socialist medicine.**

## **The ultimate NHS indignity: Body of hospital patient left to die in corridor is ignored for hours... before staff simply drag him away**

by *Jaya Narain*, 9 June 2011

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2000824/NHS-indignity-Peter-Thompsons-body-ignored-hours-corridor-Edale-House-unit.html>

## **No, you can't keep your health insurance**

As many as 78 million Americans could lose employer health coverage because of ObamaCare.

by *Grace-Marie Turner*, 8 June 2011

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304432304576371252181401600.html?mod=WSJ\\_Opinion\\_LEADTop](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304432304576371252181401600.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEADTop)

## California's Green Jihad

by Joel Kotkin, 7 June 2011

Ideas matter, particularly when colored by religious fanaticism, wreaking havoc even in the most favored of places. Take, for instance, Iran, a country blessed with a rich heritage and enormous physical and human resources, but which, thanks to its theocratic regime, is largely an economic basket case and rogue state...

...One would think, given these gory details, California officials would be focused on reversing the state's performance. But here, as in Iran, officialdom focuses more on theology than on actuality. Of course, California's religion rests not on conventional divinity but on a secular environmental faith that nevertheless exhibits the intrusive and unbending character of radical religion.

As with its Iranian counterpart, California's green theology often leads to illogical economic and political decisions. California has decided, for example, to impose a rigid regime of state-directed planning related to global warming, making a difficult approval process for new development even more onerous. It has doubled-down on climate change as other surrounding western states — such as Nevada, Utah and Arizona — have opted out of regional greenhouse gas agreements.

The notion that a state economy — particularly one that has lost over 1.15 million jobs in the past decade — can impose draconian regulations beyond those of their more affluent neighbors, or the country, would seem almost absurd.

Californians are learning what ideological extremism can do to an economy. In the Islamic Republic, crazy theology leads to misallocating resources to support repression at home and terrorism abroad. In California, green zealots compel companies to shift their operations to states that are still interested in growing their economy — like Texas. The green regime is one reason why CEO Magazine has ranked California the worst business climate in the nation...

**Read it all:** <http://blogs.forbes.com/joelkotkin/2011/06/07/californias-green-jihad/#more-225>

N.B.: in the final sentence, he means to say unlikely, rather than unlucky.

## U.N. agreement should have all gun owners up in arms

by Larry Bell, 7 June 2011

It may not come as surprising news to many of you that the United Nations doesn't approve of our Second Amendment. Not one bit. And they very much hope to do something about it with help from some powerful American friends. Under the guise of a proposed global "Small Arms Treaty" premised to fight "terrorism", "insurgency" and "international crime syndicates" you can be quite certain that an even more insidious threat is being targeted—our Constitutional right for law-abiding citizens to own and bear arms.

What, exactly, does the intended agreement entail? While the terms have yet to be made public, if passed by the U.N. and ratified by our Senate, it will almost certainly force the U.S. to...

**Read on:** <http://blogs.forbes.com/larrybell/2011/06/07/u-n-agreement-should-have-all-gun-owners-up-in-arms/>

## The economy is worse than you think

Expect more bad news until someone enacts a plan to bring deficits under control without raising taxes.

by Martin Feldstein, 8 June 2011

The policies of the Obama administration have led to the weak condition of the American economy. Growth during the coming year will be subpar at best, leaving high or rising levels of unemployment and underemployment.

The drop in GDP growth to just 1.8% in the first quarter of 2011, from 3.1% in the final quarter of last year, understates the extent of the decline...

...The economy will continue to suffer until there is a coherent and favorable economic policy. That means bringing long-term deficits under control without raising marginal tax rates—by cutting government outlays and by limiting the tax expenditures that substitute for direct government spending. It means lower tax rates on businesses and individuals to spur entrepreneurship and investment. And it means reforming Social Security and Medicare to protect the living standards of future retirees while limiting the cost to future taxpayers.

All of these things are doable. But the Obama administration has not done them and shows no inclination to do them in the future.

**Read the rest (just 960 words):** <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702303657404576363984173620692.html>

## How accurate were Palin's Paul Revere comments?

*Melissa Block talks to Prof. Robert Allison, 6 June 2011*

...BLOCK: Sarah Palin also was saying there that Paul Revere's message to the British in his warning was: You're not going to take American arms—you know, basically a Second Amendment argument, even though the Second Amendment didn't exist then.

Prof. ALLISON: Yeah. She was making a Second Amendment case. But in fact, the British were going out to Concord to seize colonists' arms, the weapons that the Massachusetts Provincial Congress was stockpiling there. So, yeah, she is right in that. I mean, she may be pushing it too far to say this is a Second Amendment case. Of course, neither the Second Amendment nor the Constitution was in anyone's mind at the time. But the British objective was to get the arms that were stockpiled in Concord.

BLOCK: So you think basically, on the whole, Sarah Palin got her history right.

Prof. ALLISON: Well, yeah, she did....

**More:** <http://www.npr.org/2011/06/06/137011636/how-accurate-were-palins-comments-on-paul-revere>

## It's Obama's economy, stupid

*by Jonah Goldberg, 7 June 2011*

...The more salient point is that Obama acts like he knows everything. From Day One, this White House has been cocksure about how to get us out of the economic ditch. In every major relevant speech, Obama has stuck with a consistent message: We know what to do and the Republicans don't. "I will not sacrifice the core investments we need to grow and create jobs," Obama insisted yet again in his April budget speech.

So what does this guy have to do to get the blame for the bad economy? Mark Halperin, an analyst for MSNBC and Time magazine, was asked on the Today show over the weekend about the political impact of the bad economy. He assured viewers that the president was totally engaged in the need for job creation. "The Republicans, though, have the onus on them to come forward with some ideas. The president's ideas are still a little bit up in the air."

A little bit up in the air? They're in concrete.

From his April 14, 2009, "New Foundation" speech at Georgetown University to his latest campaign stop, Obama has insisted he knows exactly what he's doing. He stands by "Obamacare" as a boon for the economy. He still sees the "green revolution"—and all the crony capitalism that comes with it—as the solution to our woes. (That's why he nominated John Bryson, a former utility CEO, subsidy-seeking entrepreneur and environmental activist, to be his next Commerce secretary.) But is there any evidence it's helped create jobs?...

**More:** <http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/commentary/la-oe-goldberg-economy-20110607,0,1192445.column>

## ObamaCare's next Constitutional challenge

The Medicaid provision of the health law spells the death knell for competition among the states..

*by Richard A. Epstein and Mario Loyola, 7 June 2011*

The constitutional battle over ObamaCare has largely focused on the constitutionality of the individual mandate. Namely, does forcing individuals to buy health insurance violate the commerce clause? But as the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals prepares to hear *Florida v. United States*, a second issue is of equal importance: Was District Court Judge Roger Vinson correct to rule that the federal government can force states to expand their Medicaid programs as a precondition for continuing to receive matching federal funds for the program?

Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, states have a choice: Expand their Medicaid rolls or bear the full cost of caring for their state's current Medicaid population, while continuing to subsidize the Medicaid programs of other states. The constitutional danger of such a scheme has long been recognized. In 1936, the Supreme Court warned in *U.S. v. Butler* that if conditional federal grants were not restrained, the taxing and spending power "could become the instrument for the total subversion of the governmental powers reserved to the individual states."

And yet the government is comparing this Medicaid requirement to a "voluntary" contract. Does anyone believe that a person is entitled "voluntarily" to continue his journey so long as he pays for all poor people who use the roads? The government's action is plainly coercive because it necessarily conditions the exercise of one right upon the conscious surrender of a second...

**More:** [http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304474804576367690213892556.html?mod=WSJ\\_Opinion\\_LEADTop](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304474804576367690213892556.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEADTop)

## **Obama tunes out, and Business goes on hiring strike**

by Michael Barone, 6 June 2011

<http://patriotpost.us/opinion/michael-barone/2011/06/06/obama-tunes-out-and-business-goes-on-hiring-strike/>

## **What Krugman misses about 1937 Redux**

by Amity Shlaes, 6 June 2011

What if it just keeps going? That's the question Americans are asking as they consider last month's 9.1 percent unemployment rate, still so high 33 months after the crash of September 2008. Scholars of economic history are asking another question: Are we repeating 1937?

**More:** <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-06-06/what-paul-krugman-misses-about-1937-redux-echoes.html>

## **Klavan's one-state solution: give the Middle East to the Jews**

by Andrew Klavan, 2 June 2011

**Watch:** [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uIEeiDjdUuU&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uIEeiDjdUuU&feature=player_embedded)

## **NYT ignores 'Salute to Israel' parade**

by Herb Glatter, 6 June 2011

[http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/06/nyt\\_ignores\\_salute\\_to\\_israel\\_parade.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/06/nyt_ignores_salute_to_israel_parade.html)

## **Why 2012 looks a lot like 1860**

by Star Parker, 5 June 2011

...It's common to hear that "democracy" is synonymous with freedom. We also commonly hear that questions regarding economic growth are separate and apart from issues tied to morality—so called "social issues."

But Stephen Douglas, who famously debated Abraham Lincoln in 1858, argued both these points. In championing the idea of "popular sovereignty" and the Kansas-Nebraska Act, he argued that it made sense for new states to determine by popular vote whether they would permit slavery. By so doing, argued Douglas, the question of slavery would submit to what he saw as the core American institution—democracy—and, by handling the issue in this fashion, slavery could be removed as an impediment to growth of the union.

Lincoln rejected submitting slavery to the vote, arguing that there are first and inviolable principles of right and wrong on which this nation stands and which cannot be separated from any issue, including considerations of growth and expansion...

**More:** <http://washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/columnists/2011/06/why-2012-looks-lot-1860>

## **Wasserman Schultz watch: Dim bulb Debbie is at it again (updated)**

by Thomas Lifson, 6 June 2011

The loose cannon DNC Chair is at it again, mouthing stupidities...

**Whatta maroon:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/06/wasserman\\_schultz\\_watch.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/06/wasserman_schultz_watch.html)

## **DNC Chair Wasserman Schultz a gift that keeps on giving**

by Rick Moran, 30 May 2011

...Now she says that Republicans want to make a "crime" of illegal immigration. Did someone mention to her that it already is?...

**More:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/printpage?url=http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/05/dnc\\_chair\\_wassermanschultz\\_a\\_g.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/printpage?url=http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/05/dnc_chair_wassermanschultz_a_g.html)

## **Crony capitalist Bryson should be rejected at Commerce**

*Washington Examiner* editorial, 2 June 2011

...Now comes John Bryson, chairman, president and CEO of BrightSource Inc. and Obama's pick to head the U.S. Department of Commerce. Despite White House efforts to portray Bryson as an innovative, creative business executive, he is actually, as *The Washington Examiner's* Tim Carney made clear in yesterday's edition, another in the long list of crony capitalists who share Obama's belief that government should pick winners and losers in the economy...Bryson's career has been built on government subsidies and political connections...

...But there is another side to Bryson, one that fits squarely in the tradition of radical Obama appointees like "green jobs" czar Van Jones, a self-proclaimed Marxist; Medicare head Donald Berwick, who swoons over Britain's socialized National Health Service; and National Labor Relations Board member Craig Becker, the former labor lawyer who never met a union power grab he couldn't back. Early in his career, Bryson co-founded the Natural Resources Defense Council, the environmental advocacy group that has relentlessly pushed litigation and regulation to suffocate private enterprise in a thousand ways.

More recently, Bryson described Waxman-Markey, the most extreme version of Obama's cap-and-trade proposal, as "moderate." There is, of course, nothing moderate about using politically correct fish, lizards and birds to deprive Americans of desperately needed jobs, infrastructure and energy...

**More:** <http://washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/2011/06/crony-capitalist-bryson-should-be-rejected-commerce>

### **Normandy, 6 June 1944:**



**The Boys of Pointe du Hoc** by Ronald Reagan, 6 June 1984

**What We Fight For** by David Warren, 3 June 2009

**The Other D-Day** by Victor Davis Hanson, 11 June 2007

**Speech to the Sixth Armored Division** by George S. Patton Jr., 31 May 1944

**Bill Millin** (Lord Lovat's piper)

## **The Obama Economy**

by Fred Barnes, 5 June 2011 (June 13 issue)

...Yet Obama labors on as if his policies are working, only a bit more slowly than he'd anticipated. In two and a half years in the White House, he appears to have learned nothing about what stirs the economy and produces jobs and growth. Evidence of failure, like 1.8 percent growth in the first quarter of 2011, matters little. Rather than a midterm course correction, Obama wants more of the same, lots more.

And he's not reticent about saying so. Obama's desire to raise taxes is undiminished. He's obsessed with the notion that more tax revenues can be wrung from rich people with money to spare. In Obamacare, he's already got a hike in the Medicare tax. Last week he told House Democrats he won't tolerate another extension of the current tax rates for high earners (more than \$250,000 a year). If he had his way, the top rate on individual income would be 45 percent. Oblivious to economic history, he doesn't see a rising tax burden as a disincentive to entrepreneurship, investment in job-creating enterprises, and a booming economy...

**More:** [http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/obama-economy\\_573249.html](http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/obama-economy_573249.html)

## **'Loser pays,' Texas small business wins**

by Stephen DeMaura, 31 May 2011

...The success of 'loser pays' is destined to be viewed as a key victory for the Republican legislature over a group that once enjoyed almost limitless influence in the state: the Texas Trial Lawyers Association, which lobbied aggressively against the law. Prior to the reforms instituted in 2003 and 2005, Texas was an ambulance chaser's paradise. Nowadays, even **the \$13 million the trial lawyers spent** to defeat Perry and other pro-tort-reform Republicans in the 2010 election had little impact. In a stunning rebuke, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst stared down the trial lawyer lobby and shepherded the measure through to a 31-0 vote in the Senate...

... 'Loser pays' reform will result in fewer frivolous lawsuits, lower litigation costs, and more expedient justice for legitimate claims. Just as important, the passage of loser pays is yet another example of how Texas has taken the national lead in job creation and the fostering of a strong business climate. Immediately following Perry's earlier reforms, the number of physicians applying to practice rose by 60 percent, filling an increasing need across the state, according to the *Journal*. Likewise, by tossing off the threatening shroud of frivolous lawsuits, Texas is removing yet another barrier to small business expansion and job growth...

**More:** <http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/268436/loser-pays-texas-small-business-wins-stephen-demaure>

## **City of Slaughter**

Chaim Nachman Bialik's great poem about Russia's Kishinev pogrom of 1903 needs to be read and re-read.

by David Solway, 29 May 2011

...Jews could no longer sit back, defenseless and afraid, while their people were being terrorized and killed. A state would need to be re-established in which the Jewish people would refuse to be the helpless victims of the world's undying enmity, "shocked by what is done to them [and] infuriated by their powerlessness," as Gordis writes. And so in the course of time it came to pass that Israel rose again from the darkness of history, not without great suffering and continued slaughter, but with pride, conviction, strength and purpose. Bialik's poem, with its unsparing judgment of Jewish docility and nonresistance, was instrumental in "changing the nature of the Jew."

Not entirely, however. For among the Jewish population both in Israel and in the Diaspora are many who, like their Kishinev forebears, remain feeble and compliant, timorous conciliators rather than courageous fighters. They live in modern cities, not in *shetels* and ghettos. Most flaunt university and college degrees, not yeshiva parchment, and preen themselves on their sophistication and putative insights. The texts they bend over, indifferent to the fury that rages

around them, are not the sacred scrolls of the faith, as was the case with their ancestors, but treatises of propitiation, anti-Zionist screeds and manifestos of spurious enlightenment. The result is, *mutatis mutandis*, the same. True, they no longer cower in cellars while their women are being defiled, but their complicity in the campaign to weaken the Jewish state, reduce its borders to indefensible proportions and encourage its adversaries who wish to destroy it is evident. They are content to watch Israel being raped and dismembered...

...For the Court Jews are everywhere, the kapos abound, the so-called “peace” constituency retains its prominence, left-wing Jewish professors work tirelessly in classrooms, lecture halls, blogs, articles and op-eds to delegitimize an embattled nation, rabbinical fellow-travelers engage in “dialogue” with anti-Semites and support influential figures ill-disposed toward the Jewish state, Jewish voting blocs mobilize on behalf of their antagonists and betrayers, Israeli revisionist historians and Jewish UN apparatchiks act as Palestinian water-carriers, Jewish public intellectuals and journalists propose solutions to the Middle East conflict that would lead to the disappearance of Israel, directors of Jewish organizations invite Palestinian jihadists to lecture them, or abet sanctions against Israel, or back a unilateral declaration of Palestinian statehood. These trimmers and delinquents stubbornly deny who their real enemies are, as they saunter cheerfully toward the abattoir. For those who want names and addresses, I provide a compendious list of such tergiversators in my recent book, *Hear, O Israel!*. But the most reprehensible among them are already well known...

**More:** <http://pajamasmedia.com/blog/the-city-of-slaughter/?singlepage=true>

This wonderful essay lays bare the absurd fallacies of Marxism better than anything else I've ever read.

## **The Marxian Worm**

For the last forty years in the U.S. — longer in other places — a worm has been gnawing at the roots and sickening the tree of civilization. That worm is the philosophy of Karl Marx.

by Sarah Hoyt, 27 May 2011

<http://pajamasmedia.com/blog/the-marxian-worm/?singlepage=true>

## **Bipartisan Congress rebuffs Obama on Libya mission**

by Stephen Dinan, 3 June 2011

Crossing party lines to deliver a stunning rebuke to the commander in chief, the vast majority of the House voted Friday for resolutions telling President Obama he has broken the constitutional chain of authority by committing U.S. troops to the international military mission in Libya.

In two votes — on competing resolutions that amounted to legislative lectures of Mr. Obama — Congress escalated the brewing constitutional clash over whether he ignored the founding document’s grant of war powers by sending U.S. troops to aid in enforcing a no-fly zone and naval blockade of Libya.

The resolutions were non-binding, and only one of them passed, but taken together, roughly three-quarters of the House voted to put Mr. Obama on notice that he must explain himself or else face future consequences, possibly including having funds for the war cut off...

**Continue:** <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/jun/3/bipartisan-congress-rebuffs-obama-libya-mission/>

## **Koch Test**

The former New York City mayor is starting to turn against Barack Obama. And when hizzoner goes for the Republican in a presidential contest, it’s always been bad news for his fellow Democrats.

by Tevi Troy, 1 June 2011

<http://www.tabletmag.com/news-and-politics/68674/koch-test/>

## **ObamaCare's unlimited power**

Washington Times editorial, 2 June 2011

The White House defense of Obamacare hinges on the claim that Congress essentially has unlimited power to force Americans to spend their personal money on a cause of the government’s choosing. Oral arguments before the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals on Wednesday made this all the more clear.

Administration lawyers argued that uninsured individuals can be compelled to buy health care coverage under the Commerce Clause of the Constitution. If that's so, what else could Congress compel people to do? As Judge James L. Graham asked acting Solicitor General Neal Katyal, "Where ultimately is the limit on congressional power?" The question sounds rhetorical but is not...

...The White House claims that the burden placed on the health care system by the uninsured justifies coercing them into action. The "class of activity" that undermines the regulation of the "interstate market" in health care is inactivity. Since there is no interstate commerce to regulate, the government mandates it.

That's why Obamacare isn't just a threat to the private health care system. It strikes at the very foundation of our nation...

**More:** <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/jun/2/obamacares-unlimited-power/>

## **Boneheaded stimulus never works**

*by Larry Kudlow, 2 June 2011*

With a flamboyant downgrade of the outlook for economic growth, jobs and profits, Wednesday's 280-point Dow plunge to launch the so-called June stock swoon is a warning shot across the bow. The Dow tanked alongside a batch of dismal economic data. The ISM manufacturing index, ADP employment, Case-Shiller home prices and consumer confidence are all pointing to 2 percent growth or less, rather than the kind of 5 percent growth we ought to be getting coming out of a deep recession.

The economy now looks like a Government Motors engine that's stalling out. Or perhaps, with energy and food inflation, and housing deflation at the same time, the economy is acting like a pinball machine on permanent tilt.

There's a key message here: Big-government stimulus never works...

**Continue:** <http://www.creators.com/conservative/lawrence-kudlow/boneheaded-stimulus-never-works.html>

## **Austerity Works**

In bemoaning the pain of fiscal responsibility, the Democrats show they still haven't learned the lessons of Europe.

*by Niall Ferguson, 29 May 2011*

...Members of the Deficits Forever club are intellectually lazy when they assert that the U.K. economy is growing slowly because austerity doesn't work, implying that things would be better had the spending binge continued. Maybe. But maybe not. A responsible politician wouldn't take the gamble because the costs of being wrong are too high. Just ask the Greeks.

The real lessons for the United States are clear. Those who run up debt in good times can borrow only so much more when a recession strikes. And heavily indebted governments postpone fiscal stabilization at their peril. If you wait to reform until the bond market calls time, you are—to use a technical term from economics—screwed.

The best option is, of course, to be Switzerland, a country strangely ignored by Krugman. The Swiss have run a prudent fiscal policy throughout the economic crisis. They have had a structural surplus in each of the past five years. Their net debt is actually lower today than it was in 2005. And guess what? In 2009 their economy suffered the smallest contraction in Europe, with unemployment today below 4 percent. As for sound money, the Swiss franc is up 95 percent against the dollar since 2000.

Too bad American presidents never visit Switzerland. But I guess they can't afford to.

**The rest:** <http://www.newsweek.com/2011/05/29/austerity-works.html>

## **The problems of Mitt Romney**

It's not just Romneycare.

*by Ramesh Ponnuru and Rich Lowry 2 June 2011*

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/268626/problems-mitt-romney-ramesh-ponnuru>

## **Why Barack Obama may be headed for electoral disaster in 2012**

*by Nile Gardiner, 2 June 2011*

<http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/nilegardiner/100090356/why-barack-obama-may-be-heading-for-electoral-disaster-in-2012/>

## Black Tea

If Tea Party supporters are racist, why is Herman Cain generating such excitement?

by Lazar Berman, 2 June 2011

...A new book by veteran White House reporter Kenneth Walsh recounts an episode in which President Obama himself insinuated there was an underlying racism in the movement. At a private White House dinner last May, Obama **suggested** there was a racially motivated “subterranean agenda” behind Tea Party opposition to his policies.

Then why is Herman Cain, a conservative black businessman and radio host from Georgia, generating such excitement among the very people maligned as angry white racists? In a recent national **Gallup poll** of Republican and Republican-leaning Independents, Cain beat out Michele Bachmann, Jon Huntsman, and Tim Pawlenty. Cain did even better among respondents *further on the right*, tying Newt Gingrich among self-identified conservatives with 10 percent.

The buzz around Cain, even if he is still not being treated by most as a serious candidate, is rather resounding evidence that the grassroots anti-Obama movement is about ideas and the future of the country, not race; and that the Left loves to hurl the racist label at those who stand in the way of their policies and candidates (see the commentators who bent over backwards to call John McCain racist for his “celebrity” **campaign ad** and the charges that Joe Wilson’s “You lie!” **outburst** at the State of the Union address played on stereotypes about blacks).

Cain himself is challenging these perceptions head on. His new **campaign video** features black supporters prominently, and Cain paints his conservatism and campaign as true racial progress in the United States. “I left that Democrat plantation a long time ago,” he declares, “and I ain’t going back!” Later in the video, Cain says proudly, “My great-great grandparents were slaves, and now I’m running for president ... Is this a great country or what?” ...

**More:** <http://www.american.com/archive/2011/june/black-tea-1>

## Mr. Skeezy's skivvies

New York Post editorial, 2 June 2011

...“You know, I can't say with certitude. My system was hacked...pictures can be dropped in and inserted.”

This is true. But it's equally true that *all* computer activity leaves easily discoverable shadows. If the tweeted message had been a death threat to the president, say, the Secret Service could have—and *would* have—discovered in a *nanosecond* whether a hacking had occurred. And there is absolutely no technical reason why the Capitol Police couldn't just as easily get to the bottom of Weiner's alleged “hacking.”

All that's missing is the will to do the job—*Weiner's* will. The congressman, said former Mayor Ed Koch yesterday, “could put it all to rest simply by turning over his computer to the Capitol police and letting them figure out who hacked it.” But he won't do it. Instead, Weiner says he's hired a private security firm—which he won't identify—to look into it.

But why not the authorities? He claims he doesn't “want to put national, federal resources into trying to figure out” what happened—which is ludicrous on its face: Tony Weiner has *never* seen a taxpayer dime that he didn't lust to spend...

**More:** [http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/editorials/mr\\_skeezy\\_skivvies\\_J0DnrwXNIEZ5SVjSjUsjPK](http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/editorials/mr_skeezy_skivvies_J0DnrwXNIEZ5SVjSjUsjPK)

Three Weiner-related posts by John Sexton at Verum Serum, 2 June 2011:

**Hillary and Huma: here's how to deal with hackers**

**NY Post finally reports on friend of Weiner, Ginger Lee**

**Weiner finally calls the Capitol police...on a CBS reporter**

## Rep. Weiner's just a bad liar—and that's the truth

by John Podhoretz, 2 June 2011

You, being an upstanding person and a credit to society, probably haven't sought out the notorious photograph of a man's crotch that appeared on Twitter under Rep. Anthony Weiner's name last Friday. Alas, I have seen it. So, after pausing a moment to gag a little from the memory, I will now explain to you that the angle of the cellphone photograph dictates it must have been taken by the person whose crotch it depicts. This leaves us with two possibilities...

**More:** [http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/this\\_guy\\_is\\_just\\_bad\\_liar\\_and\\_that\\_5uCiDdOgZX2yFXKnRySwiN](http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/this_guy_is_just_bad_liar_and_that_5uCiDdOgZX2yFXKnRySwiN)

## Government against blacks

by John Stossel, 1 June 2011

The other day, I went to Times Square to ask people what government should do to help poor people. Most everyone agreed on the answer: "more social programs and a higher minimum wage."

It's intuitive to think that way. I used to think that, too. When President Johnson declared a "war on poverty," he said "compassionate government" was the road to prosperity for poor people. That made sense to me. At Princeton, I was taught that government's central planners had the solution to poverty.

But then I watched them work...

**Read on:** <http://patriotpost.us/opinion/john-stossel/2011/06/01/government-against-blacks/>

## The Weiner career death watch

by John Hayward, 1 June 2011

...As long as Weiner looks electable, no one in the Democrat Party will pressure him to resign that seat. His problem is that he's become ridiculous. His role as a front-line attack dog for the Democrats' ugly class warfare tactics is over. From now on, he's just a blowhard who will have to put up with audiences bursting into uncontrollable fits of laughter at the mention of his name.

He didn't help matters with the false accusations about mysterious "hackers" he hastily deployed in the early hours of the breaking scandal. For one thing, as Lachlan Markay at the *Washington Examiner* **points out**, Weiner used to take cyber security *very* seriously. Now he's just tossing accusations of major security violations around as flimsy distractions to play for time. He actually made *jokes* about being "hacked" to show how cool he was, and lower the temperature of the emerging scandal. If his concern for cyber security was so obviously manufactured and insincere, why should he be taken seriously about anything, ever again?

Also, the "hacker" story made a *lot* of liberals look extremely foolish over the last few days, as they took it seriously and worked themselves up into quivering towers of outrage. Now that Weiner's story has mutated, and it seems clear an authorized user of Weiner's accounts sent the scandalous image, they look utterly ridiculous. It is one thing to become a clown, quite another to stick red noses and floppy shoes on so many of your loyal defenders.

Weiner's behavior since the story broke has become a separate story, which could no longer be easily defused by bringing forward a contrite staffer who admits to using Weiner's accounts to send the image. He's become a hilarious cartoon figure, racing around Washington and barking that he wants to "get back to work" and "won't become distracted." He's melted down into **vein-popping rage** at reporters who dare to point out that he won't answer even the simplest of questions about the affair, such as whether the infamous photo is an authentic image of Weiner himself...

**More:** <http://www.humanevents.com/article.php?id=43844>

## Support Our Troops

They're still fighting for us.

**Soldiers' Angels**

**Wounded Warrior Project**

**Fisher House: help military families**

**Disabled American Veterans**

**Our Military**

## Be sure to read these superb pieces:

**The Descent of Liberalism** by Michael Knox Beran

**The State Despot** by Mark Steyn

**Seen, and Not Seen** by Frédéric Bastiat (July 1850)

**100 Stimulus Projects: A Second Opinion** by Sen. Tom Coburn

**Just Make Stuff Up** by Victor Davis Hanson

**What would real health care reform look like?** by Ronald Bailey

**Health Care Mythology** by Clifford Asness

**And here's what a trillion dollars looks like.**