

By repeated use of the psychobabble suffix "phobia," Leftists keep trying like hell to pathologize our opposition to certain of their key allies.

## **A rational fear of Islamism**

Not all fears are irrational, nor criticism unwarranted.

by Robert Spencer and David Horowitz, 30 Sept 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/278722/rational-fear-islamism-robert-spencer>

I think he meant to say "What could we *have been* thinking." But never mind. This is delicious.

## **Finally, the cognoscenti ask: What could we be thinking?**

by Mark Steyn, 30 Sept 2011

<http://www.investors.com/NewsAndAnalysis/Article/586601/201109301825/Finally-The-Cognoscenti-Ask-What-Could-We-Be-Thinking-.htm>

This is a friendly explanation of why Herman Cain's well-meaning "9-9-9" idea probably wouldn't work too well. But it doesn't mean he shouldn't be president. Most presidents of the past 100 years have espoused (and often passed) far worse programs. And no conceivable House and Senate during a Cain presidency would pass this one.

## **Nein! Nein! Nein!**

The wild world of Cainonomics.

by Kevin D. Williamson, 29 Sept 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/278668/nein-nein-nein-kevin-d-williamson>

"If we forget what we did, we won't know who we are. I'm warning of an eradication of the American memory that could result, ultimately, in an erosion of the American spirit." — Ronald Reagan, 11 Jan 1989

## **Who owns History?**

We do, and we need to teach it to our kids.

by Mona Charen, 30 Sept 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/278747/who-owns-history-mona-charen>

If the GOP would actively court black voters, African Americans would have a voice on school choice, immigration policies, and cultural issues like abortion.

## **Why Herman Cain could be a game changer**

by Jay Cost, 30 Sept 2011

After a well-received debate performance last week, Herman Cain surprised everybody by finishing atop the Florida straw poll. This week, he's finally seeing traction in the polls, and now serious people are starting to take him seriously. It's far past time for us to take a closer look at Cain, who appears to be making a credible bid for top-tier status.

Earlier this week, Herman Cain asserted that he could win about a third of the black vote. Is this possible? And if so, what would it mean, for Republicans as well as African Americans?

The consequences of just a ten-point swing among African Americans would be enormous for the Grand Old Party. If George W. Bush had won 20 percent of the black vote in 2000 and 2004, he would have beaten Al Gore by almost a point and a half (instead of losing by half a point) and defeated John Kerry by 4 points (instead of his two-point victory). If McCain had done this well among African Americans, Obama's 7-point victory would have been cut almost in half. The problem is that Republican political leaders don't really care very much about this...

**Read it all**

[http://www.weeklystandard.com/blogs/morning-jay-why-herman-cain-could-be-game-changer\\_594601.html](http://www.weeklystandard.com/blogs/morning-jay-why-herman-cain-could-be-game-changer_594601.html)

## Most GOP voters saying "Anybody but Romney"

by Robert Tracinski, 30 Sept 2011

...The Democrats boast about how "compassionate" they can be with other people's money, and Republicans trail along behind them, protesting that they can be compassionate, too. We all know who wins that contest. So part of Perry's fall since the last debate has been a visceral reaction to seeing him deploy an argument those of us on the right really hate when the left uses it against us...

...Mitt Romney might have seemed like a minimally acceptable candidate in a different year, if we were comfortable having a prudent, competent, consensus-seeking manager of the status quo. And I will still vote for him in the general election, if it comes to that, because "anybody but Obama" trumps "anybody but Romney." But a lot of people on the right sense that Barack Obama has caused so much damage, piled up so much debt, and moved the country so far in the direction of socialism that the next president will need to be bold enough to lead the country in a radical change of direction. And they know that Mitt Romney is not that man.

So after Perry disappointed them, Republican voters looked for someone new to enter the race, a savior to come in and be their new champion. But Mitch Daniels still isn't going to run, and Chris Christie seems to have once again shut the door, leaving only Sarah Palin as the potential new entry. All of these candidates have their own problems...

...In a crowded field, the greatest difficulty any candidate has is just getting noticed and considered. Well, now Herman Cain will get noticed and considered, and we will have a chance to look at him and decide if we think he's up for the job. It has already begun...

**More:** [http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2011/09/30/most\\_gop\\_voters\\_want\\_anybody\\_but\\_romney\\_111534.html](http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2011/09/30/most_gop_voters_want_anybody_but_romney_111534.html)

## The killing of Anwar al-Awlaki is a major blow for al-Qaeda

by Con Coughlin, 30 Sept 2011

...A fluent English speaker, Awlaki skillfully exploited the internet to urge young British Muslims to launch home-made terror attacks against high profile institutions. During a spell in 2004 when he was—bizarrely—allowed to live in London, he spent much of his time preaching his radical message at mosques and on university campuses. Among those who attended his vitriolic sermons were some of those responsible for carrying out the July 7 bombings in London, the worst terrorist attack in British history.

More recently he was linked to the failed underpants bomber at Detroit airport in late 2009, as well as the East Midlands Airport bomb plot. But while his removal from the terror scene is a major breakthrough in the decade-old war against al-Qaeda, it is not the end of the story. There will be many of his followers, both in Britain and Yemen, who will be seeking to avenge his death, and have the means to do so.

**More:** <http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/concoughlin/100108384/the-killing-of-anwar-al-awlaki-is-a-major-blow-for-al-qaeda/>

## Venezuela the morning after

29 Sept 2011

Our friend Mark Falcoff writes to comment on [the news](#) that Hugo Chávez is in serious condition:

"The latest rumors out of Caracas — unconfirmed but not wholly without some foundation — are that Venezuelan strongman Hugo Chávez may be fatally succumbing to cancer. If this is so, it won't be long before the world knows it. The news certainly justifies some reflection on what might happen in that country were the president to die at the present time.

"The fact is, chavismo is a one-man circus. There is simply no one else in the regime, not even his brother Adán, who can play the same role and attract the same level of political support. Chávez's survival is absolutely crucial to the continuation of the regime, because the Venezuelan president, for all his buffoonery, for all the waste and corruption and downright silliness associated with his government, is still popular with roughly half the country's population...

**More:** <http://www.powerlineblog.com/archives/2011/09/venezuela-the-morning-after.php>

## Punished for supporting Israel

Baron Bodissey, 29 Sept 2011

Alaa Alsaegh is an Iraqi Muslim living in the St. Louis area. Last month he wrote a poem in Arabic for a pro-Israel website, expressing his support for Israel.

His reward? Two strangers trapped him on a deserted street and carved a Star of David in his back with a knife.  
Many thanks to Vlad Tepes for uploading this video...

**More:** <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/09/punished-for-supporting-israel.html#more>

## Taking Cain Seriously

Why isn't a successful business résumé presidential material?

by *Daniel Henninger*, 29 Sept 2011

...The GOP nominee is running against the incumbent president. Unlike the incumbent, Herman Cain has at least twice identified the causes of a large failing enterprise, designed goals, achieved them, and by all accounts inspired the people he was supposed to lead. Not least, Mr. Cain's life experience suggests that, unlike the incumbent, he will adjust his ideas to reality.

Herman Cain is a credible candidate. Whether he deserves to be president is something voters will decide. But he deserves a serious look...

**Read it all:** [http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204226204576599031274832242.html?mod=WSJ\\_Opinion\\_LEADTop](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204226204576599031274832242.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEADTop)

**Herman Cain's 1994 encounter with President Clinton:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-WP5dYfBBzU>

## "Inappropriate and hurtful." ROFLMAO!

### Half Baked

UC Berkeley's diversity machine loses its mind over cupcakes.

by *Heather Mac Donald*, 28 Sept 2011

...Like all such previous bake sales, it triggered a storm of ludicrously clueless outrage. Student Devonte Jackson told the *San Francisco Chronicle* that the sale was inappropriate and hurtful, "attacking underrepresented communities by reducing their communities to a cheaply priced good." The president of Berkeley's student government, which sponsored the pro-SB 185 phone bank, explained to CNN that the bake sale "humorized and mocked the struggles of people of color on this campus." Another student government officer professed dismay at such a shocking insult to students of color. "We were really taken aback and, frankly, disgusted," Joey Freeman informed the *Los Angeles Times*. Capping off this outpouring of what one can only hope is willful misreading, the student senate passed an emergency resolution on Sunday condemning "the use of discrimination whether it is in satire or in seriousness by any student group."

Gibor Basri, Berkeley's vice chancellor for equity and diversity, could have served a valuable role here by pointing out that the bake sale was obviously a parody of racial and gender preferences, not a criticism of students themselves. Whatever one thinks about the issue of preferences, he might have said, such political theater belongs to Berkeley's once-revered tradition of free speech. Instead, Basri chose to stoke the melodramatic self-pity of today's college students. "A lot of students, especially students of color, read [the bake sale] as placing a higher value on white students," Basri told the *New York Times*. Basri, in other words, obeyed the ironclad script for all such minor perturbations in the otherwise unbroken reign of campus political correctness. That script requires that the massive campus-diversity bureaucracy treat the delusional claims of hyperventilating students with utter seriousness. Students in the ever-expanding roster of official campus victim groups flatter themselves that by attending what is in fact the most caring, protective, and opportunity-rich institution in the history of the world, they are braving unspeakable threats to their ego and even to their physical safety...

**More:** <http://www.city-journal.org/2011/cjc0928hm.html>

## Obama's Interior chokehold on America

by *Jim Adams*, 27 Sept 2011

How could a bureaucratic bottleneck in the Gulf of Mexico cost the U.S. economy nearly \$20 billion and wipe out hundreds of thousands of jobs as far away as Ohio, Pennsylvania and California? Unfortunately, with this White House administration, anything is possible.

President Obama recently announced yet another jobs initiative—knowing all the while that one very simple action on his part would indeed create new jobs, infuse federal and state budgets with billions of dollars, and make us less

reliant on imports. But that didn't happen...

...Despite their earnest efforts to process the growing stack of applications, regulators on the front line don't appear to understand the new regulations that Washington D.C. has foisted upon them. The blame for this falls squarely on the shoulders of this Administration's politically appointed bureaucrats, who know nothing of the complexities involved in safe and environmentally sound deepwater drilling. Naturally, they don't let expertise or experience get in the way, they just pile on more regulations. This politically minded bureaucracy comes at tremendous cost...

**More:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/obamas\\_interior\\_chokehold\\_on\\_america.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/obamas_interior_chokehold_on_america.html)

## Selling our souls to Mark Zuckerberg

*Chicago Tribune editorial, 28 Sept 2011*

...Market research is nothing new. The concentration of data in the hands of one company is, though, and it should raise concern. The data (and those patterns) provided by his 750 million users — us — is marketing gold that will be parlayed into enormous financial gain for Facebook and its partners (there's a Facebook IPO just around the corner).

Swept up by the feel-good effects of "friends" and "like" buttons, 750 million of us have unwittingly allowed a business model that relies on our giving away information and then celebrating the "free" access we have to it.

Shouldn't Mark Zuckerberg be paying us?

**Details:** <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/editorials/ct-edit-facebook-20110928,0,4870488.story>

## Mitt Romney's health care problem

*by Ben Domenech, 27 Sept 2011*

...Romney's policy is inherently redistributive, disincentivizing success and placing the overwhelming burden for the newly insured onto other taxpayers while doing little or nothing to leverage market forces to drive competitive costs. As Cato's Michael Tanner pointed out in that piece: "It's a situation where the entire escalation in costs is paid by the government, not the people receiving the care."

But let's put all that aside, because that's not really the line that irks me from Romney's statement. It's the "nothing's changed for them" line, which evokes so much of the misplaced optimism on Obama's part that his national reform wouldn't change things for the majority of Americans who like their insurance plans. Because things *have* changed for the 92% of insured people in Massachusetts in the five years since Romney's reform passed. Namely: everything costs more.

Since Romney's law went into effect, the cost of Massachusetts premiums have **increased dramatically**, at a much faster rate than the rest of the country. Today, the health insurance premium cost for the average family in Massachusetts is the **highest** in the nation. It is **double** the national average. And yes, that counts as a change.

This gets us back to SCOTUS and the individual mandate. When Romney originally passed his reform, he maintained that it—and the individual mandate within it—would become in time **a model for the country**. His first line in the 2010 edition of his book on this point was thus consistent with **his past remarks** of his solutions in Massachusetts becoming the basis for a nationwide approach.

But before I looked into this, I had assumed that—given Romney's expressed opposition to the federal individual mandate—he would logically support its repeal. This is, surprisingly, not the case. **When Romney was asked on his book tour in 2010 about whether he'd repeal the individual mandate, he apparently said "No."** Has he shifted away from this? Has anyone followed up on this point since he officially began his 2012 campaign? It seems like a rather relevant question...

**More:** [http://www.redstate.com/ben\\_domenech/2011/09/27/mitt-romneys-health-care-problem/](http://www.redstate.com/ben_domenech/2011/09/27/mitt-romneys-health-care-problem/)

## The cynicism of Obama's soak-the-rich policy

*by Steve McCann, 26 Sept 2011*

...Whenever the American left are in power and their economic policies of socialism (papered over with a capitalistic veneer) fails, it is as certain as the change in the seasons that they will claim that the cause of the failure is that the so-called rich do not pay their undefined "fair" share in taxes. Thus they will push for higher rates in the inane belief that by raising the rates, the revenue to the government will grow by an equal percentage, as they attempt to rally the populace into a unified anger over the need to punish a perceived foe.

However, history has a way of intruding on this misbegotten philosophy. The federal income tax has been in effect since 1913. Since that time the top marginal rate has bounced around from 7% to 92%. However, there has been one immutable fact that has evolved from the experience of the past 98 years: when tax rates are reduced, combined with firm spending controls on government, the economy's growth rate improves and the standard of living for all Americans expands. A codicil to that fact: tax revenues to the government increase and the "rich" pay more taxes; as a result, the lower income citizens bear a lower share of the overall tax burden. When the opposite policy, together with uncontrolled government spending, is pursued, economic downturns are inevitable...

**The historical record:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/the\\_cynicism\\_of\\_obamas\\_soak-the-rich\\_policy.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/the_cynicism_of_obamas_soak-the-rich_policy.html)

## Quantitative Easing Explained

by Malekanoms, 11 Nov 2010

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PTUY16CkS-k>

(Hat tip: Jim K)

## "180" Movie: Hitler and America's holocaust

*The way of the master* (Ray Comfort), 21 Sept 2011

<http://hotair.com/archives/2011/09/27/video-hitler-and-americas-holocaust/>

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=7y2KsU\\_dhw1#!](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=7y2KsU_dhw1#!)

(Hat tip: Jim D)

## Green Twilight

by J.R. Dunn, 26 Sept 2011

There's something satisfyingly symbolic about the unfolding Solyndra scandal. A government "investment" based on a totally spurious Green rationale collapses, threatening to take part of the administration with it. What more apt illustration of the current status of environmentalism? It could scarcely go better if you'd scripted it...

...Rationality per se has never made so much as a dent in the green worldview. What happened was that all the green innovations reached a certain point where they could no longer be sustained by the illusions of the faithful, whereupon they crashed and burned. They were overcome by their own internal contradictions more than any other single factor. Rational opposition to the greens has consistently misinterpreted the movement's core beliefs. Critics have concentrated on arguments that wind, solar, and squirrel-on-a-treadmill power cannot replace brute force methods such as nuclear, coal, and oil. That electric go-carts are no substitute for technologically mature internal-combustion cars, that bullet trains cannot possibly compete with jetliners. All this is true—and all this is irrelevant.

It's all irrelevant because green initiatives are not meant to replace anything. They are intended to form the basis of a new, deindustrialized society with minimal power generation, limited air travel (or travel of any sort, for that matter), and local, nonindustrial economies. In a green society, there will be no massive power plants, no private automobiles, no jetliners. There will be no industrial products at all beyond those required by the environmentalist elite. Picture Al Gore, his staff, and a half-million peasants. That is the green United States of the 22<sup>nd</sup> century.

As I pointed out in *Death by Liberalism*, environmentalists have in no way been reticent about the type of society they're aiming for—one as close to that of Neolithic hunter-gatherers as possible. That was the last point in time when human beings were fully integrated into the ecology, when they dominated nothing, and were in large part simply animals that talked. The goal is not to save resources or to conserve the environment. It is to restore human beings to a point where they are simply another part of the ecology...

**More:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/green\\_twilight.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/green_twilight.html)

The Democrats have 5 excuses for this scandal—all of them nonsense. Enjoy.

## Facts eclipse Solyndra excuses

by Debra Saunders, 27 Sept 2011

<http://www.ocreger.com/opinion/solyndra-319113-loan-problem.html>

Millions of moderate Muslims *do* exist. They're the Sufis, and are concentrated in Indonesia.

## **The true story of moderate Islam**

by Robert Small, 25 Sept 2011

[http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/the\\_true\\_story\\_of\\_moderate\\_islam.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/the_true_story_of_moderate_islam.html)

## **What's next for Herman Cain?**

by John Hayward, 26 Sept 2011

<http://www.humanevents.com/article.php?id=46453>

## **Elizabeth Warren, fair play, and soaking the rich**

by Aaron Ross Powell, 23 Sept 2011

Elizabeth Warren's recent remarks on class warfare, made during a campaign stop in her quest for a Massachusetts U.S. Senate seat, provide a nice microcosm of the broader philosophical views behind much contemporary political debate...

...Fully exploring the thinking behind Warren's remarks would demand a book at least. We might point out that most of the rich got that way by creating value for others, meaning they gave back in the process of getting rich. Or we might wonder if her thinking implies that, because the state is responsible in part for the environment in which all of us earned what we have, the state is the actual owner of what we have.

To spare you having to read that book, however, I'm going to instead address just two points I find particularly interesting. First, we can tease out the theory of political obligation Warren advances and see if it holds up to scrutiny. Second, we can ask whether her argument, even if we accept it on its own terms, supports a tax increase on high income earners...

**More:** <http://www.cato-at-liberty.org/elizabeth-warren-fair-play-and-soaking-the-rich/>

## **CON job**

State "certificate of necessity" laws protect firms, not consumers.

by Timothy Sandefur, Summer 2011

When St. Louis businessman Michael Munie decided to expand his moving business to operate throughout the state of Missouri, he thought it would be a simple matter of paperwork. After all, he already held a federal license allowing him to move goods across state lines. But when he filed his application, he discovered that, under a 70-year-old state law, officials in Missouri's Department of Transportation were required to notify all of the state's existing moving companies and allow them the opportunity to object to his application. When four of them did file objections, department officials offered Munie the choice of withdrawing his application or appearing at a public hearing where he would be required to prove that there was a "public need" for his moving business...

**Continue:** <http://www.cato.org/pubs/regulation/regv34n2/regv34n2-1.pdf>

## **Tax demagogues are lying liars, in one graph**

by Randall Hoven, 26 Sept 2011

...The obvious observation from this data is that the rich pay higher taxes than the poor or middle-class. The rates are strictly progressive up to incomes of \$5 M: each income group, up to \$5M, paid a higher percentage of income in taxes than the next lower group.

It is true that the very highest income group, those making over \$10M per year (the "mega-rich"), paid a lower rate than those making merely a few million. But that group still paid a higher percentage than all groups making less than half a million dollars. The average billionaire would pay a higher tax rate than his secretary unless he paid his secretary a couple million dollars per year.

Does it not strike you as odd that this "anomaly" in progressivity is used to justify increasing taxes on everyone

making more than \$200K per year? If the top 8,274 taxpayers are the ones who bother you, why are you raising taxes on the top three *million* taxpayers, a good several hundred thousand of whom already pay a higher rate than those 8,274?

There is a simple reason the "mega-rich" pay a slightly lower average rate on personal income taxes than the merely "rich." That reason is not some dark secret known only to tax loophole experts. It is that most of their income is from capital gains, which is taxed at a lower rate than "normal" income.

And there is a simple reason for that: capital gains have already been taxed in the form of *corporate* income taxes. Warren Buffett likes to include payroll taxes in his little anecdotal calculations, but he neglects to include corporate income tax, inheritance taxes, and other forms of taxes that are paid disproportionately by the mega-rich.

And by the way, total **federal revenue** in 2007, well after the Bush tax rates were in effect, was 18.5% of Gross Domestic Product. The 1960-2000 average was 18.2% of GDP. All that tax rate-cutting, and still the actual revenues collected were above the historical average.

**View the graphs:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/tax\\_demagogues\\_are\\_lying\\_liars\\_in\\_one\\_graph.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/tax_demagogues_are_lying_liars_in_one_graph.html)

## Birmingham suicide bombers caught

*posted by Dymphna, 25 Sept 2011*

Four men have this evening been charged with preparing for an act of terrorism in the UK, and two more with failing to disclose information. One has additionally been charged with terrorist fundraising.

The men, all from Birmingham, were arrested a week ago as part of a major operation carried out by the West Midlands Counter Terrorism Unit. The arrests were unarmed, pre-planned and intelligence-led.

A seventh man from the city, aged 20 and arrested on Thursday, continues to be questioned. Officers have until Thursday September 29 to charge, release or apply for a further warrant of detention.

The six charged are aged between 25 and 32 and will appear at West London Magistrates Court (Hammersmith) tomorrow afternoon. Those charged are:

IRFAN NASSER (14/6/81) aged 30 of 55 Doris Road, Sparkhill

IRFAN KHALID (1/3/85) aged 26 of 35 Timbers Way, Sparkbrook

ASHIK ALI (12/3/85) aged 26 of 23 White Street, Balsall Heath

RAHIN AHMED (28/7/86) aged 25 of 114 Moorcroft Road, Moseley

BAHADER ALI (4/7/83) aged 28 of 27 Turner Street, Sparkbrook

MOHAMMED RIZWAN (3/2/79) aged 32 of 75 Asquith Road, Sparkbrook

**More:** <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/09/birmingham-suicide-bombers-caught.html#more>

## Climate skeptics don't 'deny science'

*by Jeff Jacoby, 24 Sept 2011*

...In truth, global-warming alarmism is not science at all—not in the way that electromagnetic radiation or the laws of planetary motion or molecular biology is science. Catastrophic climate change is an *interpretation* of certain scientific data, an interpretation based on theories about the causes and effects of growing concentrations of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. It is not "denying science" to have doubts about the correctness of that interpretation any more than it is "denying economics" to have doubts about the efficacy of Keynesian pump-priming.

You don't have to look far to see that impeccable scientific standards can go hand-in-hand with skepticism about global warming. Ivar Giaever, a 1973 Nobel laureate in physics, resigned this month as a Fellow of the American Physical Society (APS) to protest the organization's official position that evidence of manmade climate change is "incontrovertible" and cause for alarm...

...By now, only **ideologues** and **political propagandists** insist that all reputable scientists agree on the human responsibility for climate change. Even within the American Physical Society, the editor of "Physics and Society" (an APS publication) has **acknowledged** that "there is a considerable presence within the scientific community of people who do not agree ... that anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are ... primarily responsible for the global warming that has occurred since the Industrial Revolution."

Giaever is only one of many distinguished scientists who dissent from the alarmist view on climate change. Among the others are Richard Lindzen of MIT and John Christy of the University of Alabama at Huntsville, both noted climatologists; the eminent physicist Freeman Dyson of Princeton's Institute for Advanced Study; and S. Fred Singer, professor emeritus of environmental science at the University of Virginia. Within the population of weather experts best known to the public—broadcast meteorologists—The New York Times **reported last year** that skepticism of the prevailing anthropogenic global-warming theory "appears to be widespread."...

**More:** <http://www.jeffjacoby.com/10407/climate-skeptics-dont-deny-science>

## **Rick Perry, In-State Tuition, and Federal Law**

*by Heather Mac Donald, 24 Sept 2011*

...There are compelling humanitarian arguments for treating illegal minors who did not themselves choose to break the law with far greater leniency than the parents who brought them into the country illegally. How to deal with them is the thorniest problem resulting from our broken borders.

But hard cases can make bad law. Giving illegal youth *de facto* legal status is deeply unfair to those immigrant parents and their children who obeyed the law. And once you start handing out amnesties, you inevitably create more incentives for illegal entry. Moreover, allowing illegal students full access to Texas's university system while making them pay out-of-state tuition like every other non-legal resident of Texas — such as citizens from Arkansas or Oklahoma — hardly constitutes a denial of education, as Perry implies.

Perry justified Texas's mini-amnesty on federalism grounds: "This was a state issue. Texas voted on it."

That might be a minimally colorable argument but for a little problem: Federal law explicitly forbids just what Texas did...

**More:** <http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/278242/rick-perry-state-tuition-and-federal-law-heather-mac-donald>

## **In Arizona, nibbling away at free enterprise**

*by George F. Will, 23 Sept 2011*

...The plucky litigators at the **Goldwater Institute** are representing Vong in arguing that the Constitution protects the individual's right to earn a living free from unreasonable regulations. In a 1932 case (overturning an Oklahoma law requiring a new ice company to prove a "public need" for it), the U.S. Supreme Court said that the law's tendency was to "foster monopoly in the hands of existing establishments." The court also said:

"The principle is imbedded in our constitutional system that there are certain essentials of liberty with which the state is not entitled to dispense... The theory of experimentation in censorship [is] not permitted to interfere with the fundamental doctrine of the freedom of the press. The opportunity to apply one's labor and skill in an ordinary occupation with proper regard for all reasonable regulations is no less entitled to protection."

Unfortunately, soon after 1932, New Deal progressivism washed over the courts, which became derelict regarding their duty to protect economic liberty. Courts deferred to governments eager to experiment with economic micromanagement. Inevitably, this became regulation in the service of existing interests. And regulatory agencies often succumbed to "regulatory capture," whereby regulated businesses and professions dominate regulatory bodies. Arizona's Board of Cosmetology consists mostly of professional cosmetologists.

In the **Cato Institute's** journal **Regulation**, Timothy Sandefur of the conservative Pacific Legal Foundation examines how "certificate of necessity" (CON) laws stifle opportunity and competition. For example...

**More:** [http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/in-arizona-nibbling-away-at-free-enterprise/2011/09/22/gIQA9B2erK\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/in-arizona-nibbling-away-at-free-enterprise/2011/09/22/gIQA9B2erK_story.html)

## **The shallow anti-Americanism of the 'I am Troy Davis' crowd**

*by Toby Harnden, 24 Sept 2011*

There are few subjects that provoke as much smug condescension and shallow anti-Americanism as the death penalty in the United States. And the "debate" over the execution in Georgia last Wednesday of Troy Davis, 42, convicted of the 1989 murder of Mark MacPhail, an off-duty police officer, marked a new low...

...To describe a two-decade legal process that twice went to the highest court in the land as a "lynching" is to try to strip the word of all meaning. Last year, the Supreme Court took the extraordinary step of directing that a District Judge scrutinise hold fresh hearings because seven out of nine eyewitnesses had supposedly recanted their testimony.

Davis's lawyers declined to put two of those witnesses on the stand, making their affidavits of almost no value. Judge William Moore, a President Bill Clinton appointee, found that of the five others, two did not in fact alter their original evidence and two lacked any credibility. He found that one, a jailhouse snitch, had genuinely recanted—but that it had been clear in the original trial he was a liar.

Judge Moore concluded in his **174-page ruling** that the "fresh" evidence Davis had gathered amounted to little more than "smoke and mirrors" and the "vast majority of the evidence at trial remains intact."



Indeed, a reading of his judgement indicates that by not calling two of its recantation witnesses (one was waiting in the courthouse to testify and the other, the homeless man who was beaten, was readily available), the Davis defence team was preserving something they knew would damage his case in court if tested but if left intact could be of publicity value. There has never been a scintilla of evidence that Davis's race has ever been a factor in his initial conviction or in it being upheld.

The current Supreme Court contains four liberal judges, none of whom issued a dissent in the Davis case. Two of them were appointed by Mr Obama who, incidentally, supports the death penalty himself and declined to make any statement about the execution. Another justice, Clarence Thomas, is a black man from Georgia...

**Read the rest:** <http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/tobyharnden/100106968/american-way-the-shallow-anti-americanism-of-the-%E2%80%9Ci-am-troy-davis%E2%80%9D-crowd/>

## How Cain won Florida

by Byron York, 25 Sept 2011

...Just how much the ground shifted wasn't apparent until early Saturday evening, when Florida Gov. Rick Scott announced the poll's results: Perry, and fellow leader Mitt Romney, and the rest of the Republican field finished far behind longshot winner Herman Cain. It was a huge victory for Cain in a key state...

..."I liked Cain, but I wasn't sure he could win," said Zena, from Washington County. "But after I heard this, I thought it doesn't matter if he wins or not—I am for this man. He was awesome." Multiply Thelma, Melissa, and Zena a few hundred times and you have what happened inside the convention hall. As he walked around the enormous room, Scott Plakon began to suspect that something was up. "Supporters of the other camps, some who had buttons on, came up to me and said, 'I voted for your guy,'" Plakon says. In the end, it wasn't even close.

What had happened? In the days before the vote, nearly all the delegates who voted for Cain either said or heard someone else say this: "I love Herman Cain, but he can't get elected." The assumption that Cain can't win the Republican nomination was a serious obstacle in their minds. But at some point late Friday and early Saturday, the delegates overcame that obstacle. Some concluded that since they had heard so many people speak well of Cain, he could indeed win, if everyone who liked him would actually vote for him. Others remained skeptical of Cain's ultimate chances but decided to send the message that they would choose candidates based on conservative principles, and not on perceived electability. Once the delegates got over the can't-get-elected hurdle, a close contest became a landslide for Herman Cain.

One other factor should not be underestimated. Yes, the delegates liked what Cain had to say. But how he said it was just as important. With his deep, booming voice and a style that any motivational speaker would envy, Cain can give a rousing speech, and he gave several of them during four days in Orlando. No other candidate, frontrunner or back of the pack, could match him. It's not an exaggeration to say that his power as an orator sealed the deal for hundreds of delegates. They believed Cain was speaking to them from the heart, and they were carried away by it...

**More:** <http://campaign2012.washingtonexaminer.com/article/how-cain-won-florida>

Straw polls don't necessarily mean a lot. But this one gives me reason to hope that my ideal GOP ticket may yet happen: Herman Cain for president and **Allen West** for vice president—with the slogan "**Now What?!**"

## Cain wins big at Florida Straw Poll

24 Sept 2011

Businessman Herman Cain scored a major upset Saturday, winning the Florida straw poll and creating a new set of problems for Texas Gov. Rick Perry.

The final tally: Cain carried 37% of the vote, Perry 15% and former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney 14%. Former Pennsylvania senator Rick Santorum was at 11%, Texas Rep. Ron Paul at 10% and former House speaker Newt Gingrich at 9%. Trailing far behind were former Utah governor Jon Huntsman and Minnesota Rep. Michele Bachmann, at 2%...

**More:** <http://www.11alive.com/rss/article/206736/3/Cain-wins-big-at-Florida-Straw-Poll>

## "Wish I'd Thought of This a Week Ago" Department

Don John, 24 Sept 2011

It would have been fine with me if they could have commuted **this guy's** sentence to life imprisonment, in exchange for finally allowing the execution of **this** America-hating Communist scumbag murderer.

This is a fine column. But I'm not sure Mr. Pelerin is right. He fails to address one undeniable fact: The modern Democrat Party is such a creature of racial and victim-group politics that it would *implode* if it hounded Mr. Obama from office without proving that he is either a murderer or a child molester—and preferably of black children at that, rather than those of any other ethnicity.

## Will scandal drive Obama off the 2012 ticket?

by Monty Pelerin 21 Sept 2011

[http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/will\\_scandal\\_drive\\_obama\\_off\\_the\\_2012\\_ticket.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/will_scandal_drive_obama_off_the_2012_ticket.html)

## Obama takes aim at tax 'targets,' fires blanks

by Caroline Baum, 23 Sept 2011

...Thus did Obama's tax reform take on a decidedly populist cast. The president's "Buffett Rule," an idea without specifics, would ensure that millionaires pay higher taxes than the middle class (as a group, they already do). Obama would let the Bush tax cuts expire for Americans making more than \$200,000 a year (\$250,000 for households) and limit their itemized deductions, be they for charitable contributions, mortgage or tax-exempt interest, or employer-sponsored health care.

In his quest for fairness, Obama may end up taxing those he wants to help. As the editors at Bloomberg View noted in an [editorial](#) this week, the diminished appeal of municipal bonds, if their tax status changed, would raise borrowing costs, leading to higher taxes, reduced services and less money for the state and local infrastructure projects the president loves to tout.

In economics, this is called the law of unintended consequences. Somehow Obama managed to spend 12 years on the law school faculty at the University of Chicago without absorbing any of the school's free-market zeitgeist...

**Read it all:** <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-09-23/obama-takes-aim-at-tax-targets-fires-blanks-caroline-baum.html>

## Warren caught fibbing about TARP pay

by Rick Moran, 24 Sept 2011

Let's cut Elizabeth Warren some slack. She was only off by \$128,000 when she first released her salary for being chairman of TARP. Anybody can make a [mistake](#)...

**Read on:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/09/warren\\_caught\\_fibbing\\_about\\_tarp\\_pay.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/09/warren_caught_fibbing_about_tarp_pay.html)

## A Fifth of Solyndra

*New York Post editorial, 24 Sept 2011*

Can the Solyndra fiasco get much worse for the Obama administration?

What started as a steering of stimulus money to a solar-paneling firm run by an Obama donor yesterday became a Capitol Hill scene that evoked memories of 1950s hearings into mob domination of organized labor.

Solyndra CEO Brian Harrison and chief financial officer Bill Stover both invoked Fifth Amendment protections against self-incrimination Friday in their appearance before the House Energy and Commerce Committee; they refused to testify despite previously having said they would...

**More:** [http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/editorials/fifth\\_of\\_solyndra\\_AFy1j17zGM5rGAgVL357MP](http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/editorials/fifth_of_solyndra_AFy1j17zGM5rGAgVL357MP)

## Why won't liberals listen to reason?

by David P. Goldman, 21 Sept 2011

The left believes that a clever elite can fix all the world's problems; conservatives accept that human error can lead to disastrous outcomes. Liberals fancy themselves rational in contrast to conservatives' dour acknowledgment of tradition and tragedy. Why, then, is the left so impossibly, stubbornly, counter-factually dense when it comes to the state of Israel (among other matters)?

Liberal rationality is a pose. Knowledge is existential — that is, we tend to ignore facts that apply to a world in

which we will not exist at all. I saw that before the 2008 banking crash, when I **tried to warn the industry** that a crash was inevitable. Most of them said, in effect, "If what you're saying is true, then I shouldn't have a job, so I won't think about it." Not long afterwards, most of them didn't.

The left (and the European left in particular) doesn't like certain facts because they are dying — literally. The triumph of the secular welfare state in Europe is associated with a catastrophic population decline. Three-fifths of southern Europeans will be elderly pensioners by mid-century. Of course, they're going to go bankrupt. And Muslim society is fragile, and much of the Muslim world has entered a tailspin from which it won't recover. The left clings to the magical idea that if only Israel would roll over and die, and validate the illusions of the Muslims, that somehow this horrific future might be avoided...

**More:** <http://pajamasmedia.com/spengler/2011/09/21/why-wont-liberals-listen-to-reason/>

A supremely eloquent rejoinder to the Palestinians' intolerant fantasies. Just read it!

## **Speech to the UN General Assembly**

by *Benjamin Netanyahu*, 23 Sept 2011

[http://www.weeklystandard.com/blogs/netanyahus-un-speech\\_594122.html](http://www.weeklystandard.com/blogs/netanyahus-un-speech_594122.html)

## **Elizabeth Warren's Piffle**

The folly of a supposed "underlying social contract."

by *Rich Lowry*, 23 Sept 2011

...Focusing on infrastructure as the crucial support of entrepreneurial activity is like crediting the guy who built young Bill Gates's garage with the start of Microsoft. Yes, Gates needed a roof over his head, and garages are useful. But it was Gates who had the ambition to do more in his garage than store his car and lawn-care products. Incalculably more important than his physical surroundings were his imagination and business sense.

Could Gates have done it in Mogadishu or Peshawar? Certainly not. But the goods cited by Warren as the foundation of a workable business environment are extremely minimal. If all the government did was build roads, educate kids, and provide for public order, it'd be a libertarian paradise almost up to the standards of Ron Paul. Then our government could easily be funded exclusively by taxes on the rich.

In the real world, Warren wants her factory owner to fund runaway spending that threatens the country's future, unreformed entitlement programs, a public sector that is often effectively a jobs program for the Democratic party, a failing education system, subsidies for other people's factories so long as they are "green," and a burgeoning regulatory apparatus crimping his business. All of this is supposed to activate the owner's sense of mutual obligation?...

...Warren's acclaimed remarks demonstrate a concern for social justice over economics. She's evidently not worried about the practical consequences. According to the census, one in five American children is living in poverty, and the average earnings of the typical man working full time are beneath 1978 levels. Anyone worried about our social contract should care first of all about creating more economic growth, and more factory owners...

**More:** <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/278108/elizabeth-warren-s-piffle-rich-lowry>

## **Oops, Obama touts his jobs plan today at an Ohio bridge that won't qualify**

by *Andrew Malcolm*, 23 Sept 2011

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/washington/2011/09/obama-jobs-plan-brent-spence-bridge-cincinnati.html>

## **Explosive email shows anti-Palin author McGinniss, Random House likely published literary hoax (updated)**

by *Andrew Breitbart*, 22 Sept 2011

**More:** <http://bigjournalism.com/abreitbart/2011/09/22/explosive-email-shows-anti-palin-author-tricked-random-house-into-publishing-literary-hoax/>

## Obama's Middle East is in tatters, utter tatters

by Martin Peretz, 20 Sept 2011

...I wish there would be a Palestinian state, not because there is actually a real Palestinian people. I'm not persuaded of that. And, of course, I don't think that there is a Nigerian people which is why, when younger, I was an active supporter of Biafra, the would-be Ibo state, squashed by an indifferent world in behalf of the territorial integrity of, yes, Nigeria which is breaking apart before our eyes, in part because of the machinations of Muslim extremism. The world will some day have to come to grips with the fact that most governments are not really representative of their peoples. The whole notion of a country's UN membership being a certificate of legitimacy is morally corrupt. UN membership is an admission ticket to the expensive blandishments of New York.

So I want a Palestine because I want Israelis not to have to burden themselves with an internal population that has neither the coherence of a nation nor a tradition of democratic norms. President Obama is enamored of the current Palestinian narrative, as false as it is self-pitying. This is a simple narrative and an over-simple projection into the future. It assumes that a 1949 map of the cease-fire lines—yes, of course, with appropriate but tiny land exchanges—will assure the peace. I do not think it assures anything except that Israel would be deflected from the art and science of building an ever freer society, a chore—if you'll forgive me—it has shown some talents in doing. I do not know Obama's head. Maybe nobody does. But his fervent and fervid clamoring for a simple Israeli route to an independent Palestine misled no people so much as the Palestinians. When he retreated from his formulae, which the PA assumed he could impose on Israel, they were already on an independence high. His somber entreaties could not bring them back to any semblance of reality.

This conundrum of a non-negotiated state for the Palestinians appeals to the ardent *déclarateurs*. It ignores the fact that free and responsible politics has never been a habit in the Arab world. Read me right: never...

**Read it all:** <http://www.tnr.com/article/tel-aviv-journal/95112/obama-turkey-erdogan-palestine-vote>

## Obama's fascist economy

by Steve McCann, 21 Sept 2011

Barack Obama and his minions in the administration as well as many Democrats in the Congress are often described as Socialists, or in the extreme as Marxists. However, their actions and strategy are straight out of the fascist economic playbook. They have become the modern reincarnation of the fascist mindset, without the militarism of Italy and Germany, that dominated Europe in the 1920s and '30s.

Over the past seventy years, the left and their allies in the media have succeeded in labeling fascism as a right-wing or conservative philosophy when it in reality was an offshoot of socialism. Socialism/Marxism seeks the total control of a society's economy through complete state control of the means of production and income. Fascism seeks that same control, indirectly by the state domination of private ownership, as well as controlling individual income and wealth through taxation and regulation. Jonah Goldberg's masterpiece *Liberal Fascism* convincingly demonstrates the progressive roots of fascism...

**Continue:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/obamas\\_fascist\\_economy.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/obamas_fascist_economy.html)

## How a totalitarian democracy avoids responsibility

by Dymphna, 21 Sept 2011

In a totalitarian democracy, this is how you set someone up so you can take him down. It is sick and disturbing on its own, but the implications are terrifying for the victim of their demonization...

...Fjordman, called here "Fjordland", is a paraplegic who can't speak. Somehow this character is supposed to be a figure of fun. This is especially funny you see, because Fjordman is famous for his words. Thus having a "dumb" 'Fjordland' character is a scream.

This is not only sick, it's a set-up. I have no proof of my theory, but from all appearances it would seem they plan to have Fjordman take the fall for Breivik's behavior. Here are the steps by which I believe Fjordman will be criminalized and imprisoned. As you can see, it's carefully choreographed...

**More:** <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/09/how-totalitarian-democracy-avoids.html#more>

## When Will it End?

by Zenster, 16 Sept 2011 (Part 1 of 3)

When will it end? Short answer — It will end when the tipping point is reached. This tipping point can be defined as follows: **When living *with* Muslims becomes more trouble than living *without* Muslims...**

**More:** <http://1389blog.com/2011/09/16/when-will-it-end/>

## Why Will it End?

by Zenster, 16 Sept 2011 (Part 2 of 3)

Why will it end? Short answer — Islam has "unhappy ending" written all over it. Tragically, for Islam there is no possibility of a happy ending. It has often been said that the only peace which Islam — famously known as "The Religion of Peace" — offers anyone is the peace of the grave...

...Islam is like a spear. Islamic *hijra* has thrust Muslims deep within Western civilization only to see them infect every last institution with their steady subversion of Constitutional rights and basic liberties. Hackneyed cries of "racism" and "Islamophobia" — as if a fear of Islam could ever be irrational — are trotted out in response to every legitimate criticism of Islam; even as Muslims set about stifling free speech and freedom of expression around the world. At this spear's sharp end are the over **over 17,000 deadly terrorist attacks** that have happened since the 9-11 atrocity...

...As Winston Churchill noted about Islam, "No stronger retrograde force exists in the world." This is why it is foredoomed to failure...

**Continue:** <http://1389blog.com/2011/09/16/why-will-it-end/>

## How Will It End?

by Zenster, 21 Sept 2011 (Part 3 of 3)

...Piled on top of this is Israel's continuous string of military victories against often overwhelming Arab forces. How then to explain that away without an indisputable annihilation of Israel tucked under their Islamic belt? Deprived of any concrete proof that Islam actually *can* prevail against the eternally hated Jew, please do not begin to imagine that there will be any near term cessation of hostilities, if ever.

Thus we are presented with the micro model of global terrorism. Withdrawal, surrender, in fact, peace of any sort with Islam is simply out of the question. In reality, Islam offers nothing that remotely resembles an actual "peace treaty." Instead, there is only *hudna*, a temporarily cessation of hostilities that is specifically designed to permit Muslims the rearming needed to then break that "truce" at their convenience. Whither Israel ... whither the global community where Islam is concerned.

So long as the West does not pose an existential threat to Islam's continued presence on earth, there will be no accommodation of any sort. This is the bottom line. That degree of political will is sorely lacking in the West and, even if it existed, there is little likelihood that anyone involved would appreciate how any such pact with the unbelievers would be broken at the first instant of advantage for Islam.

Islam has always demanded to be paid in its own bloody coin. Violence is the only tender it recognizes and all other currency is scorned as a coward's coinage. *Hudna*, *taqiyya* and *kitman* all assure that there is no hope of an honorably negotiated peace. Islam wants no such thing. Global domination is its imperative and any re-scripting of those priorities is simply out of the question...

**Read it all:** <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/09/how-will-it-end.html#more>

## Another amazing Obama photo

by Thomas Lifson, 21 Sept 2011

Our genius president has done it again. In a group photo of national leaders at the Open Government Partnership event at the United Nations, President Ego decided to wave at the camera, blocking the face of the man standing next to him, so it is not possible to identify him...

**More:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/09/another\\_amazing\\_obama\\_photo.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/09/another_amazing_obama_photo.html)

This column reveals the plan to be a mountain of lies, self-delusion, and economic ignorance.

## Obama's duplicitous debt reduction plan

by Robert Robb, 21 Sept 2011

<http://www.azcentral.com/members/Blog/RobertRobb/142687>

## Obama speech was "Obama Unplugged"

by Peter Wehner, 20 Sept 2011

...Obama has a deep, almost desperate, need to portray himself as the opposite of what he is. This appears to involve more than simple political considerations. Obama has an unusual capacity to conceive of himself in a way that is at odds with reality...

...What Obama is acting out is similar to a phenomenon we sometimes see among ministers. It isn't simply that they avoid sermonizing about areas they themselves are failing in. They actually portray themselves to their congregations as mastering the very sins that beset them. Cynicism and hypocrisy are obviously at play in these circumstances — but often something more complicated is at work. These people have a compulsive need to cover up their vices by trumpeting an imaginary set of virtues. At some point this habit—to view oneself in a way that is utterly divorced from, and even the opposite of, reality—can become unsettling...

**Read the rest:** <http://www.commentarymagazine.com/2011/09/20/obama-speech-class-envy/>

## Obama's bizarre tax attack

**It is class warfare.**

by Larry Kudlow, 19 Sept 2011

...Almost all of Warren Buffett's income comes from capital gains taxed at 15 percent. He only pays himself \$100,000 a year, which would be taxed at the top rate. Most of his wealth is untaxed as unrealized capital gains. So his effective income-tax rate is lower than his secretary's.

So what? The vast majority of millionaires pay a 35 percent current tax rate on personal income from salaries, bonuses, and small-business income. Their effective tax rate is around 30 percent, much higher than the roughly 20 percent effective rate for the so-called middle class (depending, of course, on how you define the middle class).

Remember that the top 1 percent of income-tax payers shoulders 40 percent of all income taxes. They are paying their fair share. Then remember that 50 percent of income-tax filers don't pay any income tax at all.

Obama refuses to tell us what the new millionaire tax rate would be, or what the formula might be in relation to middle-class taxpayers. But one thing's for sure: This new Buffet tax is a penalty on investment, risk-taking, and job-creation. No one even knows what the targeted group is going to be. A New York Times story suggests that the Buffet tax will hit three-tenths of 1 percent of taxpayers, which could be 450,000 people out of 144 million tax returns.

A Wall Street Journal story suggests the Buffet tax would have hit just 22,000 people in 2009, those households making more than \$1 million annually and paying less than 15 percent of income in federal income taxes. According to the Tax Policy Center, doubling the tax burden of those 22,000 would raise just \$19 billion a year. How silly is this?

And let's also not forget that over the past four decades the evidence is absolutely clear that a lower capital-gains tax produces huge gains in revenues. Raising the cap-gains tax lowers revenues. It's a pure Laffer-curve effect...

**More:** <http://biggovernment.com/lkudlow/2011/09/19/it-is-class-warfare-obamas-bizarre-tax-attack/#more-334752>

## Catholic Controversies

Intellectuals keep creating them. The public keeps spreading them. Now author Stephen Gabriel is sorting them out.

**Catholic Controversies:** *Understanding Church Teachings and Events in History* (Moorings Press, 512 pages, \$19.95) reviewed by G. Tracy Mehan III, 20 Sept 2011

...Beyond technical theological debate, there is the broader realm of popular, journalistic discussion of religious matters in American journalism that is, typically, driven by two overarching obsessions—sex and the Catholic Church. Of course, the sexual obsession will drive coverage of any religion that offers even the slightest resistance to the reigning *zeitgeist* which is somewhere to the left of "Whoopie!" on human sexuality and family issues. But there is a special kind of bile reserved for Roman Catholicism, given its staying power and consistent and sustained resistance to the demands of sexual liberation.

Moreover, the journalistic onslaught extends to many matters outside the sphere of sexuality and to other historical matters. Indeed, the battles over church history are often the most uninformed, suffering from a lack of historical conscience and a tendentious, biased use of history for political ends. The British historian Herbert Butterfield called this tendency *The Whig Interpretation of History* (1931). There is rarely any serious coverage given to the Catholic side of the argument that isn't rather distorted or minimalist in terms of depth or understanding much less sympathy.

Fortunately, Catholics and sympathetic fellow travelers of all faiths now have a resource at hand in the form of a new collection of essays assembled and edited by Stephen Gabriel, an economist, father, and active layman. His new

book, *Catholic Controversies: Understanding Church Teachings and Events in History*, provides a substantive, yet accessible, collection of essays by an impressive number of writers and authorities on selected topics, all of which are controversial and frequently in the press and media throughout the United States and Europe...

**More:** <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/09/20/catholic-controversies>

## **Obama's Luck Goes from Poor to Horrible, or, Political Comedy Is Never Having to Say, "I'm Funny"**

*by Tim Cavanaugh, 19 Sept 2011*

...The defeat in the 9th congressional district is just one of several pieces of evidence that Obama has contracted second-term-itis in his first term. House Democrats want to see a **primary challenge**. His team **can't get its story straight** on Solyndra. His big announcement of the American Jobs Act fell so flat that he had to do a **followup speech** this morning that got even less attention. His secretary of state—a figure of highest integrity and deep loyalty to Obama who would never try to get the inside track on him if she thought she could pull it off—is **more popular than he is** and is being discussed as a replacement candidate for 2012. ABC's Jake Tapper **notes** that Obama staffers' claims of having been misquoted by themselves in Ron Suskind's critical new book are mostly not credible. (Best response: Treasury Secretary Geithner channeling Pee Wee Herman's "I don't have to see it; I lived it.") The president can't even **belabor that saying about Warren Buffett's secretary** without bringing down the wrath of the nation's administrative assistants.

And these aren't even the biggest Obama fiascos of September. For that you'll have to look to **AttackWatch.com**, which was ill-conceived to begin with (Nobody ever won an election by acting like a victim); has a stupid name (What decent person would *watch* an attack? You're supposed to fight back against an attack); and drew a wave of negative attention. Among the critical raves: "**immediately spammed with tweet after tweet heavy on sarcasm regarding the president's stimulus and jobs creation plans**"; "**stellar ... for all the wrong reasons**"; "**most people have made a mockery out of the Web site**"; "**a terrific content-generating resource for right-wing bloggers**"; and, from observer Ironchefofmunchies, "**the laughing stock of the internet**."

The Attack Watch **debacle** wasn't just bad for Obama but bad for comedy, producing heaps of subtle-enough-to-level-cities sarcasm like "**#attackwatch I saw someone purposely squeeze the Charmin in the grocery store**" and "**There's a new Twitter account making President Obama look like a creepy, authoritarian nutjob**..."

**More:** <http://reason.com/blog/2011/09/19/obamas-luck-goes-from-poor-to>

## **FACT CHECK: Are rich taxed less than secretaries?**

*by Stephen Ohlemacher, 20 Sept 2011*

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama makes it sound as if there are millionaires all over America paying taxes at lower rates than their secretaries. "Middle-class families shouldn't pay higher taxes than millionaires and billionaires," Obama said Monday. "That's pretty straightforward. It's hard to argue against that."

The data tell a different story. On average, the wealthiest people in America pay a lot more taxes than the middle class or the poor, according to private and government data. They pay at a higher rate, and as a group, they contribute a much larger share of the overall taxes collected by the federal government...

**Read on:** <http://news.yahoo.com/fact-check-rich-taxed-less-secretaries-070642868.html>

## **The coming U.N. debacle**

A General Assembly vote that seeks to bypass negotiations and impose a Palestinian state on Israel will only undermine a two-state solution.

*by Yossi Klein Halevi, 20 Sept 2011*

...In one sense the U.N. vote is a useful reminder of the origins of the conflict. In 1947 the General Assembly voted for partition; it didn't call for creating only a Jewish state but a Palestinian state as well. The Arab world rejected partition and tried to destroy Israel.

That rejection remains the core of the conflict. However problematic, settlements are not the main obstacle to an agreement. Both former Prime Ministers Ehud Barak and Ehud Olmert offered to uproot dozens of settlements and concentrate the rest in "blocs" along the border to enable Palestinian territorial contiguity. Palestinian leaders dismissed those offers...

**More:** <http://www.latimes.com/news/opinion/commentary/la-oe-halevi-israel-20110920,0,6085772.story>

## **Back to school, back to History basics**

by *George Nethercutt*, 20 Sept 2011

...State governments are too busy legislating political correctness rather than confronting the dangerous ignorance pervading our public schools.

For instance, California Gov. Jerry Brown signed legislation this summer requiring students to learn about gay history. The law met with universal acclaim from gay rights groups, which applauded Brown's action as "historic." While it might certainly be historic—in that no other state has gone to such lengths to legislate political correctness—the law does nothing to help students learn essential American history; it places an undeserved premium on teaching a nonessential curriculum.

Sadly, what California has done is swiftly becoming a trend. Earlier this year, Maryland adopted a policy that students must exhibit "environmental literacy" to graduate from high school. Students interested in environmental studies can pursue it to their heart's content, but such studies shouldn't be at the expense of understanding the fundamental story of how modern America came to be.

The biggest problem with these courses is that they don't have the same time-tested educational value as, say, learning from where the ideas in the Declaration of Independence came, or what the U.S. Constitution actually says. Constant curriculum tinkering from elected officials to appease whatever interest group is most vocal at any one time is not in the best interests of our children.

If American students don't learn about the concepts of justice, individual rights, free enterprise, capitalism, representative government, sovereignty and national security that built this great nation, then there can be no guarantee that those concepts—and others like them—will be perpetuated for the benefit of future generations...

**More:** [http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2011/09/20/back\\_to\\_school\\_back\\_to\\_us\\_history\\_basics\\_111369.html](http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2011/09/20/back_to_school_back_to_us_history_basics_111369.html)

## **Welcome to the Carbon Cult**

by *Ross Kaminsky*, 19 Sept 2011

...Friedman asks if we should "pay a little more per gallon of gas and make the country stronger, safer and healthier." To put this call for human sacrifice in context, allow me to pose a multiple choice question.

Roughly what percentage of the earth's atmosphere is composed of carbon dioxide?

- A) 52%
- B) 31%
- C) 17%
- D) 9%
- E) 4%

If you answered D, 9%, you're...wrong. In fact if you answered any of the above, you're not just wrong, but wrong by two or three orders of magnitude...

**Read it all:** <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/09/19/the-carbon-cults-price-signal>

## **Whip Unemployment Now?**

The Obama presidency enters its pathetic phase.

by *Fred Barnes*, 19 Sept 2011 (*Sept 26 issue*)

[http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/whip-unemployment-now\\_593654.html](http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/whip-unemployment-now_593654.html)

## **Saddam: What we now know**

Bin Laden struck first, but Saddam was at least as big a terror threat.

by *Jim Lacey*, 14 Sept 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/277115/saddam-what-we-now-know-jim-lacey>

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Additional sources for the information in this column are available *here*.



## **You can't tax the rich**

They'll flee the country before you can.

by *Thomas Sowell*, 15 Sept 2011

...What makes all this history so relevant today is that the same economic assumptions and political arguments that produced the absurdities of 1921 are still going strong in 2011. If anything, "the rich" have far more options for putting their money beyond the reach of the tax collectors today than they had back in 1921. In addition to being able to put their money into tax-exempt securities, the rich today can easily send millions — or billions — of dollars to foreign countries, with the ease of electronic transfers in a globalized economy.

In other words, the genuinely rich are likely to be the least harmed by high tax rates in the top brackets. People who are looking for jobs are likely to be the most harmed, because they cannot equally easily transfer themselves overseas to take the jobs that are being created there by American investments that are fleeing high tax rates at home.

Small businesses — hardware stores, gas stations, restaurants — are likewise unable to transfer themselves overseas. So they are far more likely to be unable to escape the higher tax rates that are supposedly being imposed on "millionaires and billionaires," as President Obama calls them. Moreover, small businesses are what create most of the new jobs.

Why then are so many politicians, journalists, and others so gung-ho to raise tax rates on the rich?...

**More:** <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/277249/you-can-t-tax-rich-thomas-sowell>

## **No to the Palestinian 'State'**

*National Review editorial*, 19 Sept 2011

...Under international law, the Montevideo Convention of 1933 explicitly provides that the existence of a sovereign state is independent of recognition by other states, and further provides that a state must have a permanent population, a defined territory, a government, and the capacity to enter into relations with other states.

The Palestinians arguably have none of those things. By their own admission, they don't have a defined territory. Their government, meanwhile, is riven: Terrorists control one half of the territories and the other half is controlled by a former terrorist whose term of office expired two years ago.

Nobody would like to see the Palestinians under a functioning state of laws more than the Israelis. But a state must have a monopoly of violence, and Hamas has always rejected the monopoly of violence in favor of the inherent individual right of resistance to occupation. The Palestinians have barely managed to maintain political institutions of any kind, and a declaration of statehood will do nothing to solve that problem.

Any action in the cause of Palestinian statehood at the U.N. will serve to isolate Israel further, and could make its government subject to international legal proceedings. But the main danger is the effect it could have in the Muslim world, including the occupied territories. Another intifada would force Israel to resort to military measures, giving Egypt and Turkey another excuse to express their growing hostility to the Jewish state.

The Middle East has come to this pass despite President Obama's blithe belief at the inception of his administration that he could forge an Israeli-Palestinian peace. From the start, Obama cast his role in the Middle East as one of impartial mediator, not realizing that America's influence among the Palestinians requires Israel's confidence that we will protect the Jewish state come what may. Anyone can play the role of mediator, but only America can underwrite the risks of a negotiated settlement for both sides. The strategic prerequisites for Israeli-Palestinian peace are the same as they were for peace between Israel and Egypt in the 1970s: We must convince the Arabs that they can get what they want from the Israelis only by going through us, and we can deliver Israeli concessions only if we can guarantee Israel's security. Yet the Obama administration has reprised the Clinton administration's childish schoolyard spats with Israeli prime minister Bibi Netanyahu...

**More:** <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/277559/no-palestinian-state-nro-editors#>

## **Solyndra Nation**

by *Matthew Continetti*, 19 Sept 2011 (Sept 26 issue)

To find a metaphor for the failed Obama presidency, look no further than Solyndra. Before it went bankrupt, the solar panel manufacturer was more than the recipient of a \$535 million loan guarantee from the federal government. It

was the model for the White House effort to put the American economy on a "new foundation."...

...The real Solyndra scandal isn't that White House staff were overeager for a photo-op. It's that America increasingly resembles a bankrupt clean energy company.

In today's economy, risks are socialized while profit is privatized. The government uses deficit spending to shape investment decisions and support markets that otherwise wouldn't exist. Political connections determine the recipients of government largesse. Rentiers conceal their self-interest behind the organic hemp cloak of environmentalism and global "competitiveness." The illusion can be maintained for a time, but in the end the bill comes due. There's no money left. And everything disappears.

If Solyndra had taken off, its private investors would have become extraordinarily rich. But it failed—and the American taxpayer has to foot the bill. And many other bills, too: The Solyndra loan was part of a \$38.6 billion program to aid green energy that the *Washington Post* says has created exactly 3,545 jobs. (That's \$10,888,575 in loans per job, for those of you without a calculator.)

Government meddling isn't limited to alternative energy. The U.S. Treasury stands behind Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, General Motors, and AIG, not to mention all the other companies that profit from loopholes, sweetheart loans, and subsidies. The cliché has it that government is picking winners and losers. But that's wrong: It picks *only* losers.

Winning companies don't need public support...

**More:** [http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/solyndra-nation\\_593645.html](http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/solyndra-nation_593645.html)

## What's keeping Thad McCotter out of the debates?

by Jim Geraghty, 16 Sept 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/campaign-spot/277429/whats-keeping-thad-mccotter-out-debates>

## The Statist Dictionary

by Robert A. Hall, 17 Sept 2011

...It's difficult to discuss policy, or even listen to Statists (or Progressives or Democrats—your choice of terms) like Humpty with any understanding, because their words and phrases don't mean what we in the real world understand them to mean—only what they choose them to mean. Therefore, with election season upon us (as if it ever left), here's a little help. Readers should feel free to add additional terms this short review has missed.

*Civility in Discourse.* No one may speak harshly of a Statist. Statists may, however, call their critics terrorists, racists, homophobes, sexists, Islamophobes, hostage-takers, or "son of a bitches" who must be "taken out." Since Statists are, by definition, morally superior to you, they may say any nasty thing about you without being uncivil. You may not reply...

**More:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/the\\_statist\\_dictionary.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/the_statist_dictionary.html)

## Declining to play the Game

by Baron Bodissey, 18 Sept 2011

<http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/09/declining-to-play-game.html#more>

## VFR on Gnosticism

by Lawrence Auster, 17 Sept 2011

Gnosticism is both a perennial human temptation and a key critical concept for understanding liberal and other ideological distortions of the world. In my writings on the subject, which expand upon Eric Voegelin's seminal writings, I always try to show that, notwithstanding the forbidding sound of the word and the inherent difficulty of the concept, gnosticism is an idea that can be made intelligible to the ordinary intelligent reader.

As I wrote in the 2003 entry, "Gnosticism defined," when I was first reading about gnosticism many years ago, I came to the conclusion that, with its many possible meanings, it was too complex and difficult a concept for ordinary discourse. Then I came upon a passage of Voegelin's where he identifies the core principle that is common to all forms of gnosticism: the enlargement of the soul so as to place God within man and under man's control, and thus eliminate the

frustrating and uncomfortable experience, rife with uncertainty, with continual finding and losing, that God is outside and above man...

**More:** <http://www.amnation.com/vfr/archives/020507.html>

## **The Durban Follies in New York**

*by Michael Curtis, 18 Sept 2011*

On September 21, 2011, the Durban III Conference is to be held as a special session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York. The decision to do so and thus commemorate the tenth anniversary of Durban I was made by the UNGA in December 2010 by a vote of 104 votes for, 22 against and 33 abstentions.

A number of countries, including so far the United States, Canada, Italy, Czech Republic, Austria, Australia, the Netherlands, and Israel, have announced they will not attend the conference. All have realized that the Durban process, I and II, has been a travesty of human rights concerns and that it has promoted rather than combatted racism. Instead it has been a platform for relentless attacks on Zionism.

It is ironic the Durban meetings, the so called World Conferences against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance, should have been the forum for ugly displays of intolerance and antisemitism. The main thrust of the outcomes of Durban I, held in September 2001, and Durban II held in Geneva in April 2009, was the repeated charge against Israel of racism and apartheid. One consequence of this charge was the impetus given to the campaign for boycott, disinvestment, and sanctions against Israel. The Durban statements led to fewer specific contacts with Israel; the overall objective was to isolate Israel from the world community...

**Continue:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/the\\_durban\\_follies\\_in\\_new\\_york.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/the_durban_follies_in_new_york.html)

## **The Palestinians' illegitimate UN gambit**

*by Rick Perry, 16 Sept 2011*

...And now, the Palestinian leadership is intent on trashing the possibility of a negotiated settlement of the conflict with Israel in favor of unilateral recognition of a Palestinian state by the United Nations. The Palestinian plan to win that one-sided endorsement from the UN this month in New York threatens Israel and insults the United States. The US and UN have long supported the idea that Israel and its neighbors should make peace through direct negotiations. The Palestinian leadership has dealt directly with Israel since 1993, but has refused to do so since March 2010. They seem to prefer theatrics in New York to the hard work of negotiation and compromise that peace will require...

**More:** [http://www.realeclearworld.com/articles/2011/09/16/rick\\_perry\\_palestinians\\_illegitimate\\_un\\_gambit\\_99679.html](http://www.realeclearworld.com/articles/2011/09/16/rick_perry_palestinians_illegitimate_un_gambit_99679.html)

## **Between the Green Line and the Blue Line**

Can a Jerusalem divided stand?

*by Michael J. Totten, Summer 2011 issue*

[http://www.city-journal.org/2011/21\\_3\\_jerusalem.html](http://www.city-journal.org/2011/21_3_jerusalem.html)

## **Solyndra, the logical endpoint of Obamanomics**

*by James Pethokoukis, 16 Sept 2011*

The bankruptcy of solar-panel maker Solyndra neatly encapsulates the economic, political and intellectual bankruptcy of Barack Obama's Big Idea. It was the president's intention back in 2009 to begin centrally reorganizing the U.S. economy around the supposed climate-change crisis.

To what end? Well, Obama claimed his election would mark "the moment when the rise of the oceans began to slow and our planet began to heal." But that was just the cover story. At its core, Obamanomics is about the top-down **redistribution of wealth and income**. Government spending on various "green" subsidies and programs, along with a cap-and-trade system to limit carbon emissions, **would enrich key Democrat constituencies**: lawyers, public sector unions, academia and non-profits.

Oh, and Wall Street, too. Who was the exclusive financial adviser to Solyndra when it was trying to secure the \$535 million loan from Washington? **Goldman Sachs**. And had the cap-and-trade scheme been enacted, big banks stood ready to reap billions from the trading of carbon emission credits.

No wonder many Democratic strategists predicted their party's 2008 landslide win would usher in a generation of political dominance. Obamanomics, essentially, would divert taxpayer dollars to the Green Lobby—and then into the campaign coffers of the Democratic Party. This is what **crony capitalism** is really all about: politicians enriching favored businesses, who then return the favor...

**More:** <http://blogs.reuters.com/james-pethokoukis/2011/09/16/solyndra-the-logical-endpoint-of-obamanomics/>

## 9-11 Consciousness

by Baron Bodissey, 17 Sept 2011

...For some people, 9-11 consciousness began long before September 11th, 2001. Bat Ye'or, for example, had been warning for years about the danger of Islam in Europe. Andrew McCarthy, the prosecutor of the terrorists who made the first attempt to bring down the World Trade Center in 1993, was at least eight years ahead of most people in his awareness of what was happening.

9-11 consciousness was first awakened in me thirty years ago, when I read *Among the Believers: An Islamic Journey* by V.S. Naipaul. When I finished it, I told Dymphna: "In twenty or thirty years we're going to be at war with Islam. It can't be avoided; the true believers will not be willing to co-exist with us."...

...Once you have developed 9-11 consciousness and start investigating Islam on your own initiative, you realize that most of what is retailed by the media, the academy, and our governments — the Troika of Deceivers — is incomplete, inaccurate, and sometimes consists of deliberate untruths.

You learn about *taqiyyah* and *kitman*, the two forms of sacred lying. Muslims are permitted to lie about their faith or mislead non-believers when it serves the cause of Islam. If an action is mandatory under Islamic law, and the only way to achieve it is through lying, then lying is *mandatory*.

You learn about the Doctrine of Abrogation, in which verses of the Koran that were written later supersede those of earlier date. Strangely enough, the verses that order the believer to kill and enslave infidels came later than the more pacifistic verses in the earlier portions of the Koran.

Abrogation and *kitman* act in synergy whenever a prominent "moderate" imam goes on camera and quotes those peaceful-sounding verses. He is deliberately misleading non-believers, because telling the whole truth and nothing but the truth would *not* advance the cause of Islam. Advancing the cause of Islam is *mandatory*, so his deception is *mandatory*. Not only is his dishonesty not sinful in the eyes of Allah, it is *laudable*.

Such are the fundamental differences between Islam and Christianity or Judaism. Understanding Islam requires that we grasp the nature of a totally alien system. *The ideology of that system requires that those outside the system be kept from a full understanding of the system...*

**Read it all:** <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/09/9-11-consciousness.html#more>

## The Palestinian Big Lie

The Palestinians distort the origins of the conflict with Israel.

by Sol Stern, 15 Sept 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/277253/palestinian-big-lie-sol-stern>

## There goes the youth vote

AttackWatch, the new Obama campaign site, confirms just how inept and out of touch this president is.

by Ross Kaminsky, 16 Sept 2011

**Read on:** <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/09/16/watching-attackwatch-attacks>

## On the Rule of Law

The wisdom of the Constitution.

by Paul D. Ryan, 15 Sept 2011: *speech at Hillsdale College in commemoration of Constitution Day*

...In weakening the rule of law in the United States, their intentions are totally irrelevant. The damage they have done is real. And the relevant question we have to ask ourselves is whether, as Reagan put it, "we believe in our capacity for self-government, or whether we abandon the American Revolution and confess that a little intellectual elite in a far-

distant capital can plan our lives for us better than we can plan them ourselves."

...If we succumb to this view that our problems are bigger than we are — if we surrender more control over our economy to the governing class — then life in America will become defined by a new kind of class warfare: A class of bureaucrats and connected crony capitalists trying to rise above the rest of us, call the shots, rig the rules, and preserve their place atop society at the expense of working Americans, entrepreneurs, and the small businesswoman who has the gall to take on the corporate chieftain.

The Constitution's Framers knew that there is a human inclination to increase personal power at the expense of law, so they created Congress as a decentralized and internally divided institution, but they granted it ample authority to secure the rule of law *in every case*. Congress holds the power of the pen as well as the purse. It has the power necessary to address attacks on the rule of law in our executive bureaucracies and even in the courts. The Constitution provides us with the power to solve these problems; what we need, is the will to do it...

**OUTSTANDING:** <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/277244/rule-law-paul-ryan>

## Europe's problems summed up

Pythagorean theorem: 24 words

Lord's prayer: 66 words

Archimedes' Principle: 67 words

Ten Commandments: 179 words

Gettysburg address: 286 words

US Declaration of Independence: 1,300 words

US Constitution with all 27 Amendments: 7,818 words

EU regulations on the sale of cabbage: 26,911 words

*(Hat tip: Dimtri T.)*

## Paul Krugman is back out from under his desk

He's still a fool and a liar, though.

*by John Hayward, 16 Sept 2011*

The *New York Times* fully endorses Paul Krugman's **disgusting 9/11 column**, since they haven't fired him for writing it. A great number of their readers did *not* endorse it, so Krugman spent a few days hiding under his desk, with comments for both his initial screed and a subsequent expansion of his tinfoil-hat ravings turned off. Today he crawled back out to pen a little screed about how Republicans want everyone to be "free to die." What got Krugman thinking about this important subject was an exchange during the GOP presidential debate in Tampa...

**More:** <http://www.humanevents.com/article.php?id=46236>

Dr. Wolf is a cousin of President Obama's. He blogs at MiltonWolf.com.

## Hey loser, get a job or else

If Obamacare prevails, then what's to prevent Obamajobs?

*by Dr. Milton R. Wolf, 13 Sept 2011*

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/sep/13/hey-loser-get-a-job-or-else/print/>

## A Ponzi scheme that should be fixed

*by Charles Krauthammer, 15 Sept 2011*

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/a-ponzi-scheme-that-should-be-fixed/2011/09/15/gIQAn6EfVK\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/a-ponzi-scheme-that-should-be-fixed/2011/09/15/gIQAn6EfVK_story.html)

## The Obama Promise: Then and Now

The president's own economic words are coming back to haunt him.

by Stephen Moore, 16 Sept 2011

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111903927204576572782466492342.html>

## The politicized hiring of Eric Holder's Criminal Section

by J. Christian Adams, 14 Sept 2011

...There is racially centric enforcement of hate crimes. When traditional minorities are the victims of hate crimes, the Section — appropriately — responds with gusto. But when the victims of racial violence are white, **nothing happens**. When a mob of blacks **savagely attacked random whites** at the Wisconsin State Fair earlier this summer, the Section did nothing. When a **similar riot** occurred at the Iowa State Fair in August 2010 — where bands of black teens organized a "beat whitey night" — the Section once again did nothing. Last month, **still another flash mob** of blacks beating whites took place in Philadelphia, yet the Section did nothing. The same is true **near Pittsburgh and in Ohio**.

Just like the outrageous dismissal of the New Black Panther Party case, there is a pervasive hostility in this administration to bringing cases on behalf of white victims. Let's hope the Section reverses course and investigates these attacks, because its apathy, so far, is wrong and immoral. These examples are only the tip of the iceberg...

...So far, PJMedia has profiled 106 new career attorneys hired into the Civil Rights Division during the Obama administration. The results: Leftist lawyers hired: 106. Moderate, non-ideological, or conservative lawyers hired: 0.

The exclusively liberal background of these new lawyers is no accident. As I **wrote** before, a pretextual hiring standard is being employed. Division leaders, of course, aren't calling it a "liberal" litmus test; they are instead referring to it as a requirement that all successful candidates have "civil rights experience." But their definition of "civil rights experience" only includes prior employment, membership, or affiliation with left-wing advocacy organizations.

Worse, Loretta King, while serving as the acting assistant attorney general for civil rights at the outset of the Obama administration, ordered the resumes of highly qualified applicants to be rejected *only because they didn't have political or left-wing civil rights experience*. Multiple DOJ sources with direct knowledge of hiring committee practices have confirmed this to me.

So what does the corrupted hiring mean to the average American? It means if you go to the Wisconsin State Fair and are beaten because you are white, your federal government will do nothing for you, even as it would act if attacker and attacked races were reversed. It means if you are Marty Marshall standing in your front yard watching fireworks with your family, **and are attacked** by a mob yelling "this is our world. This is a black world," don't expect DOJ to act. It means if you are Dick Retta and are pepper-sprayed by a liberal for praying and exercising federal rights to protest abortion, don't expect the law to protect you. What does it mean? It means we have reached that dangerous line crossed in past civilizations where the law appears to apply to some, but not to all...

**More:** <http://pajamasmedia.com/blog/every-single-one-the-politicized-hiring-of-eric-holder%e2%80%99s-criminal-section/>

## Obama's solar scandal

by Michael Barone, 15 Sept 2011

...It's possible the subcommittee will find nefarious goings on at Solyndra. Was the administration's decision to grant a loan guarantee of half a billion dollars influenced by a major campaign contributor? Did the Energy Department disregard obvious caution flags about the company? Did somebody slip somebody a bribe?

But let's assume for the time being that there was no criminal conduct here, no violation of government procedures, no fraud. Let's assume everyone in the administration acted with good faith.

There's still a scandal—the scandal of the government handing out hundreds of millions of dollars to unproven and speculative businesses. Even the shrewdest venture capitalists lose money on most of their investments. But when they lose, it's their money, not ours.

The scandal is still going on. The Energy Department has been busy handing out more loan guarantees in the past few weeks—\$150 million to 1366 Technologies of Lexington, Mass. (73 percent for Obama in 2008), 80 percent of \$344 million to Solar City of San Mateo, Calif. (72 percent for Obama in 2008). Will one of them be the next Solyndra?

The real scandal is the "green jobs" loan guarantee program itself. And the ones getting scammed are American taxpayers.

**Read the rest:** <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/277271/obama-s-solar-scandal-michael-barone>

A former Danish leftist tells about sharia-controlled zones in his old neighborhood in Århus.

## **My experiences with a Danish sharia-zone**

*by Dan Ritto, 11 Sept 2011*

...I am sometimes asked about my change of mind. How I came to change from being a relatively high profile vice-president of Multikulturel Forening to becoming a strong and uncompromising critic of Islam. Now you know. I am critical of Islam because I know both the Muslims and Islam. Given the choice, I have chosen freedom. Because freedom is better than slavery, because light is better than dark — because civilization is better than Islamic barbarity!

In a couple of days we will elect new members of Parliament. The choice is very simply between [the current government] and a government dependent on Det Radikale Venstre, Socialistisk Folkeparti and Enhedslisten, three parties with the common trait that they either do not understand the danger that creeping sharia poses or — as is the case with Enhedslisten — even support it...

**More:** <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/09/my-experiences-with-danish-sharia-zone.html>

Sadly, the election results allowed the Left to take control of Denmark for the first time in 10 years. The new Prime Minister is Helle Thorning-Schmidt, leader of the Social Democratic party, who proclaimed "We can say farewell to 10 years of bourgeois rule...now we have the opportunity to change Denmark." What a Marxist whore!

## **Nobel Prize-winning physicist resigns over global warming**

*14 Sept 2011*

...The official position of the American Physical Society (APS) supports the theory that man's actions have inexorably led to the warming of the planet, through increased emissions of carbon dioxide.

Giaever does not agree—and put it bluntly and succinctly in the subject line of his email, [reprinted at Climate Depot](#), a website devoted to debunking the theory of man-made climate change. "I resign from APS," Giaever wrote.

Giaever was cooled to the statement on warming theory by a line claiming that "the evidence is incontrovertible."

"In the APS it is OK to discuss whether the mass of the proton changes over time and how a multi-universe behaves, but the evidence of global warming is incontrovertible?" he wrote in an email to Kate Kirby, executive officer of the physics society.

"The claim ... is that the temperature has changed from ~288.0 to ~288.8 degree Kelvin in about 150 years, which (if true) means to me is that the temperature has been amazingly stable, and both human health and happiness have definitely improved in this 'warming' period," his email message said...

**More:** <http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/2011/09/14/nobel-prize-winning-physicist-resigns-from-top-physics-group-over-global/?test=latestnews>

## **Perry and the Profs**

He picked the right fight.

*by Andrew Ferguson, 15 Sept 2011 (Sept 19 issue)*

If you want a glimpse of the way Rick Perry operates as an executive and a politician, consider the issue of higher education reform in Texas, which no one in Texas knew was an issue until Perry decided to make it one...

**Read on:** [http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/perry-and-profs\\_593055.html](http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/perry-and-profs_593055.html)

## **The 2013 Tax Cliff**

*Wall Street Journal editorial, 14 Sep 2011*

President Obama unveiled part two of his American Jobs Act on Monday, and it turns out to be another permanent increase in taxes to pay for more spending and another temporary tax cut. No surprise there. What might surprise Americans, however, is how the President is setting up the U.S. economy for one of the biggest tax increases in history in 2013.

Mr. Obama said last week that he wants \$240 billion in new tax incentives for workers and small business, but the catch is that all of these tax breaks would expire at the end of next year. To pay for all this, White House budget director Jack Lew also proposed \$467 billion in new taxes that would begin a mere 16 months from now. The tax list includes limiting deductions for those earning more than \$200,000 (\$250,000 for couples), limiting tax breaks for oil and gas companies, and a tax increase on carried interest earned by private equity firms. These tax increases would not be temporary.

What this means is that millions of small-business owners had better enjoy the next 16 months, because come January 2013 they are going to get hit with a giant tax bill. Let's call the expensive roll...

**More:** [http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111904353504576567460396287134.html?mod=WSJ\\_Opinion\\_LEADTop](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111904353504576567460396287134.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEADTop)

## Why Obama is losing the Jewish vote

He doesn't have a 'messaging' problem. He has a record of bad policies and anti-Israel rhetoric.

*by Dan Senor, 14 Sept 2011*

**Chapter and verse:** [http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111904353504576568710341742174.html?mod=WSJ\\_Opinion\\_LEADTop](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111904353504576568710341742174.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEADTop)

## Republican wins Democratic New York House seat

*by Paul Kane, 13 Sept 2011*

With his outcome of his own reelection effort 14 difficult months away, President Obama suffered a sharp rebuke at the polls Tuesday, when voters in New York elected a conservative Republican to represent a Democratic congressional district that has not been in Republican hands since the 1920s.

Bob Turner, the winner, cast the election as a referendum on Obama's stewardship of the economy and, in the state's 9th Congressional District, which has a large population of Orthodox Jewish voters, the president's position on Israel.

Turner, 70, a retired cable television executive who has never served in elective office, defeated Democratic State Assemblyman David Weprin, 55, who has two decades of public service experience, to fill the seat left vacant when Anthony Weiner (D) resigned in disgrace in June after more than 12 years in the House.

The defeat came as Republicans trounced Democrats in another special House election Tuesday, in northern Nevada, where — with almost 10 percent of the districts reporting — Republican Mark Amodei led Democrat Kate Marshall, 56 percent to 39 percent...

**More:** [http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/republican-wins-democratic-new-york-house-seat/2011/09/13/gIQAoos5QK\\_print.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/republican-wins-democratic-new-york-house-seat/2011/09/13/gIQAoos5QK_print.html)



## Understanding Poverty in the U.S.

Surprising facts about America's poor.

*by Robert Rector and Rachel Sheffield, 13 Sept 2011*



Today, the Census Bureau released its annual poverty report, which declared that a record 46.2 million persons, or roughly one in seven Americans, were poor in 2010. The numbers were up sharply from the previous year's total of 43.6 million. Although the current recession has increased the numbers of the poor, high levels of poverty predate the recession. In most years for the past two decades, the Census Bureau has declared that at least 35 million Americans lived in poverty.

However, understanding poverty in America requires looking behind these numbers at the actual living conditions of the individuals the government deems to be poor. For most Americans, the word "poverty" suggests near destitution: an inability to provide nutritious food, clothing, and reasonable shelter for one's family. However, only a small number of the 46 million persons classified as "poor" by the Census Bureau fit that description. While real material hardship certainly does occur, it is limited in scope and severity. The following are facts about persons defined as "poor" by the Census Bureau as taken from various government reports...

**More:** <http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/2011/09/Understanding-Poverty-in-the-United-States-Surprising-Facts-About-Americas-Poor>

## Perry and the Ponzis

Until a half a minute ago, liberals called Social Security a Ponzi scheme, too.

*by Stanley Kurtz, 12 Sept 2011*

Is Texas governor and Republican presidential candidate Rick Perry a courageous and welcome truth teller for calling Social Security a Ponzi scheme, or is he being needlessly provocative instead? Or maybe you think Perry's Ponzi comparison is just plain wrong. I favor the truth-teller option, but the debate will surely go on.

In any case, it's certain that Perry's Ponzi-scheme claim is in no way original. Not only have a raft of conservatives called Social Security a Ponzi scheme over the years, quite a few very respectable liberals have done so as well. It is clearly wrong either to treat the Ponzi-scheme analogy as unprecedented or to rule it altogether out of legitimate public debate. A historical tour of the use of the Ponzi-scheme metaphor will make the point.

Jonathan Last has already identified a 1967 *Newsweek* column by liberal economist and Nobel laureate Paul Samuelson as perhaps the earliest use of the Social Security/Ponzi-scheme comparison in public argument...

**Read on:** <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/276859/perry-and-ponzis-stanley-kurtz>

## Romney's Win

*by Fred Barnes, 13 Sept 2011*

If a debate more than four months before the first vote is cast can influence the outcome of a presidential nomination race, the debate last night among eight Republicans should aid Mitt Romney's candidacy. Seldom has there been as clear a winner.

Romney was crisp and succinct, prepared and focused, and aggressive in going after his chief rival for the GOP presidential nomination, Texas governor Rick Perry, when he needed to be. Romney, the former Massachusetts governor, showed once again that he's a far better candidate now than he was four years ago...

**More:** [http://www.weeklystandard.com/blogs/romney-wins\\_593478.html?nopager=1](http://www.weeklystandard.com/blogs/romney-wins_593478.html?nopager=1)

## Lessons from the embassy takeover

*by Caroline Glick, 13 Sept 2011*

...The behavior of the Egyptian mob and military junta alike served as a wake-up call for two key constituencies. Until last weekend, both the Israeli Left and the US foreign policy establishment believed the situation in Egypt was not significantly worse than it had been under deposed president Hosni Mubarak.

Most Israelis awoke to the fact that Israel's border with Egypt is no longer a peaceful one three weeks ago. After the Egyptian-Palestinian terror cell infiltrated Israel from Sinai on August 18 and massacred eight Israelis on the highway to Eilat, most Israelis recognized that relations with Egypt had been ruptured.

But until the weekend, Israel's Left insisted there was a distinction between the lawless Sinai and the more orderly situation in Cairo. They argued that all that was needed to calm the situation in Sinai was for the military junta to assert its authority in Sinai as it does in the rest of Egypt. Hence, the Left argued that it is in Israel's interest to amend the peace treaty and allow the Egyptian military to remilitarize the Sinai.

Since the weekend, these claims have been notably absent from the discourse. After the Egyptian military allowed

the mob to take over the embassy, residual leftist faith in the junta's moderation and commitment to the peace with Israel is swiftly evaporating...

**Cool, clear analysis:** <http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Columnists/Article.aspx?id=237719>

## **Perry's Ponzi point**

An uncomfortable truth about Social Security.

*Chicago Tribune editorial, 13 Sept 2011*

Rick Perry has gotten a lot of heat for describing the Social Security system as "a Ponzi scheme," and he deserves it. The Texas governor owes a big apology to Charles Ponzi. Sure, Ponzi fleeced investors, but they at least had a choice about participating. Social Security operates on a compulsory basis.

In other respects, though, Perry has a point. In a Ponzi scheme, new investors have to be continually recruited in order to provide fat returns to earlier investors. It works fine until you have so many investors to pay off that you can't find enough new ones to cover the cost.

Social Security is like that. It used to be a comfortable arrangement for all, because there were so many workers paying in and so few retirees getting checks. In 1950, there were 16 workers for every beneficiary. But today, there are about three workers. In 20 years, the ratio will be 2 to 1. A sweet deal has gone sour...

**Continue:** <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/editorials/ct-edit-socialsecurity-20110913,0,6514632.story#start>

## **Back to the Future?**

*by Thomas Sowell, 13 Sept 2011*

...Are we to keep on doing the same things, just because those things have been repackaged in different words? Or just because Obama now assures us that "everything in this bill will be paid for"? This is the same man who told us that he could provide health insurance to millions more people without increasing the cost.

When it comes to specific proposals, President Obama repeats the same kinds of things that have marked his past policies—more government spending for the benefit of his political allies, the construction unions and the teachers' unions, and "thousands of transportation projects."

The fundamental fallacy in all of this is the notion that politicians can "grow the economy" by taking money out of the private sector and spending it wherever it is politically expedient to spend it—so long as they call spending "investment."

Has Obama ever grown even a potted plant, much less a business, a bank, a hospital or any of the numerous other institutions whose decisions he wants to control and override? But he can talk glibly about growing the economy.

Arrogance is no substitute for experience. That is why the country is in the mess it is in now...

**Read the rest:** [http://townhall.com/columnists/thomassowell/2011/09/13/back\\_to\\_the\\_future/page/full/](http://townhall.com/columnists/thomassowell/2011/09/13/back_to_the_future/page/full/)

## **Techniques for Untruth**

*by Mark Browning, 12 Sept 2011*

As the 2012 election season lurches into full activity and the presidential darling of 2008 looks increasingly beatable, members of the Obama campaign team, also known as the mainstream press, realize there's much work to do keeping their man in the White House.

Two recent NPR stories display some techniques available to journalist-activists, allowing them to misrepresent truth while at the same time maintaining an appearance of objectivity. One of these stories, ironically enough, presented itself as a fact check of the recent Republican presidential candidate debate; the other dealt with conservative critiques of government funding for birth control services.

Take a look at the techniques illustrated below. My guess is we'll be seeing a lot of them in the coming months...

**Continue:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/techniques\\_for\\_untruth.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/techniques_for_untruth.html)

## **Obama's strategy of silence**

*by Grace-Marie Turner, Sept 2011*

The president is trying to hide from his "signature achievement."

The White House is quietly implementing a shrewd new strategy of silence on Obamacare. Its goal: making sure the revolt against the unpopular health care overhaul that swept Republicans into power across the country in November 2010 isn't repeated in 2012.

After two years of nonstop focus on health care, the president has stopped talking about the law's far-reaching effects. Now he is concentrating on a few micro changes. Meanwhile the administration is working hard to dampen controversy by handing out buckets of waivers and attacking Republicans over Medicare...

**Thorough:** <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/09/12/obamas-strategy-of-silence>

## Worth a thousand words

In New York on 11 Sept 2011, President Barack Obama and former President George W. Bush remember the nearly 3,000 victims of the 9/11 attacks.

**See photo here:** <http://bokertov.typepad.com/btb/2011/09/worth-a-thousand-words.html>

## Obama's revealing body language

by Brian Schwarz and Thomas Lifson, 31 July 2009

This picture truly is worth at least a thousand words... Sergeant Crowley, the sole class act in this trio, helps the handicapped Professor Gates down the stairs, while Barack Obama, heedless of the infirmities of his friend and fellow victim of self-defined racial profiling, strides ahead on his own. So who is compassionate? And who is so self-involved and arrogant that he is oblivious?...

**More:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2009/07/obamas\\_revealing\\_body\\_language.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2009/07/obamas_revealing_body_language.html)

## Jane Fonda's crush on Che Guevara

by Humberto Fontova, 7 Sept 2011

...Alas, Cuban feminists view the Cuban Revolution somewhat differently from Hollywood, Georgetown and Manhattan feminists. When feminist icon Barbara Walters sat quivering alongside Fidel Castro in 1977 cooing: "Fidel Castro has brought very high literacy and great health-care to his country. His personal magnetism is powerful!" dozens of Cuban feminists suffered in torture chambers within walking distance of the hyperventilating Ms Barbara Walters.

"They started by beating us with twisted coils of wire recalls former political prisoner Ezperanza Pena from exile today. "I remember Teresita on the ground with all her lower ribs broken. Gladys had both her arms broken. Doris had her face cut up so badly from the beatings that when she tried to drink, water would pour out of her lacerated cheeks."

"On Mother's Day they allowed family visits," recalls, Manuela Calvo from exile today. "But as our mothers and sons and daughters were watching, we were beaten with rubber hoses and high-pressure hoses were turned on us, knocking all of us the ground floor and rolling us around as the guards laughed and our loved-ones screamed helplessly."

"When female guards couldn't handle us male guards were called in for more brutal beatings. I saw teen-aged girls beaten savagely, their bones broken their mouths bleeding," recalls prisoner Polita Grau.

The gallant regime co-founded by Che Guevara jailed 35,150 Cuban women for political crimes, a totalitarian horror utterly unknown—not only in Cuba—but in the Western Hemisphere until the regime so "magnetic" to Barbara Walters, Andrea Mitchell, Diane Sawyer, Jane Fonda, etc. Some of these Cuban ladies suffered twice as long in Castro's Gulag as Alexander Solzhenitsyn suffered in Stalin's...

**More:** [http://townhall.com/columnists/humbertofontova/2011/09/07/jane\\_fondas\\_crush\\_on\\_che\\_guevara](http://townhall.com/columnists/humbertofontova/2011/09/07/jane_fondas_crush_on_che_guevara)

## History lesson for the racist Bob Beckel

by Humberto Fontova, 9 Sept 2011

"I still have my Che Guevara poster. Che Guevara was a freedom fighter." (Bob Beckel on FoxNews' "The Five" Sept. 5th)...

...For the record: Ernesto "Che" Guevara was second in command, chief executioner, and chief KGB liaison for a regime that jailed more political prisoners per capita than did Stalin's during the Great Terror and murdered more people (out of a population of 6.4 million) in its first three years in power than Hitler's murdered (out of a population of 70 million) in its first six. Many, perhaps most, of those murdered and jailed by the regime Che Guevara co-founded were Batista opponents.

The Stalinist regime Che Guevara imposed on Cuba also stole the savings and property of 6.4 million citizens,

made refugees of 20 percent of the population from a nation formerly deluged with immigrants and whose citizens had achieved a higher standard of living than those residing in half of Europe. Many opponents of the regime Che Guevara co-founded qualify as the longest-suffering political prisoners in modern history, having suffered prison camps, forced labor and torture chambers for a period *three times* as long in Che Guevara's Gulag as Alexander Solzhenitsyn suffered in Stalin's Gulag. Most of these had been Batista *opponents*...

**More:** [http://townhall.com/columnists/humbertofontova/2011/09/09/a\\_history\\_lesson\\_for\\_the\\_racist\\_bob\\_beckel](http://townhall.com/columnists/humbertofontova/2011/09/09/a_history_lesson_for_the_racist_bob_beckel)

Dr. Jasser is president of the American Islamic Forum for Democracy, a former U.S. Navy Lt. Commander, and a physician in private practice based in Phoenix, Arizona.

## **Ten Years—We are still missing the lessons of 9/11**

by Dr. M. Zuhdi Jasser, 10 Sept 2011

<http://www.aifdemocracy.org/news.php?id=c7064>

## **Barack Obama's wings of wax**

by Peter Wehner, 9 Sept 2011

...It has been a stunning fall from grace for Obama, a man who, upon taking office, was routinely compared to Kennedy, to FDR, and even to Lincoln. One is tempted to say those comparisons were unfair to Obama, except that he did so much to invite them.

By now, the cult-like effect Obama had on his supporters is a distant, fading memory. The Greek columns built for his convention speech now look simply silly, as does Obama's promise to heal the earth and reverse the ocean tide. His core appeal was aesthetic, and hence fleeting. It turns out Obama really was best equipped to be a community organizer and a state senator and perhaps not very much more than that. But Obama, a man of extraordinary self-regard, decided he was the world-historical person we had been waiting for. (What can one say about a person who surrounded himself with aides who referred to him as "Black Jesus" during the campaign?)

In a coincidence that calls to mind William Blake's "fearful symmetry" phrase, it was also Dana Milbank who in July 2008, months before Obama was elected, **reported** that Obama attended an "adoration session" with Democratic lawmakers in the Cannon Caucus Room, where even committee chairmen arrived early, "as if for the State of the Union."

Inside, according to a witness, Obama told the House members, "This is the moment...that the world is waiting for," adding: "I have become a symbol of the possibility of America returning to our best traditions."

Some of us **warned** at the time that any man who believes he is "the moment that the world is waiting for" and views himself as "the symbol of the possibility and best traditions of America" is an individual of staggering arrogance...

**More:** <http://www.commentarymagazine.com/2011/09/09/obama-wings-of-wax/>

## **Tiny, targeted, and temporary**

That won't do it, Mr. President.

by Larry Kudlow, 9 Sept 2011

...The president does talk about corporate tax reform, but he has no specifics on it. He never mentions the tax-free repatriation of \$1 trillion in overseas profits booked by U.S. firms, or for that matter a territorial business-tax approach that would stop the double tax on foreign earnings. This repatriation idea would have been a layup. The whole world wants it. But not the White House.

Out on the campaign trail, Mitt Romney, Jon Huntsman, Rick Perry, and other GOP candidates are talking about fundamental tax reform for individuals and businesses, the kind that can provide the permanent incentive effects needed to supercharge the economy. But not the White House.

And out in the business community, everyone is talking about a regulatory moratorium, or rollback, to lower the cost structure of doing business. But Obama only talks about this in the vaguest terms.

Stop the NLRB and EPA. Hold back on Dodd-Frank and Sarbanes-Oxley. Provide confidence on taxes and regulations for the whole private-investment sector. Nope. Not the White House. President Obama's latest vision on taxes once again singles out energy companies, successful high-end earners, and small-business entrepreneurs for future tax *hikes*, rather than across-the-board rate-flattening and deduction-ending. The best part of the Obama's speech was the segment about free-trade agreements with Panama, Colombia, and South Korea. But somehow this never gets done...

**More:** <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/276815/tiny-targeted-and-temporary-larry-kudlow>

## Overstimulated

by Matthew Continetti, 9 Sept 2011 (September 19 issue)

...So, for almost four years, a prolonged and brutal economic slump has coincided with sustained government efforts to bring demand forward and get consumers spending as they did before the crash. The powers that be say they've tried everything: temporary tax cuts, public works, Cash for Clunkers, Cash for Caulkers, cash transfers, preferential loans to favored companies, plus two rounds of what's known as "quantitative easing," aka money creation. They've sent money to states to prevent layoffs of public sector workers. They've entangled the government in AIG, GM, and Chrysler and further entangled it in Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. Nothing's worked.

And yet the delusion persists that the way out of recession is for government to "create jobs." The president's September 8 address to a joint session of Congress was chockablock with more of the same failed policies. Not once does it seem to have occurred to him that the inconsistent, frenetic, short-term, and haphazard activity of his government may be contributing to the sputtering economy. How are entrepreneurs to risk capital when they don't know what tax rates will be in the long term, how are companies to hire when they don't know which EPA regulations will be suspended and which won't be, how are banks to lend to startups when they get a safer return buying coupons from the Fed?

None of this shows up in the abstract and soulless models of the macroeconomists. But if those models were accurate, happy days would be here again. The models are flawed. They did not know how to handle stagflation in the 1970s, nor do they know how to handle stagnation today. Simple, unfashionable common sense tells us government doesn't need more stimulus. It needs a tranquilizer...

**More:** [http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/overstimulated\\_593063.html](http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/overstimulated_593063.html)

## Banned Books Week is just hype

by Jonah Goldberg, 5 Sept 2011

...There are almost 100,000 public schools in America (98,706 in 2009) educating roughly 50 million students. (There are 33,000 private schools. And some 10,000 public libraries). So if there were, say, 500 parent-driven "bans or challenges" in a given year in public schools, that would mean for every 200 public schools, or every 100,000 students, at least one parent even complained about an age-inappropriate book. What an epidemic! ...

**More:** <http://www.usatoday.com/news/opinion/forum/story/2011-09-05/Column-Banned-Books-Week-is-just-hype/50265238/1>

## Have You Forgotten?

by Darryl Worley

**Watch:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VpoudLoc8sY>

## Let's Roll Over

We retreat to equivocation, cultural self-loathing, and utterly fraudulent misrepresentation of 9/11.

by Mark Steyn, 10 Sept 2011

...In Shanksville, Pa., the zoning and permitting processes are presumably less arthritic than in Lower Manhattan, but the Flight 93 memorial has still not been completed. There were objections to the proposed "Crescent of Embrace" on the grounds that it looked like an Islamic crescent pointing towards Mecca. The defense of its designers was that, *au contraire*, it's just the usual touchy-feely huggy-weepy pansy-wimpy multiculti effete healing diversity mush. It doesn't really matter which of these interpretations is correct, since neither of them has anything to do with what the passengers of Flight 93 actually did a decade ago. 9/11 was both Pearl Harbor and the Doolittle Raid rolled into one, and the fourth flight was the only good news of the day, when citizen volunteers formed themselves into an ad hoc militia and denied Osama bin Laden what might have been his most spectacular victory. A few brave individuals figured out what was going on and pushed back within half an hour. But we can't memorialize their sacrifice within a decade...

**More:** <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/276803/let-s-roll-over-mark-steyn>

## For 9/11 victim's family members no justice, no peace on anniversary

by *Bradley Blakeman*, 5 Sept 2011

On September 11, 2001, I lost my nephew: New York State Senior Court Officer Thomas Jurgens.

Tommy was a first responder to the attacks to the World Trade Center. He commandeered a jury van and loaded it up with supplies and personnel and went from the safety of his courthouse to the World Trade Center. He was told by his supervisors to leave the Trade Center and his radio response was, "I cannot leave, there are people who need our help."

That was his last radio transmission...

**More:** <http://www.foxnews.com/opinion/2011/09/05/no-justice-no-peace-for-11-victims-family-members/>

## 'I have a completely new life':

### Partner of fallen firefighter finds new love in 9/11 film *Rebirth*

by *Daisy Dumas*, 2 Sept 2011

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-2033086/Partner-fallen-firefighter-finds-new-love-9-11-film-Rebirth.html>

An interesting, if imperfect, exercise:

## What if 9/11 had never happened?

Imagining what the world would look like today.

by *Niall Ferguson*, 4 Sept 2011

<http://www.thedailybeast.com/newsweek/2011/09/04/what-if-9-11-had-never-happened.html>

## One mother's heartbreaking 9/11 story

by *Elizabeth Turner*, 16 Aug 2009

Mrs. Turner was pregnant with her son when she lost her husband in the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Centre.

[http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts\\_and\\_entertainment/books/article6797543.ece?print=yes&randnum=1250424779762](http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts_and_entertainment/books/article6797543.ece?print=yes&randnum=1250424779762)

## I just called to say I love you

The sounds of 9/11, beyond the metallic roar.

by *Peggy Noonan*, 8 Sept 2006

<http://www.opinionjournal.com/columnists/pnoonan/?id=110008909>

## A mathematical certainty

by *Don John*, 12 Sept 2001

**The link below has been repaired.**

[http://www.standingonthedeck.com/uploads/A\\_Mathematical\\_Certainty.pdf](http://www.standingonthedeck.com/uploads/A_Mathematical_Certainty.pdf)

An important new book:

## Don't let the kids drink the Kool-Aid:

### confronting the Left's assault on our families, faith, and freedom

by *Marybeth Hicks* (published 23 Aug 2011)

[http://www.amazon.com/Dont-Let-Kids-Drink-Kool-Aid/dp/1596981512/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1315631914&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Dont-Let-Kids-Drink-Kool-Aid/dp/1596981512/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1315631914&sr=1-1)

## The 9/11 'overreaction'? Nonsense.

by *Charles Krauthammer*, 8 Sept 2011

...Perhaps, says the new conventional wisdom, but these exertions have bankrupted the country and led to our current mood of despair and decline.

Rubbish. The total cost of "the two wars" is \$1.3 trillion. That's **less than 1/11th of the national debt**, less than one year of Obama deficit spending. During the golden Eisenhower 1950s of robust economic growth **averaging 5 percent annually, defense spending** was 11 percent of GDP and 60 percent of the federal budget. Today, defense spending is 5 percent of GDP and 20 percent of the budget. So much for imperial overstretch.

Yes, we are approaching bankruptcy. But this has as much to do with the war on terror as do sunspots. Looming insolvency comes not from our shrinking defense budget but from the explosion of entitlements. They devour nearly half the federal budget.

As for the Great Recession and financial collapse, you can attribute it to misguided federal policy pushing

homeownership through risky subprime lending. To Fannie and Freddie. To greedy bankers, unscrupulous lenders, naive (and greedy) home buyers. To computer-enabled derivatives so complicated and interwoven as to elude control. But to the war on terror? Nonsense.

9/11 was our Pearl Harbor. This time, however, the enemy had no home address. No Tokyo. Which is why today's war could not be wrapped up in a mere four years. It was unconventional war by an unconventional enemy embedded within a worldwide religious community. Yet in a decade, we largely disarmed and defeated it, and developed the means to continue to pursue its remnants at rapidly decreasing cost. That is a historic achievement.

Our current difficulties and gloom are almost entirely economic in origin, the bitter fruit of misguided fiscal, regulatory and monetary policies that had nothing to do with 9/11. America's current demoralization is not a result of the war on terror. On the contrary. The denigration of the war on terror is the result of our current demoralization...

**More:** [http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-911-overreaction-nonsense/2011/09/08/gIQAac727CK\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-911-overreaction-nonsense/2011/09/08/gIQAac727CK_story.html)

Cahit Kaya is the leader of the Austrian chapter of Ex-Muslims. He is a very brave man. A Turk residing in the westernmost state of Vorarlberg, he speaks fluent German with a Vorarlberg accent.

## **Muslims are fascists, frauds or idiots**

*by Cahit Kaya, 18 June 2011*

Once again, in my everyday life, I met an allegedly well-integrated Muslim who was revealed in a (political) conversation to be deeply reactionary and misogynous, who had the nerve not to accept ex-Muslims because only "genuine" Muslims could be good human beings, and people without religion could only be bad human beings.

Being contemptuous of wives, oppressing daughters, being reactionary, feeling hatred for non-Muslims, raising sons to be total macho a\*\*\*\*\*s... everyone has his version of a good person. That does not work with my version. For me, respect for human rights counts among the things that make a good person. The more ineradicable the ignorance and the more distinct the firm belief that it is good to be subjected to an ideology of the backward, so much sharper must the criticism come out. Strong criticism of diehards is the clearest method of standing up for human rights and distancing yourself from them.

**And if somebody blubbers that not all of them are like that:**

Just where the hell are all those who aren't like that? Why are they silent and why is only the critical person pilloried, when it should be so easy to dredge up "other" Muslims by the dozen, who could easily demonstrate the difference. Just by demonstrably living as a countervailing example? Where are these people, if all those who make a negative impression are "not genuine Muslims," who interpret Islam falsely and yet can be the only ones who are allowed to make a public appearance? Why is Islam sheltered, even though all those who create a negative impression so happily emphasize their Muslimness and glorify Islam as what guides them? ...

**More:** <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/09/where-are-all-other-muslims.html>

## **Obama's \$447 billion re-election plan**

*by James Pethokoukis, 9 Sept 2011*

There's been much speculation that President Barack Obama will spend \$1 billion to get reelected. Turns out those guesses were off by \$446 billion.

What Americans heard last night was a \$447 billion political plan, not an economic one. It's purpose was to a) fire up the demoralized Democratic base and b) show independents that Obama is trying to do something—anything—to reduce unemployment, not just slash needed "investment" like those heartless, pro-austerity Republicans.

Now all the usual suspects will claim the American Jobs Act will create more growth and more jobs through \$250 billion in temporary payroll tax cuts and \$200 billion in infrastructure spending, unemployment benefits and aid to state and local government...

**More:** <http://blogs.reuters.com/james-pethokoukis/2011/09/09/obamas-447-billion-reelection-plan/>

## **The Unhappy Warrior**

*by Michael Barone, 8 Sept 2011*

Barack Obama looked and sounded angry in his speech to the joint session of Congress. He bitterly assailed one straw man after another and made reference to a grab bag of proposals which would cost something on the order of \$450 billion—assuring us on the one hand that they all had been supported by Republicans as well as Democrats in the past and suggesting that somehow they are going to turn the economy around...

...Straw men took a terrible beating from the president. He assailed "tax loopholes" for oil companies, the chief one of which is that they are treated like other companies classified as manufacturers. The administration proposal is that the five largest oil companies shouldn't be, because—well, because we want to get our hands on more of their money. Today's Republicans, he gave us to understand, want to "eliminate most government regulations" and "wipe out the basic protections that Americans have counted on for decades." And, he suggested, they would never have created public health schools or the G.I. Bill or research universities.

When Barack Obama says, "This isn't political grandstanding," you have a pretty good clue that that is exactly what it is. Lest anyone doubt that, consider this from the third-to-last paragraph. "You should pass it. And I intend to take that message to every corner of the country."... In other words, this was a campaign speech...

**More:** <http://campaign2012.washingtonexaminer.com/blogs/beltway-confidential/unhappy-warrior>

## **The speech that broke the patience of the country?**

by *Hugh Hewitt*, 8 Sept 2011

President Obama's speech on Thursday night bordered on parody. His repetition of long-overused talking points combined with his repeated attacks on job creators and his incessant demand to "pass it right now" produced a mixture of arrogance and absurdity so transparently political that it lacked any capacity to cause political movement or to change anyone's opinion on any issue...

**More:** [http://townhall.com/columnists/hughhewitt/2011/09/08/the\\_speech\\_that\\_broke\\_the\\_patience\\_of\\_the\\_country](http://townhall.com/columnists/hughhewitt/2011/09/08/the_speech_that_broke_the_patience_of_the_country)

## **FACT CHECK: Obama's jobs plan paid for? Seems not.**

by *Calvin Woodward and Tom Raum (AP)*, 8 Sept 2011

[http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US\\_OBAMA\\_JOBS\\_FACT\\_CHECK?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2011-09-08-19-52-31](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/U/US_OBAMA_JOBS_FACT_CHECK?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2011-09-08-19-52-31)

## **Obama's combative save-my-job speech**

by *Guy Benson*, 8 Sept 2011

President Obama's address to Congress was exactly **what we thought it would be**: a shallow, callow campaign rally masquerading as something serious and important. As Charles Krauthammer framed it on Fox, tonight's address represented the first presidential campaign speech delivered in the House of Representatives in US history. Obama tried to strike an urgent tone, repeatedly instructing Congress to pass his plan "right away." These appeals for immediate action started before he even described a single idea. When those descriptions finally arrived, they were more of the same...

...Parting thought: *Should we "pass this jobs bill"?*

**Read it all:** [http://townhall.com/tipsheet/guybenson/2011/09/08/obamas\\_combative\\_save-my-job\\_speech](http://townhall.com/tipsheet/guybenson/2011/09/08/obamas_combative_save-my-job_speech)

## **Let's model ObamaJobs after ObamaCare!**

What could go wrong?

by *Paul Hsieh*, 7 Sept 2011

President Obama is currently huddled with his advisors putting the finishing touches on his upcoming major "jobs" speech. Undoubtedly he feels some pressure to come up with a blockbuster program, especially given that this speech could make or break his chances in the 2012 election.

But he need not worry, because he already has a perfectly good model for fixing our unemployment problem — his own ObamaCare health plan! Simply by varying a few features of ObamaCare, the president could guarantee nearly "universal" employment just as ObamaCare has guaranteed nearly "universal" health coverage. He could implement an "ObamaJobs" program as follows...

**More:** <http://pajamasmedia.com/blog/let%e2%80%99s-model-obamajobs-after-obamacare-2/>

If James P. Hoffa is emblematic of the new civility, allow me to contribute this prediction:

Nobody's ever going to find *his* body, **either**. —Don John

**Civility for thee, not for me**



Of course President Obama will not criticize Jimmy Hoffa's ugly rant.

by Rich Lowry, 7 Sept 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/276423/civility-thee-not-me-rich-lowry>

### Outstanding new conservative books:

**Left Turn: How Liberal Media Bias Distorts the American Mind** by Tim Groseclose

**After America** by Mark Steyn

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

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

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

## A scientist's appreciation of religion

by James Lewis, 4 Sept 2011

Now that Bill Keller, America's Grand Inquisitor, has declared open season on the religious faith of Republicans (but never Democrats), it is high time for a non-believing scientist to express my love and admiration for the great religious traditions.

Religion is by far the greatest vehicle of civilization. It is how civilized morals and values have been taught from one generation to the next for the last 6,000 years of recorded history, and probably for 100,000 years before that...

...Religion and science stem from the same human urge to find meaning in life. Both have a way of humbling pride and arrogance. The biggest example of a flagrantly false and destructive fraud-o-science today is Marxism; no religion can boast of killing 100 million people in only a hundred years. It takes mass-cult atheism to do that. (The Nazis would have matched that number, but Hitler ruled Germany for only thirteen years.)

Religion is a human universal. It is as pervasive as sex, and can be as joyous. You can hear it in gospel choirs, in Mozart's aria *Exultate, Jubilate*, in liturgies, and in the Psalms, whence Mozart derived those lyrics. All high civilizations owe fathomless debts to the religious traditions.

As I mentioned, I'm not a believer myself, but I don't need to turn my questions into a witch hunt. I enjoy and admire many things about religion, and I don't like head-chopping fanaticism, religious or not. Some wonderful writers and thinkers are atheists. So what? Civilized people live civilized lives.

Liberals used to call this unusual concept "tolerance," and they took it as a special liberal virtue. Real liberals would be appalled by persecutory ideologues like Bill Keller.

But where have all the liberals gone? If any open-minded and tolerant folks survive at the NYT they must be keeping their heads well down. The left is now hag-ridden by "progressive tolerance and compassion." Some progress.

**More:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/a\\_scientists\\_appreciation\\_of\\_religion.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/a_scientists_appreciation_of_religion.html)

## What Darwin said about God

by Michael Bargo Jr., 4 Sept 2011

No figure in modern history has received as much religiously based criticism as Charles Darwin. He is seen as worse than an atheist; his work has been attacked as a threat to the belief that the universe and mankind are God's creations.

Charles Darwin was not the first person to write about evolution. In his book *Origin of Species* he gives credit to 24 naturalists who discussed the idea before he did. Since Darwin did the most work to research and promulgate the topic, the concept of evolution has been identified with him.

Many who are angrily anti-Darwin have not read the *Origin* or examined Darwin's personal life. At Cambridge University he studied to be a minister. However, he felt that science should be objective in nature, and was careful to keep any reference to God or a creator out of his work, particularly in his two major works *On the Origin of Species* and *The Descent of Man*. For example, he states in the *Origin*, "They [creationists] believe that many structures have been created for the sake of beauty, to delight man or the Creator (but this latter point is beyond the scope of scientific discussion)."

Toward the end of his life Darwin's reluctance to discuss God diminished. It is in the sixth edition of the *Origin* where this shift is most noticeable. The sixth edition was the last edition edited by Darwin. It was released in 1872—some thirteen years after the first edition was published. The word "evolution" appears for the first time in the last

edition.

Darwin used the word "Creator" nine times, and the word "God" twice in the sixth edition [iii]. Of greater importance is what he said about life and the Creator's role in it. Darwin never said that evolution was Godless or directionless. In fact, a reading of the sixth edition of *Origin* proves that both of these assertions are factually incorrect. The second page of the *Origin* prominently displays this quote...

**More:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/what\\_darwin\\_said\\_about\\_god.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/what_darwin_said_about_god.html)

## **Perry: Obama's Worst Nightmare**

*by Josh Kraushaar, 7 Sept 2011*

...Perry has proven throughout his long career that he's a canny political observer, and he picked up on the anti-Washington mood enveloping the country long before the smart set in Washington did. On the campaign trail, he may be toning down the language from his book, but if anything, his broad themes of bureaucratic incompetence and government overreach offer a striking contrast to Obama's agenda and get at many of the anxieties facing Americans today. If Obama could point to a record of job creation, Perry's musings wouldn't have the same resonance. To an electorate registering historic levels of pessimism about the future, Perry looks more like the candidate of change—and, perhaps, hope.

Polls show that voters care about jobs and the economy, first and foremost. Perry can point to his record as Texas governor, one of the few states with a record of job creation during the recession. Whether he's responsible for that record is a debatable point, but politically, it is a clear winner. Second on the list is concern over government spending, and Perry's book is a virtual treatise against excessive federal spending. Perry will have to address his views on entitlements, but his vulnerabilities on that front pale in comparison to Obama's vulnerabilities on the economy...

...More notably, while campaigning to win the conservative Republican base, he has carefully avoided the strident anti-immigration rhetoric that often characterizes the party's loudest voices. He came out against a border fence—virtual heresy among elements of the right—and didn't back down from his support of allowing illegal immigrants to receive in-state tuition in his state. Perry's team is playing long ball, and it recognizes the importance of the Hispanic vote and his unique ability to win enough of them over. Pair Perry on the presidential ticket with an up-and-coming Hispanic running mate such as Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida or New Mexico Gov. Susana Martinez, and the Hispanic vote is squarely in play. Gallup found Obama's approval among Hispanics down to 44 percent. If Obama can't win over a clear majority of Hispanics, ball game's over...

**More:** <http://nationaljournal.com/columns/against-the-grain/perry-obama-s-worst-nightmare-20110906>

## **Gov. Perry and the 'race to the bottom' myth**

*by Steven Malanga, 7 Sept 2011*

...I'm not even sure that Markell's second proposition, that low regulation and taxes are bad for workers, is true. According to a recent study by the Political and Economic Risk Consultancy, for instance, Hong Kong has the world's least regulated business environment, which helps it attract capital from around the world. The United Nations ranks Hong Kong as one of the places in the world with the highest levels of human development based on life expectancy, literacy, education and high standards of living. That doesn't sound all that bad for workers.

The real dynamic drawing jobs to states like Texas isn't the attraction of no regulations, I would argue, but the repelling force of places where businesses see the level of regulation as unreasonable and impractical, and where high taxes haven't actually brought better government. It's useful, for instance, to compare the business environment in Texas and California, because surveys now show that the Lone Star State has become the number one destination for firms leaving California. That's not surprising because in polls, business executives and owners consistently rank California as one of the least desirable places to locate or expand a business, and those executives typically rate the state's regulatory environment as their biggest disincentive.

Recently, for instance, the chief executive of a California restaurant firm, CKE Restaurants, said his firm would stop expanding in its home state and expand in Texas instead. In California regulations delayed the opening of a new restaurant for up to 18 months on average, while it took six weeks for CKE to get a unit opened in Texas. This is not a company that is trying to build nuclear power plants or turn brownfields into manufacturing facilities, but to open chain restaurants. The bottom line: \$200,000 to \$250,000 in additional opening costs in California for a restaurant because of a regulatory regime that is protecting consumers from too many food choices? ...

**More:** [http://www.realclearmarkets.com/articles/2011/09/07/gov\\_perry\\_and\\_the\\_race\\_to\\_the\\_bottom\\_myth\\_99236.html](http://www.realclearmarkets.com/articles/2011/09/07/gov_perry_and_the_race_to_the_bottom_myth_99236.html)

## 9/11 and the Successful War

by George Friedman, 6 Sept 2011

It has been 10 years since 9/11, and all of us who write about such things for a living are writing about it. That causes me to be wary. I prefer being the lonely voice, but the fact is that 9/11 was a defining moment in American history. On Sept. 12, 2001, few would have anticipated the course the resulting war would take - but then, few knew what to think. The nation was in shock. In retrospect, many speak with great wisdom about what should have been thought about 9/11 at the time and what should have been done in its aftermath. I am always interested in looking at what people actually said and did at the time.

The country was in shock, and shock was a reasonable response. The country was afraid, and fear was a reasonable response. Ten years later, we are all much wiser and sure that our wisdom was there from the beginning. But the truth is that, in retrospect, we know we would have done things superbly had we the authority. Few of us are being honest with ourselves. We were all shocked and frightened. Our wisdom came much later, when it had little impact. Yes, if we knew then what we know now we would have all bought Google stock. But we didn't know things then that we know now, so it is all rather pointless to lecture those who had decisions to make in the midst of chaos...

**Read on:** <http://www.stratfor.com/weekly/20110905-911-and-successful-war>

## A warmer planet is a more peaceful planet

by Craig D. Idso, 31 Aug 2011

A new report published August 24 by *Nature* magazine claims that "global climate is a major factor in organized patterns of violence" around the world. The report's author, Solomon Hsiang of Columbia University, writes that his work "represents the first major evidence" that warming temperatures foster the conditions for civil unrest and war. One problem: the study is 180 degrees away from reality. Even *Nature* felt it necessary to publish a dissenting view in the same edition of the magazine, giving Halvard Buhaug at the Peace Research Institute in Oslo space to write that he remains "skeptical about any potential causal connection" between warmer global temperatures and war.

Naturally, the mainstream media took the alarmist report at face value, creating headlines such as "Study Proves Climate a Trigger for Conflict" (ABC News), "El Niño a Factor in Some Country Conflicts, Study Finds" (MSNBC), and "Study: Climate is Major Violence Trigger" (*Washington Post*). These reporters, however, like Hsiang, would do well to read *Climate Change Reconsidered: 2011 Interim Report*, released Monday by The Heartland Institute, the Center for the Study of Carbon Dioxide and Global Change, and Science and Environmental Policy Project (SEPP)...

**The historical record:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/08/a\\_warmer\\_planet\\_is\\_a\\_more\\_peaceful\\_planet.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/08/a_warmer_planet_is_a_more_peaceful_planet.html)

## Teach your kids nothing and they'll believe anything

by Mollie Hemingway, 5 Sept 2011

...I've heard more than a few people say this—that they're not raising their child in any religion so that they'll have the freedom to decide as an adult...

**More:** <http://ricochet.com/main-feed/Teach-Your-Kids-Nothing-And-They-ll-Believe-Anything>

## The truth is out there

5 Sept 2011

Bill Whittle has his truth. Pacifica Radio's Amy Goodman has her truth. Everyone has their own truth. This is the mantra of the left today, and if you think about it, it *has* to be the mantra of the left. Find out why.

**Video:** [http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=0S7Vw7Wfu5g#!](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=0S7Vw7Wfu5g#!)

Starting at the truth and moving to the Left: CBS, CNN, NPR, *Pravda*, *Granma* (Cuban Communist Party newspaper), *Mother Jones*, *New York Times*, *The View*, MSNBC, Pacifica Radio.

## The republic of anti-Israel

by David Warren, 4 Sept 2011

...The Palestinians, so far as they are a people, have now a long history of being able to do things without

consequences. (They are not ethnically distinct from neighbouring Arabs, but defined by family ties to a given location.) Under the direction of a succession of "reformed" or unreformed terrorist leaders, from the Mufti of Jerusalem to Yasser Arafat to Hamas, they have "evolved" a polity which may itself be defined as "the Anti-Israel."

Israel is consistently held to account, both internally and externally, as an old-fashioned, formal nation state. When the Israelis respond to rocket attacks from Gaza, they are compelled to justify their action. But the people who sent the rockets are not. And supposing them to have been launched "freelance" by independent terror cells, the authority which governs Gaza is not held gravely responsible for having failed to stop them.

Imagine what the consequences would be, if Israeli citizens, acting independently, began lobbing missiles into the Palestinian territories, gratuitously at targets both civilian and military - whatever happened to be in range. And then, the Israeli authorities made no gesture to stop them. The diplomats of the world would spit up their sherry. Our peace-loving politicians would go berserk...

**Read it all:** <http://www.ottawacitizen.com/news/republic+anti+Israel/5331129/story.html>

## **Zero Jobs 101 — the psychology of alienating employers**

*by Victor Davis Hanson, 2 Sept 2011*

...I've been speaking a lot lately to civic groups, a few firms, investors, large and small farmers and farm suppliers, and individual employers. And the following would fairly sum up their current state of mind.

In the last 30 months, the Obama administration has created a psychological landscape that finally just seemed, whether fairly or not, too hostile to most employers to risk new hiring and buying. Each act, in and of itself, was irrelevant. Together they are proving catastrophic and doing the near impossible of turning a brief recovery into another recession.

Here is the lament I heard: the near \$5 trillion in borrowing in just three years, the radical growth in the size of the federal government and its regulatory zeal, ObamaCare, the Boeing plant closure threat, the green jobs sweet-heart deals and Van Jones-like "Millions of Green Jobs" nonsense, the vast expansion in food stamps and unemployment pay-outs, the reversal of the Chrysler creditors, politically driven interference in the car industry, the failed efforts to get card check and cap and trade, the moratoria on new drilling in the Gulf, the general antipathy to new fossil fuel exploitation coupled with new finds of vast new reserves, the new financial regulations, an aggressive EPA oblivious to the effects of its advocacy on jobs, the threatened close-down of energy plants, the support for idling thousands of acres of irrigated farmland due to environmental regulations, the constant talk of higher taxes, the needlessly provocative rhetoric of "fat cat", "millionaires and billionaires," "corporate jet owners," etc. juxtaposed, in hypocritical fashion, to Martha's Vineyard, Costa del Sol, and Vail First Family getaways — all of these isolated strains finally are becoming a harrowing opera to business people.

Despite enormous opportunity for many cash-rich firms to take advantage of the down cycles (low interest, plentiful potential employees, discounted prices, etc.), they are taking a pass, almost as if to collectively sigh, "This bunch doesn't like me much and I'm going to hunker down, hoard my cash, and sit out the next year and a half until they are gone." And the administration's efforts to counteract these symbols and impressions by courting a high-profile, hyper-capitalist Warren Buffett, or a GE CEO Jeffrey Immelt have proven even more ironic...

...Highly publicized visits to bankrupt subsidized green plants, blaming George Bush, new racially-driven invective from some congresspeople against the Tea Party, sermons about the sensitivities of illegal aliens, politically-correct tutorials about Islam — all that might rally the base or in isolation be understandable, but again fairly or not, such liberal rhetoric simply adds to the problem from yet another dimension: confirming perceptions that employers are about the last people in the world that this administration is worried about...

**The rest, including a great sub-story called Vandal Watch:** <http://pajamasmedia.com/victordavishanson/job-killing-101/>

Yes, Maureen Dowd has actually written a really fair assessment of something. And her verdict on the Lord High Obama is devastating.

## **One and Done?**

*by Maureen Dowd, 4 Sept 2011*

...Republicans who are worried about being political props have a point. The president is using the power of the incumbency and a sacred occasion for a political speech.

Obama is still suffering from the Speech Illusion, the idea that he can come down from the mountain, read from a Teleprompter, cast a magic spell with his words and climb back up the mountain, while we scurry around and do what he proclaimed.

The days of spinning illusions in a Greek temple in a football stadium are done. The One is dancing on the edge of one term. The White House team is flailing — reacting, regrouping, retrenching. It's repugnant. After pushing and shoving and caving to get on TV, the president's advisers immediately began warning that the long-yearned-for jobs speech wasn't going to be that awe-inspiring. "The issue isn't the size or the newness of the ideas," one said. "It's less the substance than how he says it, whether he seizes the moment."

The arc of justice is stuck at the top of a mountain. Maybe Obama was not even the person he was waiting for.

**The rest of it:** [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/04/opinion/dowd-one-and-done.html?\\_r=2](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/09/04/opinion/dowd-one-and-done.html?_r=2)

## **A racism charge without evidence**

*by Peter Wehner, 2 Sept 2011*

On *The Last Word*, MSNBC contributor Richard Wolffe, in the context of Speaker John Boehner asking President Obama to give his address to a Joint Session on a night other than the one during which a GOP presidential debate will be held, said this:

"The interesting question is: What is it about this president that has stripped away the veneer of respect that normally accompanies the office of the president? Why do Republicans think this president is unpresidential and should dare to request this kind of thing? It strikes me that it could be the economic times, it could be that he won so big in 2008 or it could be, let's face it, the color of his skin. This is an extraordinary reaction to a normal sequence of events."

Funny, but I don't recall the "veneer of respect that normally accompanies the office of the president" when the chief executive was a man named George W. Bush. During the Bush presidency, for example, George W. Bush was referred to by leading members of the Democratic Party as a "moral coward" (Vice President Al Gore), as a "loser" and a "liar" who had "betrayed his country" (Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid), and who "week after week after week after week ... told lie after lie after lie after lie" (Senator Edward Kennedy). But in a remarkable feat of self-control, Wolffe was able to keep his moral outrage in check.

Beyond that, though, is something more pernicious: the suggestion, which we hear more and more of these days, that opposition to President Obama is based on racist views...

**More:** <http://www.commentarymagazine.com/2011/09/02/racism-charge-msnbc-richard-wolffe/>

For once, Pamela Geller is wrong.

## **Governor Perry's Islam Connection**

*by Amil Imani, 3 Sept 2011*

The news of Governor Rick Perry jumping into the Republican nomination race for president released a media tsunami that assaulted my brain. In no time at all, people came up with a long list of negatives about him. In a democracy, honest and thorough scrutiny of anyone's records seeking a public office is not only the prerogative of the electorate, but its duty.

Being a lifelong critic of Islam, red flags popped up in my head at Perry's purported cozy relationship with Islam and prompted me to look very closely at the governor's record on this particular issue and at this specific time. All kinds of worrisome thoughts flashed through my head. For one, I recalled another Republican Texas governor who became president and grew hoarse by so often shouting the mantra "Islam is a religion of peace."...

**Continue:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/governor\\_perrys\\_islam\\_connection.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/governor_perrys_islam_connection.html)

## **New labor move is anti-biz, jobs**

*by Steve Huntley, 2 Sept 2011*

In another job, with another employer, at another time many years ago, I was a union activist. I edited a union newspaper, recruited new members and promoted the union whenever I could. Then I became its grievance chairman.

For 2½ years I spent 95 percent of my union-work time defending the incompetents, the lazy, the malingers and the malcontents. And they got paid the same as my fellow workers who showed up every day and gave their all to the job. What's more, I saw how union rules frustrated management innovations to improve our journalistic product.

A few years later I moved on to another journalistic enterprise without a union. I saw merit pay raises given to the hard workers, no salary hikes to those who didn't or couldn't do the job, and eventual dismissal of anyone who couldn't measure up to the demands of the magazine. Thus began my journey from liberal to conservative.

That's not the story you'd expect to hear as we approach the day designated to celebrate the labor movement. And labor does have a great history of men and women risking their jobs and their lives to redress deplorable working

conditions, capricious and arbitrary pay scales, and exploitative employers. For the most part, that belongs to another era...

**More:** <http://www.suntimes.com/news/huntley/7403085-417/new-labor-move-is-anti-biz-jobs.html>

Two marvelous essays on the nation's fundamental strength and *eventual* recovery.

## **America's Demographics and Dynamism**

Amidst the gloom and doom, there are reasons to believe America will remain the preeminent global economic power.

by Irwin Stelzer, 3 Sept 2011

[http://www.weeklystandard.com/blogs/americas-demographics-and-dynamism\\_592119.html](http://www.weeklystandard.com/blogs/americas-demographics-and-dynamism_592119.html)

## **America's taken a hammering in the decade since 9/11. But never doubt that it can rediscover its awesome self-belief.**

by Richard Littlejohn, 3 Sept 2011

"That's the trouble with you Americans. You expect nothing bad to happen, while the rest of the world expects only bad to happen." Out of the mouths of babes. Or in this case Svetlana, the one-legged Russian babe in the hit HBO series *The Sopranos*. Her post 9/11 pearl of wisdom leaves mob boss Tony Soprano baffled. The quizzical expression on his face is priceless. He's as utterly bewildered as his fellow Americans were when the planes hit the Pentagon and the Twin Towers...

**Read on:** <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-2033230/RICHARD-LITTLEJOHN-Americas-taken-hammering-decade-9-11-But-doubt-rediscover-awesome-self-belief.html>

## **Eternal adolescence lacking in romance**

by Mark Steyn, 3 Sept 2011

I was on a very long flight the other day and, to get me through it, I had two books: the new bestseller *Of Thee I Zing*, by Laura Ingraham, and a book I last read 20 years ago, *The Radetzky March*, by Joseph Roth. The former is the latest hit from one of America's most popular talk radio hosts; the latter is an Austrian novel from 1932 by a fellow who drank himself to death just before the Second World War, which, if you're planning on drinking yourself to death, is a better pretext than most. Don't worry, I'll save the Germanic alcoholic guy for a couple of paragraphs, although the two books are oddly related.

*Of Thee I Zing's* subtitle is "America's Cultural Decline From Muffin Tops To Body Shots." If you are sufficiently culturally aware to know what a "muffin top" and a "body shot" are (and incidentally, if you don't have time to master all these exciting new trends, these two can be combined into one convenient "muffin shot"), you may not think them the most pressing concerns as the Republic sinks beneath its multitrillion-dollar debt burden. But, as Miss Ingraham says, "Even if our economic and national security challenges disappeared overnight, we'd still have to climb out of the cultural abyss into which we've tumbled." Actually, I think I'd go a little further than the author on that. I'm a great believer that culture trumps economics. Every time the government in Athens calls up the Germans and says, OK, we've burned through the last bailout, time for the next one, Angela Merkel understands all too well that the real problem in Greece is not the Greek finances but the Greek people. Even somnolent liberal columnists grasp this...

**Here's how they grasp it:** <http://www.oregister.com/opinion/romance-315204-steyn-adolescence.html>

Mr. Becker is the 1992 Nobel laureate in Economics.

## **The Great Recession and government failure**

When comparing the performance of markets to government, markets look pretty darn good.

by Gary S. Becker, 3 Sept 2011

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111904199404576536930606933332.html>

Some really good queries for Romney, Perry, Bachmann, and Huntsman.

## Question Time for Republicans

by George F. Will, 2 Sept 2011

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/question-time-for-republicans/2011/09/01/gIQAqpvoxJ\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/question-time-for-republicans/2011/09/01/gIQAqpvoxJ_story.html)

## Registering the poor to vote is un-American

by Matthew Vadum, 1 Sept 2011

Why are left-wing activist groups so keen on registering the poor to vote? Because they know the poor can be counted on to vote themselves more benefits by electing redistributionist politicians. Welfare recipients are particularly open to demagoguery and bribery.

Registering them to vote is like handing out burglary tools to criminals. It is profoundly antisocial and un-American to empower the nonproductive segments of the population to destroy the country—which is precisely why Barack Obama zealously supports registering welfare recipients to vote...

**More, including Trotsky, Cloward, Piven, and Alinsky:**

[http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/registering\\_the\\_poor\\_to\\_vote\\_is\\_un-american.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/registering_the_poor_to_vote_is_un-american.html)

## Islamists hate music, Western art and culture

by Trencherbone, 26 Jan 2010

It came as something of a shock to the liberal British arts establishment when 'British' Muslims recently **set out their demands for changes in the educational system**. They demanded that all schools with Muslim students should become Shariah-compliant, with bans on dance, drama and music. Recitation of the Koran should replace music lessons, and art should be restricted to the portrayal of inanimate objects.

Although they put the lefty luvvies and literati in a flutter, to anyone familiar with the global onslaught of Islam these demands are no surprise, and are in fact inevitable once Muslims have established themselves in sufficient numbers in *Dar al Harb* (the lands of the infidels).

Mohammad was a miserable old pervert, and probably tone-deaf, and **didn't appreciate music**. He **cursed musicians and ordered his followers to ban music**. Since Mohammad is the **Perfect Man and role model for all Muslims for all time**, they have no choice but to obey.

To pious Muslims, not only is music forbidden, but so is representational art, which is why **they destroyed the Buddhas of Bamiyan**. Of course music still exists in many Islamic countries, but **like the statues of the Buddhas** it is regarded as Jahiliyya—corrupt vestiges of pre-Islamic civilisations which must be eliminated.

Dance, music, theatre and the visual arts are 'kuffar Jahiliyya'—aspects of contemporary non-Muslim culture that must also be eliminated in their lands of origin, once the Muslims become strong enough. If a work of art has iconic value to the kuffars (infidels) then that is all the more reason to destroy it, in order to **humiliate** the kuffars and their culture. **Humiliation of the infidels** ...

**Some amazing details:** <http://crombouke.blogspot.com/2010/01/islamic-music-art-and-culture.html>

## Perry declares sky is blue, media shocked

by Joseph Ashby, 1 Sept 2011

We can say one thing of the new GOP front-runner: Governor Rick Perry knows how to fire up a crowd. The leftist media **blew up** this week when Perry reiterated a point from his book *Fed Up!* that Social Security and Medicare are Ponzi schemes...

...The growing shortfalls of our public Ponzi schemes makes Perry's candor not only refreshing, but necessary. Retreating from the substance of those comments would be an ominous sign for America. Neck-deep in debt and with almost no economic growth, we have too little time to let popularity overrule the truth—on Social Security, Medicare, or a host of other federal programs. If the front-running candidate for the limited-government party, who campaigns on the heels of 2010's historic conservative victory, can't be honest about problems as obvious and important as Social Security and Medicare, we have scant hope for an America revival.

So let Mr. Perry speak his mind. He might end up saying that unemployment payments incentivize joblessness. He could point out that government spending isn't truly stimulative because government can't put dollars into the economy without first taking those dollars out of the economy. He may declare that individuals spend their own money wiser than governments spend other people's money. Maybe he'll tell us the sky is blue or that Texas is hot in July. The liberal

media will go crazy, but straight talk from our political officials is something we desperately need right now.

**More:** [http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/perry\\_declares\\_sky\\_is\\_blue\\_media\\_shocked.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/09/perry_declares_sky_is_blue_media_shocked.html)

### **3 Boston Islamic charity leaders convicted again**

by Pamela Geller, 2 Sept 2011

This is an Islamic pattern: using charities and zakat as a front to fund jihad. It gives one great pause that Obama made it a goal of his administration and Treasury Department to push *zakat* (Islamic donations)...

**More:** [http://atlasshrugs2000.typepad.com/atlas\\_shrugs/2011/09/3-boston-islamic-leaders-charity-convicted-again.html](http://atlasshrugs2000.typepad.com/atlas_shrugs/2011/09/3-boston-islamic-leaders-charity-convicted-again.html)

### **Turkey expels Israel's ambassador for jihad warship flotilla defense**

by Pamela Geller, 2 Sept 2011

*"The mosques are our barracks, the domes our helmets, the minarets our bayonets and the faithful our soldiers."*

—Turkish Prime Minister Erdogan

More of the poisonous fruit from the newly islamicized Turkey under the fundamentalist Prime Minister Erdogan. Why isn't Israel (or the UN) expelling Turkey for launching a warship designed to provoke war games with Israel?

Once again we see the increasingly radical, OIC-driven UN set up the tiny Jewish state for isolation and delegitimization. Imagine the effect of the islamization of whole regions under this new "Islamic spring."...

**More:** [http://atlasshrugs2000.typepad.com/atlas\\_shrugs/2011/09/turkey-expels-israels-ambassador-for-jihad-warship-flotilla-defense.html](http://atlasshrugs2000.typepad.com/atlas_shrugs/2011/09/turkey-expels-israels-ambassador-for-jihad-warship-flotilla-defense.html)

### **American Civic Knowledge Survey** (10 questions)

Both the ancient Greeks and Romans valued wise and public-spirited citizens. Let's see just how wise you really are?

Are you a Barbarian, Philosopher King, or something in-between?

<http://www.isi.org/quiz.aspx?q=9C43CB91-617F-498E-AE55-2E66BC97A0AB>

### **Full Civic Literacy Exam** (33 questions)

Are you more knowledgeable than the average citizen? The average score for all 2,508 Americans taking the following test was 49%; college educators scored 55%. Can you do better? Questions were drawn from past ISI surveys, as well as other nationally recognized exams.

<http://www.isi.org/quiz.aspx?q=FE5C3B47-9675-41E0-9CF3-072BB31E2692>

If you do OK on these tests, try them on your liberal friends (if any).

### **President Obama starts re-election campaign with a pratfall**

by Hugh Hewitt, 1 Sept 2011

President Obama thought he would open his 2012 re-election campaign with a bit of big-footing that would show the GOP presidential candidates gathered at the Reagan Library in Simi Valley next week who was going to set the agenda and call the tune...the president's team must have chuckled about how smart they were to monkeywrench the GOP this way. How utterly Alinskyite. How Chicago.

Except House Speaker John Boehner wasn't going to allow his co-equal Legislative branch of government to be manipulated by the Executive just because the Executive needed a cheap political stunt.

This president has never quite got the idea of three co-equal branches of government. He governs by diktat when he couldn't get even his supermajorities to act during the two years he had them. And he refuses to defend laws he disagrees with in the courts even though they were duly enacted by a past Congress and signed by a past president.

He entered into the Libyan adventure without any authority from Congress and set a new standard of contempt for the War Powers Act which while unconstitutional has at least received a nod from past presidents. The list is long, and it includes berating the justices of the Supreme Court when they were assembled for the State of the Union address.

Imagine his surprise when tough John Boehner, who has been around the Legislative Branch many years, and wily Mitch McConnell, another Hill veteran, considered the president's demand for a Wednesday night joint session. Perhaps they channeled the late Robert Byrd who, though as partisan a Democrat as one could imagine, was also stickler for the



status of the Congress as partner not servant of the Executive Branch.

So oh so gently the Speaker put the knife in the president's political stunt. A quiet, respectful letter, some words about security sweeps, getting back late, tough to arrange, and a "how about the 8th?" and the deed was done.

The president's big stunt is now opposite the NFL opener. Good luck with that...

**More:** [http://townhall.com/columnists/hughhewitt/2011/09/01/president\\_obama\\_starts\\_re-election\\_campaign\\_with\\_a\\_pratfall/page/full/](http://townhall.com/columnists/hughhewitt/2011/09/01/president_obama_starts_re-election_campaign_with_a_pratfall/page/full/)

## **St. Louis publisher harassed after releasing 9-11 coloring book for kids**

*Jim Hoft, 1 Sept 2011*

<http://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2011/09/kids-coloring-book-publisher-harassed-after-releasing-9-11-coloring-novel/>

You'll never guess the "religion" of the people doing the harassing.

Anyway, you can buy the coloring book here:

<http://www.coloringbook.com/weshallneverforget911coloringbook.aspx>

—*Don John*

## **Vindicating Capitalism: the real history of the Standard Oil Company (part I: The fallacious textbook story)**

*by Alex Epstein, 29 Aug 2011*

[Author's Note: This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Supreme Court ruling that found Standard Oil guilty of violating the Sherman Antitrust Act. As punishment, the world's largest and most successful oil company was broken into 34 pieces.

Ever since, Standard Oil has served as the textbook example of why we need antitrust law—in the business world in general and in the energy business in particular. The Court's decision affirmed a popular account of Standard Oil's success, first made famous by journalists Henry Demarest Lloyd and Ida Tarbell. In the absence of antitrust laws, the story goes, Standard attained a 90% share of the oil-refining market through unfair and destructive practices such as preferential railroad **rebates** and "predatory pricing"; Standard then leveraged its unfair advantages to eliminate competition, control the market, and dictate prices.

Within the oil and electricity industries in particular, the spectre of a coercive monopoly developing in the absence of government intervention was used to justify coercive, monopolistic behavior by the government in the "common good," be it by the Texas Railroad Commission or by government electrical utilities. This article challenges the mythology of the Standard Oil case and, more broadly, the notion that a coercive monopoly can arise in the absence of government intervention. By implication, it illustrates that there is nothing standing in the way of a truly free, competitive energy market—an energy market free of antitrust law.]

**The real history:** <http://www.masterresource.org/2011/08/vindicating-capitalism-standard-oil-i/>

## **Obama and the burden of exceptionalism**

Post-'60s liberals, with the president as their standard bearer, seek to make a virtue of decline.

*by Shelby Steele, 1 Sept 2011*

...But this leaves the left mired in an absurdity: It seeks to trade the burdens of greatness for the relief of mediocrity. When greatness fades, when a nation contracts to a middling place in the world, then the world in fact no longer knocks on its door. (Think of England or France after empire.) To civilize America, to redeem the nation from its supposed avarice and hubris, the American left effectively makes a virtue of decline—as if we can redeem America only by making her indistinguishable from lesser nations.

Since the '60s we have enfeebled our public education system even as our wealth has expanded. Moral and cultural relativism now obscure individual responsibility. We are uninspired in the wars we fight, calculating our withdrawal even before we begin—and then we fight with a self-conscious, almost bureaucratic minimalism that makes the wars interminable. America seems to be facing a pivotal moment: Do we move ahead by advancing or by receding—by reaffirming the values that made us exceptional or by letting go of those values, so that a creeping mediocrity begins to spare us the burdens of greatness?

As a president, Barack Obama has been a force for mediocrity. He has banked more on the hopeless interventions of government than on the exceptionalism of the people. His greatest weakness as a president is a limp confidence in his

countrymen. He is afraid to ask difficult things of them.

Like me, he is black, and it was the government that in part saved us from the ignorances of the people. So the concept of the exceptionalism—the genius for freedom—of the American people may still be a stretch for him. But in fact he was elected to make that stretch. It should be held against him that he has failed to do so...

**Read it all:** <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111904787404576532623176115558.html>

Mr. Barr was a Republican Congressman from Georgia, 1995 to 2003, and Libertarian candidate for president in 2008. He's been quite active in ACLU, especially as an advocate in favor of terrorists' rights, and against the war on jihadis. Nonetheless, this is a good column.

## **Gibson Guitar to Uncle Sam—"From my cold, dead hands"**

*by Bob Barr, 31 Aug 2011*

Are you a guitar owner? More important, do you own a guitar made by Gibson, one of the most well-known American guitar manufacturers? If so, listen up; you may be in Uncle Sam's cross hairs—as a criminal.

Just ask Henry Juskiewicz, Chairman and CEO of Gibson Guitars.

Last week, heavily armed federal agents raided two guitar manufacturing facilities in Tennessee owned by Gibson — one in Nashville, another in Memphis. The feds were not acting on a tip that an al Qaeda cell was holed up in the buildings; or that Mexican drug cartel gangs were lurking inside. It was actually something far more serious; far more serious, that is, to a bunch of federal bureaucrats with nothing better to do...

**More:** <http://blogs.ajc.com/bob-barr-blog/2011/08/31/gibson-guitar-to-uncle-sam-%E2%80%93-%E2%80%9Cfrom-my-cold-dead-hands%E2%80%9D/>

Dana Loesch got REALLY teed-off about it. Go [here](#) and listen to August 26/Part 2, just past the halfway point.

Adult language. *Angry adult language.*

## **Perry, the GOP, and Cowboy Diplomacy**

*by Colin Dueck, 1 Sept 2011*

...As it happens, Perry and other Republicans already have multiple good examples of past GOP presidents who both embodied and practiced authentic cowboy diplomacy. The two best models to work from are Theodore Roosevelt and Ronald Reagan.

Reagan was a Sunbelt foreign policy hawk, comfortable with the use of force internationally. He pushed the Soviet Union into dramatic international concessions, weakening it irrevocably through a strategy of deliberate and relentless pressure across the board. At the same time, he was usually very careful about entangling the United States in direct, protracted, or half-hearted military interventions overseas. He obviously believed the U.S. system of government to be a model for the rest of the world, but his foreign policy centered on supporting America's friends and opposing its enemies, above all else.

Theodore Roosevelt built up the U.S. Navy, seized control of the Panama Canal, and pre-empted European interventions within the Caribbean. Simultaneously—and contrary to his reputation as a bombastic Rough Rider—he behaved, once in the White House, with remarkable tact and care when it came to the exercise of U.S. power and diplomacy overseas. He worked to balance competing great powers against one another through skillful diplomacy, and refused to make strategic commitments that he could not keep. As president, he strengthened America's international and military position while genuinely trying to avoid war. The exercise of such a firm but ultimately prudent foreign policy was all the more impressive in TR's case, since it was sometimes in tension with his personally combative instincts. Plus, he gets extra credit in the annals of cowboy diplomacy for having worked as an honest-to-God cowhand in the Black Hills of Dakota.

Both TR and Reagan emanated a rock-solid belief in their country's greatness, together with a willingness to protect America's interests abroad by whatever means necessary. Both were also admirably shrewd and careful when it came to major decisions for war or peace. This is the genuine model of cowboy diplomacy, one in the best Republican traditions, and one that Perry seems to favor...

**More:** [http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2011/09/01/perry\\_the\\_gop\\_and\\_cowboy\\_diplomacy\\_111163.html](http://www.realclearpolitics.com/articles/2011/09/01/perry_the_gop_and_cowboy_diplomacy_111163.html)

## **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 Despotism** *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.