

What is wrong with Western elites?

by Fjordman, 31 Oct 2011

Libya's autocratic ruler Muammar Qaddafi was brutally tortured and killed on 20 October 2011 after France, Britain, the USA and NATO had actively given military support to rebel troops that were known to include groups with ties to terrorist organizations like al-Qaeda.

As writer Diana West said, "Qaddafi was not killed in retaliation for his attacks on American servicemen in Berlin in 1986, or the downing of Pan Am 103 over Lockerbie in 1989. He was not killed for his central role in the USSR's terror networks going back to the 1960s and 1970s. He was killed *after coming over to our side* of George Bush's 'war on terror' in the final phase of a civil war in Libya in which his regime fought al Qaeda affiliates. Horrific as it sounds, Qaddafi was killed because we and our NATO allies joined *the other side*."

Full essay: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/10/what-is-wrong-with-western-elites.html#more>

Desperate Churchmice

No, the pope is not supporting Occupy Wall Street.

by George Weigel, 31 Oct 2011

... Thomas Merton sensed the inherent implausibility of progressive Catholicism in the mid-1960s — despite his support of the civil-rights, anti-nuclear, and anti-Vietnam movements. In his student days at Columbia, Merton had known real Communists, and he wasn't much impressed with the juvenile leftism that swamped the Church in the wake of Vatican II. Merton put the complaint about progressive Catholicism and its furies about as well as it can be put in one of the "nonsense letters" he wrote to his old friend, the poet Robert Lax: "I am truly spry and full of fun, but am pursued by the vilifications of progressed Catholics. Mark my word man there is no uglier species on the face of the earth than progressed Catholics, mean, frivol, ungainly, inarticulate, venomous, and bursting at the seams with progress into the secular cities and Teilhardian subways. The Ottavianis was bad but these are infinitely worse. You wait and see."...

Read it all: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/281654/desperate-churchmice-george-weigel>

The unexamined premises of Multiculturalism

by Baron Bodissey, 30 Oct 2011

The continued dominance of the doctrines of Political Correctness and Multiculturalism depends on a set of unexamined premises. If the axioms underlying PC/MC were ever carefully examined by a large proportion of the populace, the entire political superstructure of the West would collapse.

The practitioners of the Multicultural Arts are at least subliminally aware that the basic assumptions of their dogma cannot stand up to close scrutiny. This is why the proponents of PC/MC tend to respond to reasonable criticism with accusations of "racism", vicious ad-hominem attacks, and physical violence...

More: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/10/unexamined-premises-of-multiculturalism.html#more>

High Tech Lynching: The Sequel, starring Herman Cain

by Jeffrey Lord, 31 Oct 2011

<http://spectator.org/blog/2011/10/30/high-tech-lynching-the-sequel>

Politico and Cain: return of the high-tech lynching

by Roger L. Simon, 31 Oct 2011

<http://pjmedia.com/rogerlsimon/2011/10/30/politico-and-cain-return-of-the-high-tech-lynching/>

The Jihad against Walid Phares

CAIR and Mother Jones target a Romney adviser.

by Mario Loyola, 31 Oct 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/281652/jihad-against-walid-phares-mario-loyola>

Lying, cheating climate scientists caught lying, cheating again

by James Delingpole, 30 Oct 2011

<http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/jamesdelingpole/100114292/lying-cheating-climate-scientists-caught-lying-cheating-again/>

Slouching toward the 1930s

by Monty Pelerin, 31 Oct 2011

The current economic crisis rivals the one of the 1930s. Despite shameless propaganda by government and its cronies in the media, people understand that the situation is getting worse. Consumer confidence continues to decline as does confidence in the future. We are headed for an event that history will record as worse than the Great Depression. It is unavoidable...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/slouching_toward_the_1930s.html

Why liberals love Halloween

Not that sugar candy makes them any sweeter.

by Windsor Mann, 28 Oct 2011

Halloween is a big party. It is the third biggest political party in America. This annual holiday is a nonpartisan event, but politics shows up like everyone else—cloaked and masked. Not everyone parties with politics, but liberals are most inclined and best equipped. They have the best reasons to love Oct. 31. Here they are...

More: <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/10/28/why-liberals-love-halloween>

A remarkable overview of Holy Land history: who controlled the region, what peoples lived there, what they called themselves—and why.

Aboriginal rights of the Jewish people

by Allen Z. Hertz, 30 Oct 2011

5,278 words: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/aboriginal_rights_of_the_jewish_people.html

Student loans—forgive and forget

by Debra Saunders, 30 Oct 2011

...Occupy Wall Street activists have been calling for forgiveness of student loans. Congress already passed legislation proposed by Obama to cap some student loan payments at 15 percent of a graduate's discretionary income and to forgive the balance after 25 years. On Thursday, Obama pledged to lower the cap to 10 percent of discretionary income—with forgiveness after 20 years. What next, 5 percent and 15 years?

"And we can do it at no cost to the taxpayer," U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan cooed in a statement.

"That is simply not true," responded Neal McCluskey of the libertarian-leaning Cato Institute. Taxpayers are on the hook for those loans...

...The unintended consequences of the steep rise in government financial aid, McCluskey concluded, may well be "sky-high noncompletion rates and rampant tuition inflation."

In his 2005 Stanford University commencement address, Steve Jobs explained the economic factors that went into his decision to drop out of Reed College. "I naively chose a college that was almost as expensive as Stanford, and all of my working-class parents' savings were being spent on my college tuition." He actually thought about the money; that sounds so quaint today...

Read it all: <http://www.creators.com/conservative/debra-saunders.html>

This was the week that European democracy died

The plan to tackle the eurozone crisis will only render ordinary people more powerless.

by Janet Daley, 30 Oct 2011

Democracy went down in a blaze of glory last week. Both the German Bundestag and our own House of Commons put up one hell of a fight against the dying of the light. Maybe history will record that fact in an elegy on the demise of the great 18th-century experiment in government by the people: they were eloquent to the end. Because at the end, eloquence was all they had...

...So this is where we are. The agreed EU “stability union” triumphantly paraded before the media in Brussels will have the power to approve or disapprove budgets of countries in the eurozone—that is, to vet and police them—before they are submitted to the elected parliaments of those countries. In other words, parliaments which are directly mandated by, and answerable to, their own populations will not control the most essential functions of government: decisions on taxation and spending. Even without the ultimate institutions of economic and political union, which still elude the EU, actual power over fiscal policy will be taken from the hands of national leaders. And if, as a voter, you cannot influence your prospective government’s tax and spending policies, what exactly are you voting for? ...

More: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/financialcrisis/8857533/This-was-the-week-that-European-democracy-died.html>

The Reactionary Left

by Matthew Continetti, 30 Oct 2011 (Nov 7 issue)

...Even if you grant the premise that government should redistribute wealth to equalize incomes, the 1950s are odd years for the left to champion. “Social injustice remained pervasive,” Krugman cautions. Um, yeah. That’s the point: There is more to equality than pay schedules and tax rates. There is, for example, the composition of the workforce. Harriet did not take a second mortgage to finance her craft moisturizer boutique while Ozzie went to his UAW office. Harriet stayed at home. So did millions of women in the 1950s, thereby restricting the supply of labor and raising Ozzie’s wages. You cannot have the economy of the 1950s without the society of the 1950s.

Ozzie and Harriet were married. They could pool resources in ways today’s single parents and twentysomethings cannot. They did not have to worry about an influx of day laborers from Latin America or a flood of cheap goods from China. They lived in a society a portion of which systematically oppressed a minority race. Their government focused almost the sum total of its resources on defense and Social Security. There was no Medicare or Medicaid or war on poverty. It was the age of the “organization man,” the “lonely crowd,” of alienation and monopoly and “conformity.” All of these factors—not just high levels of unionization and a punishing top marginal tax rate—went into making 1950s America a “middle-class society.” Is this a tradeoff Americans would be willing to make? ...

...What Americans should be trying to recapture is not any particular set of historical social, economic, or cultural conditions but a lost philosophy of government, a missing understanding of politics. In this understanding, the equality that matters is the equal protection of natural rights. The government that levels inequalities of property or condition necessarily intrudes on those rights. Lucky for us, this view of government depends on self-evident truths that are the same in every time and every place...

More: http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/reactionary-left_604180.html

I'm not sure if this is more of a demolition or an excoriation.

Either way, I am fairly certain that Mr. Romney cannot recover from this column.

Mitt Romney, the pretzel candidate

by George F. Will, 28 Oct 2011

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/mitt-romney-the-pretzel-candidate/2011/10/28/gIQAPEQ8PM_story.html?hpid=z2

The Awful Sin of Herman Cain

by Wesley Pruden, 28 Oct 2011

Things have gone from bad to badder for the self-righteous artsy-fartsy elites, who for all their book-learning and self-regard just can't figure out America.

The Herman Cain phenomenon is the latest puzzlement of those who think only they're wise enough and entitled enough to tell the rest of us which fork to use. Mr. Cain's sin is not that he doesn't have the usual qualifications for president. Barack Obama established the precedent that presidents can attempt to do the job with on-the-job training. Mr. Cain's sin is that he demonstrates, with considerable eloquence, that the notion that Republicans and other conservatives are mean-spirited bigots is the enormous lie of conventional media wisdom. The media elites (and some who only want

to be among the elite) are beside themselves with rage...

Read on: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/oct/28/pruden-the-awful-sin-of-herman-cain/>

The American Devolution: some perspective on present discontent

by David A. Eisenberg, 29 Oct 2011

...Upon hearing repeated calls for violence against the rich and demands that the 1 percent help shoulder the personal debts of the 99 percent, one detects something either Orwellian or imbecilic in this notion of fairness...

...Catherine Rampell, expatiating upon a chart in Branko Milanovic's *The Haves and the Have-Nots*, noted that "the typical person in the bottom 5 percent of the American income distribution is still richer than **68 percent** of the world's inhabitants." If fairness really were at stake here, then those who inveigh against the privileged would do well to reflect first upon their own privileges—privileges that the vast majority of the world's inhabitants know nothing of, nor ever will.

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/the_american_devolution_some_perspective_on_present_discontent.html

Rural rebellion brewing

by Steven Greenhut, 29 Oct 2011

...Their latest battle is to stop destruction of four hydroelectric dams along the Klamath River—an action driven by environmentalists and the Obama administration. Most locals say the dam-busting will undermine their property rights and ruin the local farming and ranch economy, which is all that's left since environmental regulators destroyed the logging and mining industries.

These used to be wealthy resource-based economies, but now many of the towns are drying up, with revenue to local governments evaporating. Unemployment rates are in the 20-percent-and-higher range. Nearly 79 percent of the county's voters in a recent advisory initiative opposed the dam removal, but that isn't stopping the authorities from blasting the dams anyway.

These rural folks, living in the shadow of the majestic Mount Shasta, believe that they are being driven away so that their communities can essentially go back to the wild, to conform to a modern environmentalist ethos that puts wildlands above humanity. As the locals told it during the Defend Rural America conference Oct. 22 at the Siskiyou Golden Fairgrounds, environmental officials are treading on their liberties, traipsing unannounced on their properties, confronting ranchers with guns drawn to enforce arcane regulatory rules and destroying their livelihoods in the process...

Constitutional principles involved: <http://www.oregister.com/opinion/county-324351-rural-state.html>

The GOP jobs plan vs. Obama's

by Peter Ferrara, 28 Oct 2011

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/peterferrara/2011/10/28/the-gop-jobs-plan-vs-obamas/>

Caution: some bad language.

Howard Stern exposes more idiots at Occupy Wall Street

SharpElbowsStl, 29 Oct 2011

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_ZjWFHjO4Y&feature=player_embedded

Self-Reliance to Self-Pity: road now most traveled

Mark Steyn, 29 Oct 2011

...An able-bodied man paid by the government of the United States to lie in a giant crib wetting his diaper week in week out is almost too poignant an emblem of the republic at twilight. But, as Hillaire Belloc wrote, "Always keep a hold of Nurse/For fear of finding something worse." Only last week, ABC News reported: "At a million-dollar San Francisco fundraiser today, President Obama warned his recession-battered supporters that if he loses the 2012 election it could herald a new, painful era of self-reliance in America."

Oh, no! The horror! "Self-reliance" is now a pejorative? Nice to have that clarified. And San Francisco, a city that registers more dogs than it has kids enrolled in its schools and in which adults are perform the children they never bothered having, seems as good a place as any to make it official.

In less enlightened times, "self-reliance" was the great animating principle of the American experiment...

More: <http://news.investors.com/Article/589814/201110281854/Self-Reliance-To-Self-Pity-Road-Now-Most-Traveled.htm>

Political correctness in Germany (3:39)

MisterErdowahn, 25 Oct 2011 As seen at [Gates of Vienna](#).

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=m8c0jgIvRuE

Mask of Peace: the Muslim Brotherhood's plot for global rule (4:14)

ThisHouseOfCards, 25 Oct 2011 As seen at [Gates of Vienna](#).

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=7F9bSj_NSts#!

Good grief... leftie hero Scott Olsen is founder of "I Hate the Marine Corps.com" & is a Jew-basher (Updated)

by Jim Hoft, 28 Oct 2011

<http://www.thegatewaypundit.com/2011/10/good-grief-leftie-hero-scott-olsen-is-founder-of-i-hate-the-marines-com/>

Former KKK Grand Wizard David Duke supports Occupy Wall Street movement

by Erick Hamme, 27 Oct 2011

David Duke, a former grand wizard of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, has joined President Barack Obama, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), and Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) in expressing support for the Occupy Wall Street movement, whose protests have been marked by anti-Semitism...

More: <http://cnsnews.com/news/article/former-kkk-grand-wizard-david-duke-supports-occupy-wall-street-movement>

Michael Moore, Hypocrite and Liar

by Peter Wehner, 27 Oct 2011

The filmmaker Michael Moore was on Piers Morgan's [CNN show](#) a couple of nights ago and was asked (via Twitter) how he squares the fact that he's benefitted enormously from capitalism while turning into one of its leading critics. In the exchange that followed, Morgan asked (rhetorically, he thought), "You're in the top one percent, right?" To which Moore replied, "I'm not in the top one percent. No."

Now just for the record, the latest data shows that the top one percent means you're a person with an adjusted gross income of roughly \$380,000. Michael Moore's net worth is estimated to be around \$50 million. Which means he's closer to being in the top one-tenth of one percent of earners in America. But no matter. Moore had a lie to tell, and tell it he did, and several more times. Piers Morgan, knowing Moore was misleading him and his audience, said, "I need you to admit the bleeding obvious. I need you to sit here and say, 'I'm in the one percent.' Because it's important." To which Moore said, "Well, I can't. Because I'm not..."

More: <http://pjmedia.com/lifestyle/2011/10/18/become-a-successful-stand-up-comic-using-this-weird-old-secret/?singlepage=true>

Top Muslim institution declares all Christians 'infidels'

Quoting the Quran (correctly) may be fueling the recent slaughter of Christians in Egypt.

by Raymond Ibrahim, 28 Oct 2011

...In short, yes, there are commonalities, but they are secondary to the differences, which are more final and define the relationship. Or, to put it in Ali Gomaa's paradigm: [Fine, Christianity and Islam share similar tenets — but, by the](#)

way: “Infidels are those who say God is the Christ, son of Mary.”

The fact is, this Quranic verse is as much a cornerstone of Islam’s view of Christianity as the unity of God and Christ is a cornerstone of Christianity, articulated some 1700 years ago in the Nicene Creed. The issue is clear cut for all involved. Accordingly, how can one fault Goma? As grand mufti, he is simply being true to Islam’s teachings. Indeed, his consistency is more commendable than the equivocations of Western ecumenicalists who, by falling over themselves to assure Muslims that they all essentially believe in the same things, demonstrate, especially to Muslims, that they believe in nothing...

More: <http://pjmedia.com/blog/top-muslim-institution-declares-all-christians-%e2%80%98infidels%e2%80%99/?singlepage=true>

Demystifying 9-9-9 and other Fair Taxes

by *Anthony J. Ciani, 27 Oct 2011*

Our tax system is a source of mystery and headache for many, filled with confusing benefits and detriments, depending on whether the payer did what his political masters wanted him to do. Even more disturbing is that most revenues have been hidden behind the sticker prices and omitted from our pay stubs. Revenues were hidden by politicians for two reasons: to make it impossible for the payer to determine if he received value for his dollar, and so that funds could be easily misappropriated on things the payer never used or could ever use...

Read on: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/demystifying_9-9-9_and_other_fair_taxes.html

On Tyranny and Liberty

Would the Founders approve of the nation we’ve made?

by *Myron Magnet, Autumn 2011*

A U.S. Supreme Court justice recounted over cocktails a while ago his travails with his hometown zoning board. He wanted to build an addition onto his house, containing what the plans described as a home office, but he met truculent and lengthy resistance. This is a residential area, a zoning official blustered—no businesses allowed. The judge mildly explained that he would not be running a business from the new room; he would be using it as a study. Well, challenged the suspicious official, what business are you in? I work for the government, the justice replied. Okay, the official finally conceded—grudgingly, as if conferring an immense and special discretionary favor; we’ll let it go by this time. But, he snapped in conclusion, don’t ever expletive-deleted with us again.

Isn’t that sort of petty tyranny? I asked. Yes, the justice replied; there’s a lot of it going around...

4,000 excellent words: http://city-journal.org/2011/21_4_tyrranny-and-liberty.html

Four reasons Keynesians keep getting it wrong

Concern over future tax rates is one of the main reasons for reduced investor confidence.

by *Allan H. Meltzer, 28 Oct 2011*

Those who heaped high praise on Keynesian policies have grown silent as government spending has failed to bring an economic recovery. Except for a few diehards who want still more government spending, and those who make the unverifiable claim that the economy would have collapsed without it, most now recognize that more than a trillion dollars of spending by the Bush and Obama administrations has left the economy in a slump and unemployment hovering above 9%.

Why is the economic response to increased government spending so different from the response predicted by Keynesian models? What is missing from the models that makes their forecasts so inaccurate? Those should be the questions asked by both proponents and opponents of more government spending. Allow me to suggest four major omissions from Keynesian models:

Continue: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204777904576651532721267002.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEADTop

7 reasons why Obama is wrong on income inequality

by *James Pethokoukis, 27 Oct 2011*

...Liberals frequently claim the average American family has been losing ground for the past three decades—or at least since Ronald Reagan took the presidential oath in January 1981. (As if the 1970s with its sky-high **Misery Index**

was a great economic time.) The CBO refutes this. Its data show real median after-tax household income (half of all households have income below the median, and half have income above it) grew by 35 percent over the past three decades. Indeed, look at this chart from Jim Sullivan of Notre Dame and and Bruce Meyer of the University of Chicago (via [recent presentation at AEI](#))...

More: <http://blog.american.com/2011/10/7-reasons-why-obama-is-wrong-on-income-inequality/>

No, it hasn't happened yet. But it wouldn't be a surprise.

The new paganism of biodiversity

Dispatches from the Society for the Protection of the Malaria Virus.

by *Theodore Dalrymple*, 28 Oct 2011

<http://pjmedia.com/blog/the-new-paganism-of-biodiversity/?singlepage=true>

Our Libyan Adventure

by *Andrew C. McCarthy*, 27 Oct 2011

...The murder was facilitated by NATO forces operating under false pretenses: Claiming they were merely protecting civilians, they set about hunting down Qaddafi, only to help usher in a new era of Islamist governance. The bill for NATO's services was willfully footed by the Obama administration — which had previously funded the Libyan regime on the oft-repeated grounds that Qaddafi was a valuable counterterrorism ally, but which then initiated a war against Qaddafi in the absence of any provocation or American national-security interests. NATO's war of aggression is already inuring to the benefit of America's Islamist enemies. What's not to celebrate?...

...In "leading from behind," our government went rogue — to the evident satisfaction of the formerly antiwar Left. Obama claimed to be keeping the peace and protecting civilians while waging an unauthorized offensive war against Qaddafi's government — a regime with which the United States was at peace; a regime with which the United States had made a great show of arriving at friendly relations; a regime to which the United States (urged on by such official emissaries as [Sen. Lindsey Graham](#)) had provided foreign aid, including assistance to prop up Qaddafi's military; a regime to which the Obama administration, including Secretary Clinton's State Department, had [stepped up American taxpayer subsidies](#) — including aid to Qaddafi's military and [contributions](#) to charitable enterprises managed by Qaddafi's children.

Protecting civilians? Please. We [jumped in](#) as a partisan on the side of the [Islamists](#)... once the "rebels" swept in, [weapons](#) started [going out](#) — to other Islamists, like [al-Qaeda in Northwest Africa](#) and [Hamas in Gaza](#). And now that the Islamists have won, the first order of business, naturally, was to [install sharia](#) — Islam's politico-legal framework that oppresses non-Muslims, women, homosexuals, and apostates...

Read it all: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/281414/our-libyan-adventure-andrew-c-mccarthy>

Protesters' corporate pals

by *Charles Gasparino*, 27 Oct 2011

...The elite media has constantly vilified the peaceful Tea Party as right-wing rabble for prodding politicians to do nothing more than reduce the bloat of government. Meanwhile, politicians, the press—and now CEOs—have generally celebrated Occupy Wall Street as the second coming of the civil-rights movement—no matter how many times its followers have clashed with police in the name of Mao and Che Guevara...

Reporters covering the Tea Party, no doubt in hopes of delegitimizing its goals, have almost never missed an opportunity to point out that the majority of its followers were older, "angry" white men. But when was the last time you heard them describe the squatters in Zuccotti Park as young and white? By any objective measure, that's what the protesters are—but somehow that's missing from the coverage.

Also missing is some real, in-depth reporting on the protests. While the media couldn't wait to find out which conservative kingpins allegedly were behind the Tea Party rallies, they have almost no interest in describing how organized labor is arguably becoming the largest backer of Occupy Wall Street.

New York City's United Federation of Teachers, for instance, is donating tens of thousands of dollars in office space and food to make life easier for the protesters—but that somehow doesn't qualify as front-page news...

The rest: http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/opedcolumnists/protesters_corporate_pals_YSeKmHfaTc3K6k9tuDvOZM

Romney's finest hour

He speaks the truth about housing and foreclosures.

Wall Street Journal editorial, 27 Oct 2011

More: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203554104576655082539050902.html?mod=opinion_newsreel

Barack Obama & the infantilization of America

by James Taranto, 27 Oct 2011

...Here's ABC News, reporting on the speech the president gave in Fog City: "At a million-dollar San Francisco fundraiser today, President Obama warned his recession-battered supporters that if he loses the 2012 election it could herald a new, painful era of self-reliance in America."

Oh no! Horror of horrors! Obama is the only thing standing between us and having to rely on ourselves! And do you know what they call people who rely on themselves?

Adults. Oddly, the White House website doesn't have the text of this speech, but here's a passage from ABC...

More: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203687504577000010887443168.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_MIDDLETopOpinion

Delinking Islam and Terror

Investor's Business Daily editorial, 27 Oct 2011

..."I want to be perfectly clear about this: Training materials that portray Islam as a religion of violence or with a tendency towards violence are wrong, they are offensive and they are contrary to everything this president, this attorney general and Department of Justice stands for," he told Muslim activists gathered at the George Washington University law school. "They will not be tolerated."

So apparently, reality will no longer be tolerated in counterterror programs. In Islam, there's clear doctrinal basis for jihad, which is why almost every Muslim terrorist cites it as a motivating factor...

...Mohamed Magid argued that teaching agents that Muslims could be radicalized by jihad is bigoted and "against the law and the Constitution." He called for a complete re-education of FBI agents. And it looks like he's going to get his way.

Welcome to the Twilight Zone. First the White House scrubs all Islamic terms from the National Counterterrorism Strategy. Then it bleaches them from the Pentagon's report on the Fort Hood shooting. Now it's letting suspect Islamic groups write FBI terror training guides.

Read it all: <http://news.investors.com/Article.aspx?id=589489&p=1>

John King's sanctimonious scolding of Jason Mattera proves we need more Jason Mattered

by John Nolte, 27 Oct 2011

...Secondly, what else are those of us interested in the truth supposed to do? Joe Biden, the Vice President of the United States, runs around America demagoguing and spreading false statistics with the unconscionable claim that if Republicans don't pass Son of Stimulus women will be raped, and the sycophant media lets him get away with it. There were likely dozens of so-called reporters following the Vice President around, and had Mattera not stepped up to the plate, Biden would've gotten away with this outrage...

More: <http://bigjournalism.com/jjmnolte/2011/10/27/john-kings-sanctimonious-scolding-of-jason-mattera-proves-we-need-more-jason-mattered/>

She somehow managed to be more conservative when she wrote for *Commentary*.

The Washington Post puts a Romney blogger on the payroll to attack Romney's opponents

by Erick Erickson, 26 Oct 2011

<http://www.redstate.com/erick/2011/10/26/the-washington-post-puts-a-romney-blogger-on-the-payroll-to-attack-romneys-opponents/>

For anyone who may have missed this story's lengthy run atop the Drudge Report:

Obama taps taxpayers for student stimulus

Looks to wring stimulus from saturated student loan market.

by Chris Stirewalt, 26 Oct 2011

...Take this example: If Suzy Creamcheese gets into George Washington University and borrows from the government the requisite \$212,000 to obtain an undergraduate degree, her repayment schedule will be based on what she earns. If Suzy opts to heed the president's call for public service, and takes a job as a city social worker earning \$25,000, her payments would be limited to \$1,411 a year after the \$10,890 of poverty-level income is subtracted from her total exposure.

Twenty years at that rate would have taxpayers recoup only \$28,220 of their \$212,000 loan to Suzy. The president will also allow student debtors to refinance and consolidate loans on more favorable terms, further decreasing the payoff for taxpayers.

Obama's move comes at a moment when many economists are warning of a college debt bubble that is distorting college tuition rates and threatening to further damage credit markets. The president's move is intended to make college more affordable for more people, which will, in turn allow universities to jack up their rates.

As in the housing bubble, cheap credit on easy terms increases the amount of money chasing the product (in this case a diploma) allowing schools to increase prices. This inflation makes it harder for middle-class families to afford paying their own tuitions, driving them into the government financing program, which, you guessed it, drives up costs further still...

More: <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2011/10/26/obama-taps-taxpayers-for-student-stimulus/>

Equally poorer

President Obama does not understand economic inequality.

by Michael Tanner, 26 Oct 2011

...there has been a 39 percent decline in the number of American millionaires since 2007. Among the so-called super rich, the decline has been even sharper. The number of Americans earning more than \$10 million per year has fallen by 55 percent. Perhaps someone should tell the folks in Zuccotti Park: Inequality is actually declining.

Interestingly, the decline in earnings by the rich has corresponded with higher unemployment and rising poverty overall. We are all poorer, but at least we are more equally poor. Hooray.

Could it be that the rich might actually perform a valuable service in our economy by, say, creating jobs? After all, what does the president think that the rich do with their money: Bury it in their back yard? In reality, individuals either spend that money or they save and invest it. If they spend it, it helps provide jobs for the people who make and sell whatever it is they buy. If the money is instead saved and invested, it provides the capital that is needed to start businesses and hire workers. It is trite but true — not many Americans have been hired by a poor person.

As for their not paying their fair share, according to the Tax Foundation report, that top 1 percent of earners paid 36.7 percent of all income taxes, an amount that truly does seem disproportionate. The top one-tenth of 1 percent, the truly rich, earned nearly 8 percent of all income but paid a hefty 17 percent of all income taxes...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/281292/equally-poorer-michael-tanner>

George Soros's socialized merry-go-round of a solution to the Euro crisis

by James E. Miller, 26 Oct 2011

...Since the government has the legal authority to pillage its citizens of their earned wealth, if it makes a financial guarantee, the market will of course buy it because the money can always be forcibly taken from the citizenry if need be. These guarantees mean the banks are basically nationalized and prevented from going under. The prospect of civil unrest or capital flight due to increased taxes won't happen if we ignore it. If worse comes to worst, the ECB can always print euros. Screw the old Lisbon Treaty...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/george_soross_socialized_merry-go-round_of_a_solution_to_the_euro_crisis.html

Obama's one-man show

President unveils lawless scheme to bypass Congress with executive orders.

by Emily Miller, 24 Oct 2011

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/oct/24/obamas-one-man-show/>

American Imperialism? Please.

by Jonah Goldberg, 26 Oct 2011

And so it ends. The United States is leaving Iraq. I'm solidly in the camp that sees this as a strategic blunder. Iraqi democracy is fragile, and Iran's desire to undermine it is strong. Also, announcing our withdrawal is a weird way to respond to a foiled Iranian plot to commit an act of war in the U.S. capital. Obviously, I hope I'm wrong and President Obama's not frittering away our enormous sacrifices in Iraq out of domestic political concerns and diplomatic ineptitude. Still, there's an upside. Obama's decision to leave Iraq should deal a staggering blow to America's critics at home and abroad. After all, what kind of empire does this sort of thing?...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/281268/american-imperialism-please-jonah-goldberg>

Are evangelicals or university professors more irrational?

by Dennis Prager, 25 Oct 2011

...This Jew will take the evangelicals' values and the evangelicals' America over those of left-wing intellectuals' any day of the year. If evangelicals come with some views I find irrational, that's a tiny price to pay compared to the price humanity has paid for the left's consistently broken moral compass—when it comes to America; Communism and Islamism; superiority of peace studies over waging war against evil; America's role in the world; Israel; the welfare state; Fidel Castro, Hugo Chavez and all the other left-wing dictators whom the left-wing has celebrated; the belief that men and women are basically the same; the greater worth of any animal than of the unborn human; and nearly every other major moral issue...

Read it all: <http://www.creators.com/conservative/dennis-prager/are-evangelicals-or-university-professors-more-irrational.html>

Another New York Times activist

The examples of Big Media reporters with activist sidelines on issues they cover are growing.

Investor's Business Daily editorial, 25 Oct 2011

<http://www.investors.com/NewsAndAnalysis/Article/589191/201110241856/Another-New-York-Times-Activist.htm>

Captain America abandons the entire Middle East

by James Lewis, 25 Oct 2011

...When Jimmy Carter shafted the shah of Iran in 1979, a million people died in the resulting Iran-Iraq War. The Gulf War of 1992 followed Saddam's invasion of Kuwait, another consequence of Jimmy's gross abandonment of the most stable regime in the Middle East. Obama has now wrapped up Carter's betrayal of the Muslim Middle East. Carter destroyed only one powerful American ally. Obama has started to do in all the others...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/captain_america_abandons_the_entire_middle_east.html

Hoover would have been proud of Obama

by A. Barton Hinkle, 25 Oct 2011

<http://www2.timesdispatch.com/news/oped/2011/oct/25/tdopin02-hoover-would-have-been-proud-of-obama-ar-1406956/>

Calling all Catholics

Don John, 24 Oct 2011

The media—even semi-conservative media like Drudge—was buzzing all day Monday about how the Roman Catholic socio-economic doctrine is now officially "to the left of Obama and Pelosi," as one Jesuit scumbag said in an

interview on PMSNBC. These godless "social justice" wallahs make me puke. If they had any understanding of the spirit, they'd know that the only thing that brings "social justice" is **freedom**. But it isn't yet time for Catholics to stop contributing money to the Church, which is what crossed my mind this afternoon—because the media buzz has been way off the mark. The far-left document released today (to very favorable reviews from left-wing economists Joseph Stiglitz and Jeffrey Sachs) came not from the Pope, but from an outfit called the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace.

This collection of loons is just one of many that have plagued the Church from within during the past 120 years, and have been openly hostile to popes like John Paul II and Benedict XVI. The Council is almost entirely composed of the intellectual heirs of two very evil Jesuits: George Tyrrell (1861-1909), who denied the very idea of permanent truth—Pope Pius X called his Modernism a "synthesis of all heresies"; and Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955), who misused science, evolution, Catholicism, and poetry to promote mankind as the new God.

The true details of today's release are explained below by Thomas Peters, Samuel Gregg, and Father John Zuhlsdorf.

Pope Benedict calls for "Central World Bank"

...only he didn't. Here's why.

by Thomas Peters, 24 Oct 2011

...Notice that Fr. Reese does NOT correct the news anchor that this document comes from a Vatican congregation — not the Pope! Fr. Reese seems perfectly happy to help the mainstream media *fundamentally misunderstand* the authority of teaching this document enjoys. He claims that the Pope has "more in common with the people at Occupy Wall Street" than the tea party, even though he has to immediately walk back that claim when it is pointed out to him how violent (and anti-Catholic!) the Occupy Rome demonstrations were...

...The very authors of the document make clear how it should be evaluated: namely, as a "**contribution**" (as opposed to a mandate), as a "**possible path**" (as opposed to a moral proscription), **in line with the Magisterium's social teaching** (as opposed to introducing a new teaching), without getting into the **technical issues** (because the Church is an expert in humanity, not economics) while fully staying within the Church's **religious and ethical functions**.

Liberal Catholics routinely (and in this case) try to read the Church's social teaching as *dogmatic* while choosing to view the Church's moral and religious teaching as *optional*. In fact, the Church herself is always careful to make clear that her moral and religious teaching is *dogmatic and binding* while her social teaching —and particularly her economic teaching— is exhortative and prudential... Fr. Reese and his liberal Catholic friends would be better served acting as *messengers* of the Church's teaching as opposed to *creators* of it...

Read it all: <http://www.catholicvote.org/discuss/index.php?p=21986>

Catholics, finance, and the perils of conventional wisdom

by Samuel Gregg, with notes by Father John Zuhlsdorf, 24 Oct 2011

<http://wdtprs.com/blog/2011/10/samuel-gregg-on-the-new-white-paper-from-the-pont-con-for-justice-and-peace/>

This is simply a spectacular piece.

As the old-time movie ads used to say, "You'll laugh, you'll cry." I promise.

The Hobbits march in one year

by Lee Cary, 24 Oct 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/the_hobbits_march_in_one_year.html

Carry on Borking, say Libs

by Christopher Chantrill, 24 Oct 2011

What do our liberal friends really think about the infamous **nomination of Robert Bork** to the Supreme Court, that went down 58 to 42 in the United States Senate 24 years ago on October 23, 1987? If you have ever wondered, wonder no more. Joe Nocera just published an article in *The New York Times*, suggesting to his readers that if they want to know how the ugliness of today's politics got started they might look in the mirror. "**The Ugliness started with Bork**" and the liberals that attacked him.

Now what would you think the *NYT* commenters would say to that? Would they say, yeah Joe, that was not our finest hour, and we liberals should resolve to do better in the future?

Not a bit of it. The *New York Times* readers are pretty well united. Carry on Borking, they say, because Republicans are worse in the ugliness department, and anyway, Robert Bork was too extreme...

Read on: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/10/carry_on_borking_say_libs.html

Iraq withdrawal, a gift to Iran

National Review editorial, 24 Oct 2011

...The Obama administration foolishly insisted that the Iraqi Council of Representatives endorse an immunity deal, a political impossibility. But it's hard to believe that if the administration truly wanted to make a deal happen it couldn't have worked something out with enough patience and ingenuity.

Instead, President Obama took to the podium on Friday for a snap announcement of the end of the war...Deputy National Security Advisor Dennis McDonough said Iraq is "secure, stable, and self-reliant." It is none of these things. Its government is still inchoate and it is not capable of defending itself from Iran in the air or on the ground. Our pullout is a bonanza for Tehran...

...We expended a great deal of blood and treasure to topple Saddam Hussein, and then to establish enough order so that George W. Bush's successor would only have to consolidate our gains. President Obama is careless enough to risk throwing it all away, and shameless enough to call it success.

Read it all: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/281039/iraq-withdrawal-gift-iran-editors>

Going Home

by Victor Davis Hanson, 24 Oct 2011

...One artifact of Obama's "leading from behind" foreign policy is a sense that many of our allies had it coming — "be careful what you wish for," essentially — and now can no longer ankle-bite with unquestioned and guaranteed U.S. commitments. The more we consulted and defended Europe, the more it criticized us; the more we helped Iraq, the more its politicians blustered that we should leave, pronto. Now, with everyone unsure exactly of the present U.S. global foreign policy, many of our former friends are shocked and confused that American is no longer there for them anymore. This evokes *schadenfreude*, of course; but we should ignore that and decide to what degree a relatively defenseless Iraq is in our national interest, in the way that a shrinking and insolvent Europe is not in our interest, in the way Somalia-like chaos in the monarchical Gulf is not in our interest...

...Without much violence in Iraq (five Americans lost during the last three months), a U.S. force of say 10,000-15,000 was an iconic presence of U.S. commitment and did not cost the taxpayer much more than these troops being stationed elsewhere — and may well have proven a bargain in the retrospect.

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/281061/going-home-victor-davis-hanson>

CLASS Dismissed

by James C. Capretta, 24 Oct 2011 (31 October issue)

...This won't be the last humiliating admission for the administration thanks to Obamacare. Beyond the CLASS Act surplus, the CBO cost estimate also assumes: Medicare cuts that would force thousands of hospitals to stop admitting senior citizens; cuts to Medicare Advantage that would force millions of enrollees to drop out of the coverage they have and like today; and a decision made by thousands of employers to continue offering coverage to millions of low-wage workers who would be eligible for large subsidies if they were dumped into the Obamacare system. None of these assumptions is plausible, and yet the administration is relying on all of them, just as it relied on CLASS, to back up its contention that Obamacare will cut the deficit.

Sooner or later, these other assumptions will be exposed as flawed too. Most voters won't be surprised when that happens, though. It will only confirm what they already knew.

Read the rest: http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/class-dismissed_598450.html

Democrats have contempt for average people

Jeff in Summit NJ, on the Rush Limbaugh Show, 20 Oct 2011

...CALLER: Well, you know, since Obama's been in office and even before there's been a lot of talk about liberty and freedom and individual rights, and I think nothing gets my blood boiling more than when I hear Michelle Obama talk about how she wants to raise my children, what kind of a person she wants to turn my children into. You know, the left advocates so vociferously for all kinds of privacy rights and liberty rights when it comes to things like a woman's body and abortion or what people want to do in bedroom whether it's in groups or with animals, but where is my sacrosanct privacy right to teach my children the things I want to teach them, everything from morality to religion to nutrition?...

More: http://www.rushlimbaugh.com/daily/2011/10/20/democrats_have_contempt_for_average_people

Cult of global warming is losing influence

by Michael Barone, 24 Oct 2011

<http://www.creators.com/conservative/michael-barone/cult-of-global-warming-is-losing-influence-11-10-24.html>

Holy Hell

Israel's weak and short-sighted dealings with the Palestinians

a symposium hosted by Lawrence Auster, 19-20 Oct 2011

Includes [this](#) from Paul Kotik:

...Personally, I think the "holy hell" policy ought to be applied by Israel to all of the terror modalities employed by the Arabs in and around her: to suicide bombings, hijackings, abductions, arsons, vehicular homicides, stabbings, and so forth.

The nub of it, though, is that the holy hell policy must be as indiscriminate as the terror that triggers it. A policy of carefully targeted reprisal with precision weapons teaches the terrorists' host population that they will generally escape any reprisal for terrorist acts, that only the terror actors and persons in their immediate vicinity will feel the pain.

A rocket from Gaza or Lebanon into Israel should be responded to with equally unguided projectiles back into those territories, say 100-fold. They hit where they hit—tough luck. An abduction such as that of Gilad Shalit's should be responded to by rounding up 100 or 1,000 random individuals from random locations in Gaza, to be held incommunicado, as Shalit was, until the Israeli captor is released...

Read it all: <http://www.amnation.com/vfr/archives/020775.html>

Has Harry Reid lost his mind?

by Sherman Frederick, 23 Oct 2011

...Last week, the bard of Searchlight stood on the floor of the U.S. Senate. In front of C-SPAN and everybody, he said—and I'm not making this up—"It's very clear that private-sector jobs are doing just fine. It's the public-sector jobs where we've lost huge numbers."...

...In the two years Reid and President Obama have controlled Washington, government jobs have increased 13.5 percent to 2.1 million. During that same time, 2.5 million private-sector jobs were lost...The national unemployment rate hangs at 9.1 percent. But the unemployment rate for government workers sits at a mere 4.7 percent, the lowest of any category of worker.

In the face of all this, Reid says the answer is to pass a Senate bill called the Teachers and First Responders Back to Work Act. It would spend \$35 billion Washington doesn't have and allegedly "save or create" 400,000 jobs for unionized teachers, police officers and firefighters. Let's just call that what it is: Nothing but the same old government-uber-alles program designed to waste taxpayer money scratching the backs of unions.

The formula doesn't work. It didn't work for FDR, it didn't work for Obama in 2009 when we spent a trillion dollars on "shovel ready" government jobs, and it won't work in 2011...

More: <http://www.lvrj.com/opinion/has-harry-reid-lost-his-mind-132399488.html>

Infrastructure projects to fix the economy? Don't bank on it.

by Chris Edwards, 21 Oct 2011

...For plenty of examples of the downside of federal infrastructure, look at the two oldest infrastructure agencies — the Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation. Their histories show that the federal government shouldn't be in the infrastructure business. Rather, state governments and the private sector are best equipped to provide it.

The Corps of Engineers has been building levees, canals and other civilian water infrastructure for more than 200 years — and it has made missteps the entire time. In the post-Civil War era, for example, there were widespread complaints about the Corps' wastefulness and mismanagement...Some of the highest-profile failures include the Great Mississippi Flood of 1927. That disaster dramatically proved the shortcomings of the Corps' approach to flood control,

which it had stubbornly defended despite outside criticism. Hurricane Katrina in 2005 was like a dreadful repeat. The flooding was in large part a man-made disaster stemming from poor engineering by the Corps and misdirected funding by Congress. Meanwhile, the Bureau of Reclamation has been building economically dubious and environmentally harmful dams since 1902...

...Taxpayers are double losers from all this infrastructure. They paid to build it, and now they are paying to clean up the environmental damage...

...The recent infrastructure debate has focused on job creation, and whether projects are "shovel ready." The more important question is who is holding the shovel. When it's the federal government, we've found that it digs in the wrong places and leaves taxpayers with big holes in their pockets. So let's give the shovels to state governments and private companies. They will create just as many jobs while providing more innovative and less costly infrastructure to the public...

Read it all:

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/infrastructure-projects-to-fix-the-economy-dont-bank-on-it/2011/10/18/gIQAgtZi3L_story.html

Biden's fourth-grade economics

How to justify unaffordable and inefficient stimulus.

by *Mark Steyn*, 22 Oct 2011

...So let's see if I follow the vice president's thinking. The school laid off these teachers because "there's no money for them in the city." That's true. York City School District is broke. It has a \$14 million budget deficit. So instead Washington, D.C., is going to "give you some money" to hire these teachers back. So, unlike York, Pa., presumably Washington, D.C., has "money for them"?

No, not technically. Washington, D.C., is also broke — way broker than York City School District. In fact, the government of the United States is broker than any entity has ever been in the history of the planet. Officially, Washington has to return 15,000,000,000,000 dollars just to get back to having nothing at all. And that 15,000,000,000,000 dollars is a very lowball figure that conveniently ignores another \$100 trillion in unfunded liabilities that the government, unlike private businesses, is able to keep off the books.

So how come the Brokeest Jurisdiction in History is able to "give you some money" to hire back those teachers that had to be laid off? No problem, says the vice president. We're going to "ask" people who have "a lot of money" to "pay just a little bit more" in taxes...

Brilliant and devastating: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/280986/biden-s-fourth-grade-economics-mark-steyn>

Wanted: a millstone

by *Baron Bodissey*, 20 Oct 2011

The brief video below is a textbook example of the "banality of evil."

Even with the hijab covering her, this young woman looks attractive and personable. Her voice is calm and pleasant. Watch her face when she is told that the bombing she planned killed eight children. Her smile is positively radiant! A grinning skull would have been less horrifying.

The next time someone tells you that Muslims are really just like you and me, and have the same hopes and desires, *show him this clip*. People all over the world are *not* the same under the skin. That fallacy has now been permanently laid to rest.

Watch the 1:14 video: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/10/wanted-millstone.html>

Cain in the cross-hairs

The new GOP front-runner suffers "slings and arrows."

by *Robert Stacy McCain*, 21 Oct 2011

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/10/21/cain-in-the-cross-hairs>

An utter defeat for America, thanks to the fecklessness of Obama and Hillary.

Iraq rejects US request to maintain bases after troop withdrawal

by *Ewan MacAskill*, 21 Oct 2011

Meanwhile, in Libya and elsewhere...

Reagan saw this coming

by Pamela Geller, 22 Oct 2011

Ronald Reagan saw this coming, and Barack Obama is making his prediction come true.

Moammar Gaddafi got what was coming to him. Of course, the concern now is the **jihadi and al-Qaeda elements** that are positioned to replace him. Years ago, **Ronald Reagan** called Gaddafi the "mad dog of the Middle East" and said that his goal was a *worldwide "Muslim fundamentalist revolution."*

Many others besides Gaddafi shared that goal, including those who opposed him, and with Gaddafi's death, that goal is closer than ever to being realized. Here we are, thirty years after Reagan made these remarks, in the throes of a worldwide Muslim fundamentalist revolution...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/reagan_saw_this_coming.html

Where was this guy in 1987?

The ugliness started with Bork

by Joe Nocera, 21 Oct 2011

...The next time a liberal asks why Republicans are so intransigent, you might suggest that the answer lies in the mirror.

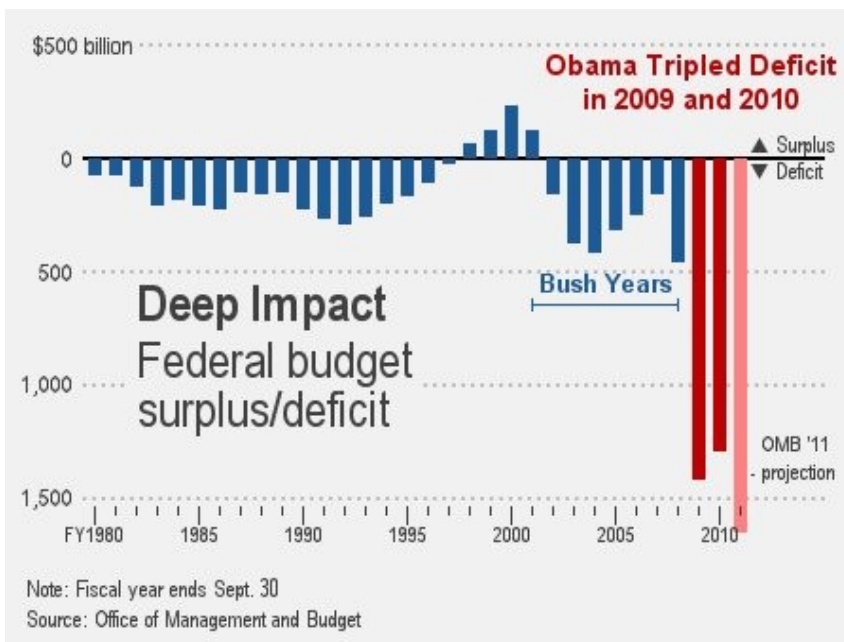
Read it all: http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/22/opinion/nocera-the-ugliness-all-started-with-bork.html?_r=1

Ten things to keep in mind for 2012

Illusions are in need of smashing.

by Kevin D. Williamson 19 Oct 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/exchequer/280670/ten-things-keep-mind-2012>



<http://www.thegatewaypundit.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/obama-deficit-2011.jpg>

Obama grows government at record-shattering pace

And has nothing to show for it.

by Deroy Murdock, 21 Oct 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/280861/obama-grows-government-record-shattering-pace-deroy-murdock>

WaPost "hit" on Rubio manipulates facts

by Erick Erickson, 21 Oct 2011

...Manuel Roig-Franzia has a well documented history of being an **apologist for the Cuban communist regime** and a **hater of the Catholic church**. He is also now **writing a book on Marco Rubio**.

We can get a sense of the book by his stunning hit job on Marco Rubio in the Washington Post.. Roig-Franzia claims Rubio has embellished his "compelling version of his family's history that had special resonance in South Florida." Again, keep in mind that Roig-Franzia is an apologist for the Cuban communist regime...

More: <http://www.humanevents.com/article.php?id=47026>

Senator Rubio's response, "My family's flight from Castro":

<http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1011/66567.html>

Back to 1969?

by Randall Hoven, 21 Oct 2011

...In the 60s, the federal government was involved in a Cold War with the Soviet Union, leading to what some called an "arms race"; a hot war in Vietnam, where we had more than 500,000 troops at one time; a War on Poverty, in fact the whole "New Frontier" movement; a manned space program, to the point of men walking on the moon; and building the interstate highway system. All that was done on 18% of Gross Domestic Product (1961-70 average)—well under \$200 billion per year. Defense spending accounted for almost half of that.

Today we have no Cold War; the Berlin Wall came down over two decades ago. We are at "war," apparently, only in Afghanistan, where we have 100,000 troops. (President Obama said our actions in Libya do not constitute war. The last combat brigade left Iraq in August 2010. Total US troops in Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya might be about 150,000.) We no longer have a manned space program; no men have walked on the moon in almost four decades. The interstate highway system as originally planned was completed almost two decades ago.

Yet today the federal government consumes over 25% of GDP—almost \$4 trillion per year. Defense spending accounts for only 20% of that, or less than half the percentage that JFK and LBJ had. Even adjusting for inflation, the federal government in 2011 spends *triple* what it did in the 60s...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/back_to_1969.html

Bailout Lite

The Obama plan: No bureaucrat is left behind.

National Review editorial, 21 Oct 2011

...If Topeka would rather subsidize performances of *Our Town* than prosecute wife-beaters, and if Camden decides not to pay police out of its growing budget, those are poor choices indeed. But why should such poor choices be subsidized by taxpayers in more prudent jurisdictions? We have local elections for a reason...

...President Obama's economic thinking is exactly backward: It is the private sector that creates wealth and drives the economy, thereby sustaining the public sector. The public sector does not and cannot sustain the economy, though it can and does provide necessary services, such as those of police and firefighters. The problem is that our public sector is a great deal larger than is necessary, and the Democrats' plan to transfer even greater amounts of wealth from the productive private economy to the bureaucratic class will in the long term, and possibly in the short term, inhibit economy growth and job creation...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/280860/bailout-lite-editors>

Joe Biden, cops, and crime

What the data really say.

by Andrew Stiles, 21 Oct 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/280849/joe-biden-cops-and-crime-andrew-stiles>

Biden sticks to the playbook

The vice president is an ugly reflection of his boss.

by *Jonah Goldberg*, 21 Oct 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/280847/biden-sticks-playbook-jonah-goldberg>

Mr. Obama, if we're gonna start quoting The Beatles...

by *Stu Tarlowe*, 21 Oct 2011

...Mr. President, *I'm Looking Through You*, and I'm seeing *The Fool on the Hill*...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/10/mr_obama_if_were_gonna_start_quoting_the_beatles.html

Why leftists are so snooty, and never trust normal people

Herbert Croly, a founding father of Progressivism, wrote in 1909:

"To be sure, any increase in centralized power and responsibility, expedient or inexpedient, is injurious to certain aspects of traditional American democracy. But the fault in that case lies with the democratic tradition; and the erroneous and misleading tradition must yield before the march of constructive national democracy. The national advance will always be impeded by these misleading and erroneous ideas, and, what is more, it always should be impeded by them, because at bottom ideas of this kind are merely an expression of the fact that **the average American individual is morally and intellectually inadequate to a serious and consistent conception of his responsibilities as a democrat.**"

Occupy Wall Street is certainly no Tea Party

by *Mat Kibbe*, 19 Oct 2011

The "Occupy Wall Street" movement desperately wants to be compared to the Tea Party, because such a comparison would give the fledgling, misguided movement unearned legitimacy. But there are three key characteristics that separate OWS from the Tea Party: First, the Occupy protesters pride themselves on provocative resistance to law enforcement and in some cases violence. Second, they disrespect public and private property. Third, and most important, the Occupy movement lacks a coherent guiding philosophy.

The Sept. 12, 2009 Tea Party demonstration in Washington, D.C., is a perfect example of the way Tea Partiers do business...

Read on: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/mattkibbe/2011/10/19/occupy-wall-street-is-certainly-no-tea-party/>

Biden: facts lost in translation

by *Tom Bruner*, 20 Oct 2011

On October 19 Jason Mattera of Human Events gave Vice President Joe Biden the **opportunity** to clarify his assertion that rape and murder would increase if the Republicans failed to pass the president's Jobs bill. Mr. Biden insisted that "Murder will continue to rise, rape will continue to rise, all crimes will continue to rise," without the Jobs bill. The curious thing about this is that, at least in this country, **violent crimes have been steadily decreasing since at least 1991** according to this **table** provided by the FBI...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/10/biden_facts_lost_in_translation.html

Geronticide revisited

by *Baron Bodissey*, 18 Oct 2011

There has been much discussion recently about declining birth rates in the Western world and the demographic crisis that must inevitably result. Commentators often point out that the projected age distribution thirty years from now — with old people far outnumbering the young — will be catastrophic. No nation in history has ever faced such a reproductive decline and survived. No matter how fertility patterns change in the near future, we are told, it is too late to halt the slide into demographic senescence.

Such gloomy predictions overlook an even gloomier possibility: a rise in the fertility rate among people of breeding

age is only *one* way that the age distribution of a population might assume a more normal curve. This is not something any of us wishes to contemplate. No one in his right mind wants to consider the possibility that the upper end of the age distribution will be culled until the ratio of young to old returns to a level that can be socially and economically sustained. Yet, given present political trends, this seems an increasingly likely outcome.

More than three years ago I posted a **speculative analysis** of possible scenarios for the "demographic winter" that will inevitably face the Western world. That essay was written several months prior to the collapse of the real estate bubble and the onset of the Great Recession. Since then there has been no sign that the best-case assumptions I outlined will ever come to pass...

Continue: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/10/geronticide-revisited.html#more>

Elite media wrong again

by *Craig Shirley, 19 Oct 2011*

...Conservatives are reluctant to support Romney for a healthy number of reasons: He was a chronic Reagan-basher, he denounced the Contract With America, and he was an ardent supporter of abortion. In sum, Romney is the role model Northeast Republican. More recently, he has claimed to renounce all his previous positions. But so, too, did those in the Moscow show trials of the 1930s. The trouble then — and now — is no one knows what to believe about those who opposed Stalin or what to believe about Romney.

More troubling for principled conservatives is the latest revelation that Romney's aides conspired with Obama to impose a new socialized health bureaucracy on Americans. Remember when Romney assured conservatives that he wanted it applied only to his state? Both Mark Levin and Rush Limbaugh have recently, and sagaciously, pointed out this newest contradiction from Romney.

Now the evidence is out that Romney's people were working with Obama to impose a federal mandate and, to add insult to injury, a Romney crony was awarded a nearly \$400,000 taxpayer-funded contract to help put the freedom-robbing deal together. The fix was in between Romney and Obama. What is it about these two that they remind so many of each other?...

Read the rest: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1011/66256.html>

The jihad against dogs

by *Anestos Canelides, 18 Oct 2011*

The recent killing of over a dozen dogs in **Lerida, Spain**, located in the northeastern region of Catalonia, was appalling. As a proud owner of a beautiful black Labrador, I was at first enraged, but then I realized that as the Muslim populations grows — not just in Spain, but in Europe and America as well — we could well see more of this barbarism... There are so many things that offend Muslims. As their population grows, I wonder what will be next on their dhimmi list...

...Will there come a time when the Muslims learn tolerance and simply learn to accept other religions? History tells us a different story...

More: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/10/jihad-against-dogs.html#more>

Islamextremism in Flanders

A threat to Europe, to our values and norms, to our civilization.

Hans Verreyt, 14 Oct 2011

video (4:13): http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=RN2nUd6PtYw

Outstanding conservative books of 2011:

Don't Let the Kids Drink the Kool-Aid by *Marybeth Hicks*

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 Kern*

Reckless Endangerment by *Gretchen Morgenson and Joshua Rosner*

Visible projects, hidden destruction

The real cost of government efforts at job creation.

by *Ralph R. Reiland*, 19 Oct 2011

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/10/19/visible-projects-hidden-destru>

This interview covers the essence of both sides of the abortion debate.

Pro-Life Aristotle

by *Christopher Kaczor and Kathryn Jean Lopez*, 19 Oct 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/280535/pro-life-aristotle-interview?pg=1>

Nothing but a political ploy

by *Peter Ferrara*, 19 Oct 2011

...If Obama cannot understand the economic reasons why Republicans must oppose his wasteful and ineffective jobs plan, then he doesn't have the smarts to lead the country after all, and all he could do to help end the misery is resign. And if Obama is just playacting that he cannot understand any reason for opposing his jobs plan other than political bad faith, then he should be asked to resign for that disgraceful political manipulation in the midst of this dramatic national crisis...

More: <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/10/19/nothing-but-a-political-ploy>

Math vs. Myth

There is no austerity, only more uncontrolled spending.

by *Michael Tanner*, 19 Oct 2011

It is a medical truism that if you get the diagnosis wrong, the treatment will be wrong. The same holds true with Washington budgeting. Unfortunately, as we prepare for yet more debates over budgeting, spending, and stimulus, we can expect to once again enter a fact-free debate. Among the most common myths...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/280504/math-vs-myth-michael-tanner>

Norman Corwin, R.I.P.

by *Terry Teachout*, 19 Oct 2011

http://www.artsjournal.com/aboutlastnight/2011/10/tt_norman_corwin_rip.html

Norman Corwin talks about writing *On a Note of Triumph*:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=DixOsUuG1bQ#!

How to get serious about Iran

A four-step response to the bomb plot.

by *Arthur Herman*, 18 Oct 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/280389/how-get-serious-about-iran-arthur-herman>

Poll shows blame for Washington, not Wall Street, for economy

by Rick Moran, 18 Oct 2011

A poll conducted by **The Hill** shows that a solid majority of Americans blame Washington more than Wall Street for the nation's economic troubles...

...And then there's this: "Asked what the wealthiest 1% of Americans—the ones excoriated by Occupy Wall Street—should pay in taxes as a percentage of their income, more than a quarter of people—28%—have no opinion. Another 21% say the richest should pay 10% or less, and only 18% say they should pay more than 30%."

Clearly, the American people have a different idea of "fairness" in taxation than liberals.

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/10/poll_shows_blame_for_washington_not_wall_street_for_economy.html

Ray Lotta, Bob Avakian, and all their followers must be stopped. Doesn't matter how.

The Revolutionary Communist Party's little yellow book

by Peter Wilson, 18 Oct 2011

Four days after the first occupiers arrived on Wall Street in September, the Harvard Crimson student newspaper offered editorial space to a Maoist fringe group called the Revolutionary Communist Party. The article by RCP spokesman Ray Lotta urged replacing the U.S. Constitution with the Constitution of the New Socialist Republic in North America, which has been published as a 91-page book with a yellow cover.

The RCP is not an underground organization. RCP Chairman Bob Avakian, the author of the Constitution, is in exile in Paris, but the RCP openly operates Revolution Bookstores in sixteen American cities, including Cambridge, Berkeley, New York, and Seattle, and is the publisher of Revolution magazine. Recently they were involved in creating the radical organizations Not in our Name and World Can't Wait, and according to **Discover the Networks**, the RCP played an instrumental role in sparking the 1992 Los Angeles riots.

The Socialist Constitution is a disturbing read, breathtaking in the brutality of the totalitarian measures proposed, a trip down the rabbit hole of the twisted American Communist mind. A few salient points from Chairman Bob's Little Yellow Book are outlined below...

Read on: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/the_revolutionary_communist_partys_little_yellow_book.html

Cain's caustic columns

They reveal his pre-campaign opinions, unvarnished as always.

by Katrina Trinko, 17 Oct 2011

Call it the Cain canon. Starting in 2005, Herman Cain has penned a weekly syndicated column. Week after week, he shares his opinions on the political issues and policies driving the news. The portrait that emerges from reading them over the years is consistent with the charismatic figure who has captured the momentum in the GOP presidential race. With the column's common-sense attitude, blunt phrases, and occasional jokes, you can practically hear Cain saying the words.

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/280272/cains-caustic-columns-katrina-trinko>

A pact signed in Jewish blood

by Caroline Glick, 14 Oct 2011

...The lives of the victims of Arab terror were stolen from their families simply because they lived and were Jews in Israel. And in the cases of the Keinan, Peled, Alon and Eisenman families, as in thousands of others, the murderers were the direct and indirect beneficiaries of terrorists-for-hostages swaps like the deal that Yonatan Netanyahu's brother, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, made this week with Hamas to secure the release of Gilad Schalit.

The deal that Netanyahu has agreed to is signed with the blood of the past victims and future victims of the terrorists he is letting go. No amount of rationalization by Netanyahu, his cheerleaders in the demented mass media, and by the defeatist, apparently incompetent heads of the Shin Bet, Mossad and IDF can dent the facts.

It is a statistical certainty that the release of 1,027 terrorists for Schalit will lead to the murder of untold numbers of Israelis. It has happened every single time that these blood ransoms have been paid. It will happen now...

...In his public statement on the Schalit deal Tuesday night, Netanyahu, like his newfound groupies in the media, invoked the Jewish tradition of pidyon shevuim, or the redemption of captives. But the Talmudic writ is not unconditional. The rabbinic sages were very clear. The ransom to be paid cannot involve the murder of other Jews.

This deal—like its predecessors—is not in line with Jewish tradition. It stands in opposition to Jewish tradition. Even in our darkest hours of powerlessness in the ghettos and the pales of exile, our leaders did not agree to pay for a life with other life. Judaism has always rejected human sacrifice...

...According to Channel 2, in exchange for Schalit, beyond releasing a thousand murderers, Netanyahu agreed to give safe passage to Hamas's leaders decamping to Egypt. What this means is that this deal is even worse for Israel than it looks on the surface. Not only is Israel guaranteeing a reinvigoration of the Palestinian terror war against its civilians by freeing the most experienced terrorists in Palestinian society, and doing so at a time when the terror war itself is gradually escalating. Israel is squandering the opportunity to either decapitate Hamas by killing its leaders in transit, or to weaken the group by forcing its leaders to go down with Assad in Syria...

Read the whole story: <http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Columnists/Article.aspx?id=241644>

We'd like to know a little bit about you for our files

A new HHS regulation will create a government database of your private health information.

by David Catron, 17 Oct 2011

...Even if such bureaucrats could be trusted to keep your health information secure, it is difficult to get comfortable with their stated purpose for creating the database: "[PPACA] directs the Secretary to develop a list of 50 to 100 medical conditions to identify high cost individuals." Why do Sebelius, Berwick, and their minions need such a list? The proposed rule advises us that they want to "mitigate the impact of potential adverse selection and stabilize premiums in the individual and small group markets." Can any rational voter accept that claim at face value, remembering how Secretary Sebelius lied about the moribund CLASS Act, how Dr. Berwick dodged congressional questions about his views on rationing, and how Larsen thumbed his nose at Congress? **Can any sane electorate continue to trust such people with anything of importance?**

And yet it is these very officials who want to compile a national database of our private health information and develop a list of "high cost individuals." While we chuckle at the discomfiture of DOJ attorneys who must argue that not buying insurance is a kind of interstate commerce, and nod approvingly when politicians give stem winder speeches about repealing Obamacare, these bureaucrats are cranking out life-altering regulations at breakneck speed. Today they want to know a little bit about us for their files. Tomorrow it will be something else. If we don't stop them soon, say in 2012, they will fulfill the Obama's 2008 promise to "transform the United States of America." Your new and improved country will be a place where such things as personal privacy will be **subordinated to the demands of the state.**

More: <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/10/17/wed-like-to-know-a-little-bit>

The Great Restoration

by David Brooks, 17 Oct 2011

...If you look only at the Tea Party and Occupy Wall Street movements that have been getting so much coverage in the news media, you know very little about the wider America. Most Americans seem to understand this. According to data from the Pew Research Center, they are paying less attention to the Occupy Wall Street movement than any other major story — less than Afghanistan, Amanda Knox, the 2012 election, the death of Steve Jobs and far, far less than news about the economy...

More: http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/18/opinion/the-great-restoration.html?_r=1&ref=opinion

Romney's smoking gun picture

by Thomas Lifson, 17 Oct 2011

Does Mitt Romney have a political death wish? When I heard him utter the phrase, "There are plenty of reasons to vote against Mitt Romney...", I cringed, imagining endless repetition of this sound byte in the attack ads that will be the basis of the Obama re-election campaign, funded with hundreds of millions of dollars in campaign cash. Why on earth would a smart guy like Romney hand Obama a video moment so damaging to his cause?

Then there is this, a picture surfaced from the past, and certain to become ubiquitous once the GOP is committed to Mitt...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/romneys_smoking_gun_picture.html

Liberalism's unwashed last stand

by Dr. Milton R. Wolf, 17 Oct 2011

...Enter the disillusioned "Occupy Wall Street" protesters. Suddenly the 1970s "Me Generation" seems altruistic, and the '60s hippies seem hygienic. What a perfect name for their movement: "Occupy"—to take up space. If there's one thing these overcredentialed but undereducated people excel at, it's taking up space. They occupy university campuses for years without learning skills that can actually contribute to our society's economy. They demand to occupy a child's place on their parents' health insurance plan and then can't understand why everyone's premiums have risen further out of reach. They occupy a place in their mothers' basements and can't believe their fathers have become little Eichmanns in a capitalist world. Heck, at this point, I'd be happy if they'd just occupy a shower once in a while.

Somewhere between the occupiers' curbside sex and public defecation, many of them have begun listing their demands. Brace yourself. Truth is more hilarious than fiction...

Read the rest: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/oct/17/liberalisms-unwashed-last-stand/>

Courtroom Showdown

Gunfight tells the story of how the Supreme Court finally came to rule on the meaning of the right 'to keep and bear arms.'

by Jonathan Karl, 18 Oct 2011 *Gunfight*, by Adam Winkler (Norton, 361 pages, \$27.95)

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111904194604576582672387542168.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEFTTopOpinion

What does this Massachusetts school principal have against Fall holidays?

by Rick Moran, 16 Oct 2011

...Not just a killjoy, but a moonbat killjoy. The real "atrocities" here is that Ms. Foley is allowed anywhere near impressionable kids...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/10/what_does_this_massachusetts_school_principal_have_against_fall_holidays.html

It is better to die in freedom than to live in submission

14 Oct 2011

The story of a courageous former Muslim named Sabatina James, as told by Elisabeth Sabaditsch-Wolff and Michael Stürzenberger.

<http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/10/it-is-better-to-die-in-freedom-than-to.html>

The Islamization of London: a photo tour

by Ned May, 14 Oct 2011

<http://frontpagemag.com/2011/10/14/the-islamization-of-london-a-photo-tour/>

What do you call a jobs bill that begets no jobs?

by Caroline Baum, 13 Oct 2011

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-10-14/what-do-you-call-a-jobs-bill-minus-the-jobs-commentary-by-caroline-baum.html>

Young 'Occupiers' share grandparents' assumptions

by Mark Steyn, 15 Oct 2011

...As America sinks into a multitrillion-dollar debt pit, it is fascinating to listen to so many of my friends on the right fret about potential cuts to the Pentagon budget. The problem in Iraq and Afghanistan is not that we are spending insufficient money, but that so much of that money has been utterly wasted. Dominant powers often wind up with thankless tasks, but the trick is to keep it within budget: London administered the vast sprawling fractious tribal dump of Sudan with about 200 British civil servants for what, with hindsight, was the least-worst two-thirds of a century in that

country's existence. These days I doubt 200 civil servants would be enough for the average branch office of the Federal Department of Community Organizer Grant Applications. Abroad as at home, the United States urgently needs to start learning how to do more with less...

Read it all: <http://www.oeregister.com/opinion/decline-322036-college-ever.html>

'Just the way business works'

by *Matthew Continetti, 15 Oct 2011 (October 24 issue)*

...The fact that the president and his senior staff poorly grasp the distinction between private capital and taxpayer guarantees is nothing less than depressing. For the umpteenth time: When an investor risks his own money on a company, he is the only one that loses if the company goes belly-up. Yet when the government backs a firm, it privatizes any gain while socializing the risk. If Solyndra had been a big success, investor George Kaiser—who also happens to be a major Obama fundraiser—would have added to his already considerable fortune. But Solyndra failed, and the American public is on the hook for the loss...

More: http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/just-way-business-works_595938.html

Cain the tax-code killer

by *Larry Kudlow, 15 Oct 2011*

Herman Cain is the only GOP presidential candidate who wants to kill the tax code. That's right. Put a knife in it. Junk the entire system. And people are cheering as he rises in the polls in his quest for the nomination.

Cain's 9-9-9 plan is not perfect. But then again, the good should never be the enemy of the perfect.

Rep. Paul Ryan gives the plan a thumbs-up. Supply-side mentor Art Laffer tells me it would be "far, far better than the current system." And Chris Chocola, president of the free-market Club for Growth, calls it "a truly revolutionary tax reform that would amount to a massive job-creating tax cut on investments, savings and income."...

The pros and cons: <http://patriotpost.us/opinion/lawrence-kudlow/2011/10/15/cain-the-tax-code-killer/>

Black's unfounded attack on Scalia

by *Shannen Coffin, 14 Oct 2011*

There are times when I read things on NRO that cause me to think that maybe I'm just not smart enough to get the author's point. And perhaps **Conrad Black's** stream of consciousness today should be viewed more like the final chapter of Joyce's *Ulysses* (which I still don't get — and I don't wish to open up another discussion on post-modernism, so let's just leave it at that) than a coherent analysis of Justice Scalia's jurisprudence. But Mr. Black seems to be upset that Justice Scalia has time to comment on a silly lawsuit involving Catholic University's single-sex dormitories, while at the same time not doing anything about abortion but violating Catholic doctrine on the death penalty. Did I get that right? ...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/280135/blacks-unfounded-attack-scalia-shannen-coffin>

Heed the 99 Percent

They have a point, but not the one they think.

by *Rich Lowry, 14 Oct 2011*

Far from the street theater and lefty ravings of the Occupy Wall Street protest, ordinary people are posting dispatches about their economic struggles at the "We Are the 99 Percent" Web page. If you put aside the political rants and the obnoxious construct of the 99 percent versus the 1 percent — which has the whiff of the guillotine about it — the stories are a stark pointillist portrayal of the grinding misery of the Great Recession.

And Bank of America has very little to do with it. The recession has added a layer of joblessness on top of punishingly dysfunctional and expensive health-care and higher-education systems. Despite themselves, the people posting at the 99 percent page aren't really making an implicit case for burning down the financial system, but for blowing up how we handle health care and higher education...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/280104/heed-99-percent-rich-lowry>

Mike and Chantell Sackett take EPA to the Supreme Court

They're defending everyone's right to a day in court if government tramples your property rights.

Damien M. Schiff, 14 Oct 2011

...In 2005, when they bought a small piece of land in Priest Lake, in the Idaho panhandle, Mike and Chantell Sackett never dreamed they'd be launched on a road to the highest court in the nation, to fight for fundamental principles of due process and property rights.

The Sacketts are small business owners, and they live in a rented home. Their plan was simply to build a house of their own. And they did everything right. Their parcel is in a residential area—a platted subdivision—with sewer and water hookups. They obtained all the needed permits to begin building.

But when they began laying gravel, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency swooped in without warning. The Sacketts were told their land is "wetlands." They were ordered to return their property to EPA's liking—on pain of **\$37,500 per day in fines!**

Shocked, the Sacketts thought: There must be some mistake! They hired a soil expert and a biologist, who provided a certification that their parcel is not a wetland. But EPA was unmoved...

More: <http://www.pacificlegal.org/page.aspx?pid=616>

Why the left fears Herman Cain:

Surging candidate threatens allegiance between blacks and Dems

by Andrea Tantaros, 14 Oct 2011

http://www.nydailynews.com/opinions/2011/10/14/2011-10-14_why_the_left_fears_herman_cain_surging_candidate_threatens_allegiance_between_bl.html

The scapegoat strategy

by Charles Krauthammer, 13 Oct 2011

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-scapegoat-strategy/2011/10/13/gIQArNWViL_story.html

#Occupy Wall Street: a manifesto for [insert date]

by A. Barton Hinkle, 11 Oct 2011

...We are the union members, students, teachers, veterans and activists who make up the 99 percent of America, if you don't count everybody who is at work right now. We are the unemployed and the art majors and the interns for Rainforest Action Now!

Also we are the firefighters and the police officers and the paramedics, except none of them could be here on account of their fascist shift supervisors, but we know they are with us in spirit. (First responders, you guys rock!) We are the lost, the slightly disoriented, and the people who are pretty sure they know where they are if you'd just be quiet for one second and let us think, okay? Jeez...

...The Corporate-Owned Media has been misleading people by telling everyone our objectives are unclear. That is a lie. We have been very clear. Superduper clear, in fact. Can't you, like, read our signs? Some of them are really witty, too; you should check them out. Anyhow. Just to make sure there is NO MORE misunderstanding, here are our demands as of about 9 A. to the M. today...

All 33 demands: <http://www2.timesdispatch.com/news/rtd-opinion/2011/oct/11/tdopin02-hinkle-occupywallstreet-a-manifesto-for-i-ar-1373675/>

A letter to the lazy

Don't just whine and beat drums about people and institutions you don't know the first thing about.

by Ben Stein, 13 Oct 2011

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/10/13/a-letter-to-the-lazy>

A rational jobs plan from Senate Republicans

by Douglas Holtz-Eakin, 13 Oct 2011

Senate Republicans have just introduced the "Real Jobs Plan." As I've long argued, an effective jobs "plan" is a commitment to a sustained environment for long-term growth. The president's failed proposals have repeatedly proven that "temporary and targeted" stimulus is insufficient. Moreover, his latest effort displays more interest in politics than growth.

Senators McCain, Paul, and Portman have proposed a plan that effectively targets job creation at a time when we desperately need it by incentivizing growth and repealing the job-killing Affordable Care Act and Dodd-Frank law. There is a lot here to like...

Read on: <http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/280072/rational-jobs-plan-senate-republicans-douglas-holtz-eakin>

Endgame for the Managerial State

by Baron Bodissey, 12 Oct 2011

...We are approaching endgame in the century-long experiment with imaginary money and the centralized direction of all human activity. The emperor is perceived to have shed a garment or two, and his nakedness will soon be revealed. The Progressive dream is all but over, and our awakening will be harsh and unpleasant. As Lao Tzu said in Chapter 55 of *Tao Te Ching*: "Whatever is contrary to Tao will not last long."

Read it all: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/10/endgame-for-managerial-state.html#more>

Taylorism, Progressivism, and Rule by Experts

by Kevin A. Carson, 1 Sept 2011

...Only a select class of technocrats with "the scientific knowledge to discern and create this superior social order" were qualified to make decisions. In all aspects of life, policy was to be a matter of expertise, with the goal of removing as many questions as possible from the realm of public political debate to that of administration by properly qualified authorities. Politics, Scott writes, "can only frustrate the social solutions devised with scientific tools adequate to their analysis."...

...Progressivism was a branch of what Scott called the "high modernist" ideology, which "envisioned a sweeping, rational engineering of all aspects of social life..."

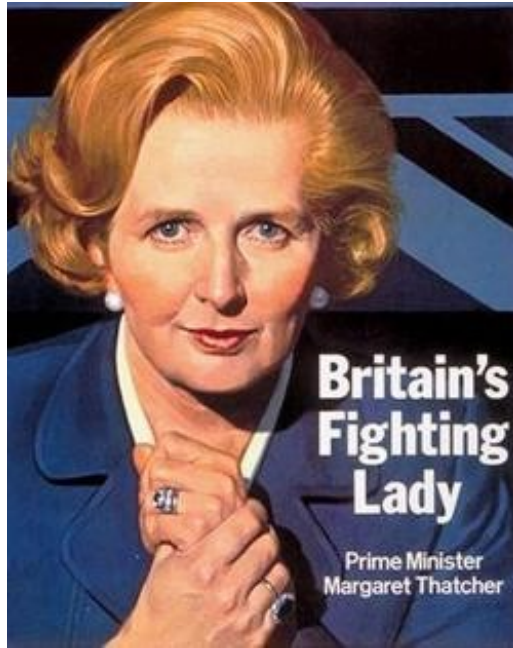
More: <http://www.thefreemanonline.org/featured/taylorism-progressivism-and-rule-by-experts/>

Deficit spending, and the abandonment of the concept of annual budget balance, were just part of the evil legacy of Lauchlin Currie, the secret Soviet agent who duped FDR. Good thing we don't have any Bolsheviks in the White House nowadays, eh?

Communist plot that put us in the Red

by Diana West, 12 Oct 2011

<http://www.dianawest.net/Home/tabid/36/EntryId/1923/Communist-Plot-that-Put-Us-in-the-Red.aspx>



Margaret Thatcher (born 13 October 1925)

Free Society speech, 1975 (video clip)

Thatcher's victory in 1979 (video)

The Lady's Not For Turning party conference speech at Brighton, 10 Oct 1980

On the Sinking of the *Belgrano*, 1982 (video with David Frost)

How economics works, 1986 (video)

Reagan's Leadership, America's Recovery 30 Dec 1988

On socialism, 22 Nov 1990 (video)

The Political Assassination of Margaret Thatcher (video)

The Moral Foundations of Society 1 March 1995

Challenge of Educating for 21st-Century Citizenship ([scroll down](#)) 1 Oct 1999

All beginnings are hopeful: Challenges Facing the 21st Century 1 Apr 2001

Eulogy for Ronald Reagan: 11 June 2004 ([video here](#))

Margaret Thatcher and the Revival of the West by Ronald Reagan, 19 May 1989

Margaret Thatcher: A Legacy of Freedom by John O'Sullivan, 1 June 2008

Never Wobbly Claire Berlinski's *There Is No Alternative*, reviewed by Vincent Carroll, 19 Nov 08

Mrs T's unassailable legacy by Boris Johnson, 3 May 2009

Why Margaret Thatcher Matters by Marcia Sielaff, 6 Nov 2010

Barack Obama's remedial math lesson

Class warfare just doesn't add up.

by *Dr. Milton R. Wolf* (the President's cousin), 10 Oct 2011

Waving his finger at Americans, President Obama declared that income taxes must be increased, not on those who aren't even paying them, but rather on those who, despite already paying the whole of the bill, somehow still aren't paying their fair share. "This is not class warfare," defended the Redistributor-In-Chief, "this is math."

OK, Mr. President, I'll bite. How about this math? ...

More: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/oct/10/barack-obamas-remedial-math-lesson/>

Arrogant white liberal tells Herman Cain how to be black

by *Lloyd Marcus*, 12 Oct 2011

...Listen up, O'Donnell, Garofalo, and all you other pompous liberal plantation slave massas. By the Grace of God,

we black Americans are *free*—free to be successful entrepreneurs such as Herman Cain and countless other blacks rather than government-dependent welfare recipients.

We blacks are free to live outside your liberal stereotypical dictates. I prefer sushi over fried chicken. Does that make me "less" black? Probably, in the minds of arrogant liberal racists...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/arrogant_white_liberal_tells_herman_cain_how_to_be_black.html

"Down With Gravity!"

by *Dymphna*, *Investor's Business Daily*, and *Iowahawk*, 11 Oct 2011

<http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/10/down-with-gravity.html#more>

Dedicated public servants Andrew Thomas, Lisa Aubuchon, and **Rachel Alexander**—all supporters of Sheriff Joseph Arpaio—have been targeted by corrupt machine hacks like Don Stapley, Mary Rose Wilcox, and Conley Wolfswinkel.

Corruption in Maricopa County

by *Selwyn Duke*, 12 Oct 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/arizona_state_bar_targets_conservative_lawyer_and_blogger_in_political_prosecution.html

Children to be banned from blowing up balloons, under EU safety rules

Children are to be banned from taking part in traditional Christmas games, from blowing up balloons to blowing on party whistles, because of new EU safety rules that have just entered into force.

by *Bruno Waterfield*, 10 Oct 2011

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/eu/8816601/Children-to-be-banned-from-blowing-up-balloons-under-EU-safety-rules.html>

Al Gore Akbar!

The cultist EU is about to impose cap-and-trade on U.S. airlines.

Our president will approve, instead of declaring Europe a no-fly zone.

by *Jed Babbin*, 10 Oct 2011

...The emissions included in the amount regulated, taxed, and traded will not just be those flowing from engine exhausts in European skies. The regulated/taxed/traded emissions of, for example, a Los Angeles to London flight will be the entire amount from takeoff to landing despite the inconvenient truth that about 99% of the flight occurs over U.S. territory and the Atlantic.

And that's the point. With a brazenness that would make Lady Gaga or even Harry Reid blush, the EU is imposing its power and its ability to tax on actions that occur entirely within the United States and over the free oceans of the world. This is, to state the obvious, an invasion of U.S. sovereignty and a limitation of our freedom of navigation in the air and at sea...

More: <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/10/10/al-gore-akbar>

Christians under siege in Egypt

by *Rick Moran*, 11 Oct 2011

...On September 30, "some three thousand Muslims rampaged the church, torched it, and demolished the dome; flames from the wreckage burned nearby Coptic homes, which were further ransacked by rioting Muslims." Predictably, the Governor of Aswan blamed the Christians for the violence, pointing out that the Copts were building the roof of the church 3 meters too high. "Copts made a mistake and had to be punished, and Muslims did nothing but set things right, end of story," said the governor.

Coptic Christians were **second class citizens** under the Mubarak regime, but their churches were protected and radical Islamists were reined in. But since the "Arab Spring," the authorities have turned a blind eye as Muslims have run wild, burning churches, murdering Christians, and rampaging through Christian communities...

More: <http://frontpagemag.com/2011/10/11/christians-under-siege-in-egypt/>

Egypt: destroying churches, one at a time

by Raymond Ibrahim, 10 Oct 2011

What clearer sign that Egypt is turning rabidly Islamist than the fact that hardly a few weeks go by without a church being destroyed, or without protesting Christians being attacked and slaughtered by the military?...

Read on: <http://www.meforum.org/3065/egypt-destroying-churches>

Once again: which is more unclean, a dog or a Muslim?

Riots of Passage

When rites of passage disappear from public life, civilization does as well.

by Roger Scruton, 1 Oct 2011

...The many "I's" were subsumed in a single "we," and what made this possible, more than any other factor, was the interest that the tribe took in the critical transitions on which its perpetuity depended. Each birth was acknowledged as an event in the life of the tribe, as well as an event in the life of the parents. The transition from childhood to adult responsibility was not, as now, a private accomplishment, to be achieved anyhow or not at all, but a public concern, to be given ceremonial recognition. In the ceremony of initiation obligations would be solemnly assumed and the interest of the tribe acknowledged as greater than the interests of any individual. Marriage was likewise a public rite, and when, at last, the individual was laid to rest among his ancestors, that passage too was marked out as the concern of everyone...

Read it all: <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/10/11/riots-of-passage>

Pelosi supports 'Occupy Wall Street,' but does she oppose her son's preferential treatment from bankers?

by Matthew Boyle, 11 Oct 2011

<http://dailycaller.com/2011/10/10/pelosi-supports-occupy-wall-street-but-does-she-oppose-her-son%E2%80%99s-preferential-treatment-from-bankers/>

The stunning hypocrisy of Baldwin and a host of other rich liberals.

Alec Baldwin Fund tied to Wall Street, Big Oil

Actor partners with Morgan Stanley, Merrill Lynch, Exxon, and a charity that urges evading capital gains tax.

by Jeffrey Lord, 11 Oct 2011

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/10/11/alec-baldwin-fund-tied-to-wall>



The Battle of Tours-Poitiers, 732 A.D.

Historians have assigned various October dates to the first crucial battle to halt the malign advance of Islam in western Europe. Some say it took place on the 10th; others say it was the 18th or 25th. But **Victor Davis Hanson** says it was October 11. That's good enough for me.

Reliving the Battle of Tours-Poitiers by *Brad MacDonald, 6 Dec 2007*

Battle of Moussais (Poitiers II): October 732 (includes pictures)

The Battle of Tours-Poitiers Revisited by *William E. Watson, 1993*

OCR's new sexual harassment guidelines threaten academic freedom, due process

by *Glenn Ricketts, 28 Sept 2011*

...OCR's 4 April letter makes no mention whatsoever of legitimate and longstanding concerns about academic freedom or of the need to protect First Amendment rights...

... If you're wondering what kind of "verbal conduct" might now be construed as harassment, you'll apparently have to wait until someone accuses you. The letter leaves it at that. But the single most worrisome aspect of the new regulations is the significantly lighter burden of proof OCR mandates for all campus tribunals investigating and adjudicating sexual harassment complaints...

... It really isn't necessary to "prove" that a defendant is guilty, certainly not by the more exacting standards heretofore used. Just *suspecting* that he is may indeed be good enough. And in the event that a defendant is acquitted, OCR introduces another striking novelty: accusers and accused must have an *equal right of appeal*. Yes, that's right. Even with no new evidence or witnesses, the *complainant* must routinely have the right to appeal an acquittal, with potential re-prosecution of the accused! ...

Read the rest: http://www.nas.org/polArticles.cfm?doc_id=2203

See also (4,500 words):

FIRE Letter to Office for Civil Rights

by *William Creeley, 5 May 2011*

<http://thefire.org>

[/article/13142.html](http://thefire.org/article/13142.html)

Obama disconnects rhetoric, reality

N.B.: This was the morning headline. In the evening edition (no doubt after an angry call from the White House), it was changed to "Obama's disconnect in jobs sales pitch."

by *Erica Werner, 10 Oct 2011*

In President Barack Obama's sales pitch for his jobs bill, there are two versions of reality: The one in his speeches and the one actually unfolding in Washington...

More: <http://www.ajc.com/news/nation-world/spin-meter-obamas-disconnect-1197664.html>

A history lesson for Lawrence O'Donnell

by Peter Wilson, 10 Oct 2011

On Thursday night, MSNBC host Lawrence O'Donnell accused Herman Cain of "sitting on the sidelines" during the civil rights movement. The accusation has rightly been condemned as contemptible...

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/a_history_lesson_for_lawrence_odonnell.html

Andrew Jackson: Tea Party President

For starters, he was principled, fearless, and astute. And Washington, D.C., never trusted him, because he knew the real source of America's greatness.

by Robert W. Merry, 1 Oct 2011

4,986 words: <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/10/07/andrew-jackson-tea-party-presi>

Eyewitness to History!

Hanging out with Spooky the anarchist, Amy the gender-bender, Sid the Nazi, and other occupiers of Wall Street.

by Matt Labash, 9 Oct 2011 (Oct. 17 issue)

5,167 words: http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/eyewitness-history_595200.html

Happy Columbus Day!

Save Western civilization: defend Christopher Columbus

by Charlotte Cushman, 10 Oct 2011

I am a Montessori educator and work with children of two and a half to six years of age. Every October, my students learn the story of Christopher Columbus. We start with learning about what the world was like when Columbus was alive...

Continue: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/save_western_civilization_defend_christopher_columbus.html

America's Pristine Myth

by Charles C. Mann, 1 Sept 2005

<http://www.csmonitor.com/2005/0901/p09s02-coop.htm>

No justice from Justice

New York Post editorial, 9 Oct 2011

Two things to know about Attorney General Eric Holder: He lied to the American people—under oath, before Congress—and thus is unfit to investigate allegations of criminal negligence in the Justice Department.

This is why House Republicans have called for a special prosecutor to investigate Holder for apparent perjury regarding his testimony on the administration's "Fast and Furious" gun sting—during which the US armed Mexican drug cartels with 2,500 high-powered, military-style weapons...

More: http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/editorials/no_justice_from_justice_QBY3tMJGtJbaI5DjVLoTDM

Doubling down on Solyndra

Investor's Business Daily editorial, 8 Oct 2011

...Sorry, gentlemen, this is not Las Vegas, and taxpayer dollars are not venture capital. If the Bransons and Immelts want to place bets on technologies of the future, let them do so with their own money. And in a country that's \$14 trillion in debt with a chronic 9.1% unemployment rate, we expect to hear more from our president than "you can't win 'em all."

After the bad Solyndra "bet," the administration paused not a second to examine how it went bad or to reconsider a process demonstrably flawed and corrupted. Perhaps because as far as "green energy" projects go, the administration seems to have a gambling addiction...

More: <http://www.investors.com/NewsAndAnalysis/Article.aspx?id=587510&p=1>

Electoral college reform and tilting the presidential balance

by George F. Will, 7 Oct 2011

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/electoral-college-reform-and-tilting-the-presidential-balance/2011/10/07/gIQAluwzTL_story.html

see also:

Trash the 'Compact'

An attempt to circumvent the Electoral College is really an urban power grab.

by Pete Du Pont, 28 Aug 2006

http://rossputin.com/blog/index.php/pete_dupont_on_protecting_the_electoral_

This is what socialied medicine in Britain has led to. Stop ObamaCare!

Caring for our sick relatives IS 'someone else's responsibility,' nurse... it's yours

by Peter Hitchens, 3 Oct 2011

Here we go, full speed ahead into the Third World. In the poor countries of Africa and Asia, people move into the bare, harsh hospitals where their sick relatives are being treated, bringing food and clean sheets and taking on much of their care. If they don't, those relatives will die of neglect. Now Dr Peter Carter, the General Secretary of the Royal College of Nursing, wants us to start down the same path...

...The gulf between this character and the rest of us is too wide to bridge. Hospitals in civilised countries exist precisely because the care of the sick is a specialised activity. People go to hospitals because they are too ill to look after themselves, and because their own close families lack the skills to do the job. Gigantic sums of money are spent on building, staffing and equipping these places. Yet they cannot do the most basic tasks any more. It is not because of lack of money. All these billions cannot replace the conscientious Christian spirit of selfless service that once motivated the nursing profession, and which has now been replaced by smarmy platitudes and meaningless degrees...

More: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-2044144/Caring-sick-relatives-IS-elses-responsibility-nurse--yours.html#>

There's hope for these Occupy Wall Streeters!

by Stephanie Gutmann, 7 Oct 2011

...We haven't had a bad enough economy to test this proposition in a while — an economy that forces employers to hire only the most essential workers — but what we are seeing these days is that a four-year liberal-arts degree is completely non-essential. The only twentysomethings I know who are gainfully employed and living like men, with their own apartments, cars, and girlfriends, are in the building trades. My upstairs neighbor has more work than he can handle designing and installing sound systems in large places like auditoriums and shopping malls.

If there's going to be a revolution in this country, I would like one part of it to look like this: Vocational schools would be opened again (and celebrated, not marginalized) and parents would tell junior that a four-year degree is off the table unless he knows exactly how he can use it.

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/279511/theres-hope-these-occupy-wall-streeters-stephanie-gutmann>

What I saw at the Revolution

by Charles C. W. Cooke, 6 Oct 2011

...The terminal vagueness which is the hallmark of the demonstration was best articulated by Trey Parker and Matt Stone in 2004's *Team America*, in which a disgruntled and effusive Tim Robbins puppet complains that, "the corporations sit there in their... in their corporation buildings, and... and, and see, they're all corporation-y... and they make money." This is a sentiment I have heard repeatedly from attendees, almost verbatim. It is always accompanied by derisive gestures toward the skyscrapers towering overhead, whose construction, I am informed without irony by the union members who have now got in on the action, is a source of well-paying union jobs. When I try to transcend the inchoate vitriol and ask What Should Be Done About All The Problems?, indignation turns quickly to silence, or frustration — or both...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/279373/what-i-saw-revolution-charles-c-w-cooke>

Governments gone wild

California: a morality tale in three parts.

speech by Rep. Tom McClintock (R-CA4) to the Council for National Policy, 30 Sept 2011

I want to welcome this groundbreaking scientific expedition to the savage lands of the Left Coast. You are here in California to answer an important theoretical question and now you have your answer.

Yes, this is what Barack Obama's second term would look like...

Read on: <http://www.tommclintock.com/blog/governments-gone-wild>

103,000 vs. 1.1 Million

A tale of September jobs, 28 years apart. .

Wall Street Journal editorial, 8 Oct 2011

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203476804576616990829919216.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_AboveLEFTTop

Obama's populist shift

by Larry Kudlow, 7 Oct 2011

...This tax attack is the latest assault from a White House that is making a sharp shift to the left. It coincides with a president who trashed the Bank of America for raising debit-card fees in response to a Dodd-Frank price-control edict, and who suggests that banks do not have an inherent right to profit. It's in league with a president who is throwing in with the anti-capitalist protesters. And it's a sorry sign that the White House doesn't understand that these nostrums will not solve our economic problems...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/kudlows-money-politics/279543/obama-s-populist-shift>

Obama's English Teacher Fiction

by Peter Wilson, 8 Oct 2011

...Mr. Baroz's story, however, has a few problems. For one, we don't need to put Mr. Baroz back in the classroom because he's already in the classroom. He is currently working in the Curley School in Jamaica Plain.

When the *Boston Herald* pointed this out to Baroz, he responded with the classic relativistic argument: according to the *Herald*, "he doesn't mind if the president—or his speechwriters—took some liberties with the facts. It was all in aid of a higher truth, he said." Dan Rather used the same "higher truth" argument when he was caught lying about President Bush's National Guard record...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/obamas_english_teacher_fiction.html

The Importance of Seeming Earnest

by Windsor Mann, 7 Oct 2011

...What makes the Wall Street occupiers so frivolous is their utter lack of purpose. Their deep-sounding words mask their arrant superficiality. Furthermore, anyone who uncritically claims to speak for 99 percent of the populace is—99 percent of the time—deluded and incorrect. Occupy Wall Street is less for the downtrodden than it is for the bored

and self-important, which explains why so many kids and actress Susan Sarandon are getting involved.

In an interview this week, Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-OH) **said** the protests are "about freedom of speech [and] the right to assemble." In other words, the protests are about protesting.

What the late Irving Kristol observed about the student radicalism of the 1960s applies to the events in New York. There is "a passion behind the protests that refuses to be satisfied by the various topics which incite it." That's because the only thing Occupy Wall Street is about is itself...

More: <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/10/07/the-importance-of-seeming-earn>

Seriously: which is more unclean, a dog or a Muslim?

Muslims in Spain declare jihad on dogs

by Soeren Kern, 6 Oct 2011

<http://www.hudson-ny.org/2480/spain-dog-poisoning#.To97OLqzKRb.blogspot>

Has Harry Reid presented the GOP with the means to overturn ObamaCare?

by Jerry Shenk, 7 Oct 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/10/has_harry_reid_presented_the_gop_with_the_means_to_overturn_obamacare.html

The great Palestinian lie

by Pat Condell, 6 Oct 2011

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=j1N1zhUm84w

Obama's empty threats

by Peter Wehner, 6 Oct 2011

...It's all very odd. Obama is acting as if his approval ratings are in the mid-60s instead of the low 40s. He's acting as if Republicans fear him instead of Democrats like Senator **Claire McCaskill**, who no longer want to be seen with him. The president is acting like his agenda is popular rather than radioactive. He's acting as if the public still cares what he thinks rather than having tuned him out long ago. And he's acting as if Republicans will feel compelled to justify their opposition to this singularly inept chief executive and his failing presidency.

Obama is once again trying to weave a narrative that is utterly detached from the real world. From time to time my son does the same thing. He's seven years old.

More: <http://www.commentarymagazine.com/2011/10/06/obama-threats-congress/>

ObamaCare's growing list of broken promises

by John Merline, 6 Oct 2011

When the Kaiser Family Foundation reported last week that insurance premiums had climbed 9.5% this year — the biggest increase since 2004 — it looked as though a key promise of Obama-Care had been broken. Indeed, just before he signed the health reform law, President Obama said it would "bring down the cost of health care for families, for businesses, and for the federal government." Instead, average family premiums have climbed \$2,393 since 2008, the Kaiser survey found.

This is the latest ObamaCare prediction that has failed to materialize. If the history of state and federal health care reforms is any guide, it won't be the last. Among other busted forecasts...

Read on: <http://www.investors.com/NewsAndAnalysis/Article/587194/201110051841/Obamacare-Broken-Promises.htm>

The book on Obama

New account of life inside White House vindicates critics' appraisal.

by R. Emmett Tyrrell Jr. 5 Oct 2011

Supposedly, this White House has just made a furious attempt to sink a book, *Confidence Men: Wall Street, Washington, and the Education of a President*, by Ron Suskind, which came out Sept. 20... The book tells us what we Obama critics have all been saying since early on. This president is the most incompetent and ideologically rigid president in American history...

More: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/oct/5/the-book-on-obama/>

Elizabeth Warren and liberalism, twisting the 'social contract'

by George F. Will, 5 Oct 2011

...Warren is (as William F. Buckley described Harvard economist John Kenneth Galbraith) a pyromaniac in a field of straw men: She refutes propositions no one asserts. Everyone knows that all striving occurs in a social context, so all attainments are conditioned by their context. This does not, however, entail a collectivist political agenda.

Such an agenda's premise is that individualism is a chimera, that any individual's achievements should be considered entirely derivative from society, so the achievements need not be treated as belonging to the individual. Society is entitled to socialize — i.e., conscript — whatever portion it considers its share. It may, as an optional act of political grace, allow the individual the remainder of what is misleadingly called the individual's possession.

The collectivist agenda is antithetical to America's premise, which is: Government — including such public goods as roads, schools and police — is instituted to facilitate *individual* striving, a.k.a. the pursuit of happiness...

More: http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/elizabeth-warren-and-liberalism-twisting-the-social-contract/2011/10/04/gIQAXi5VOL_story.html

One of the most momentous battles in world history was fought on October 7, 1571.

Remember Lepanto!

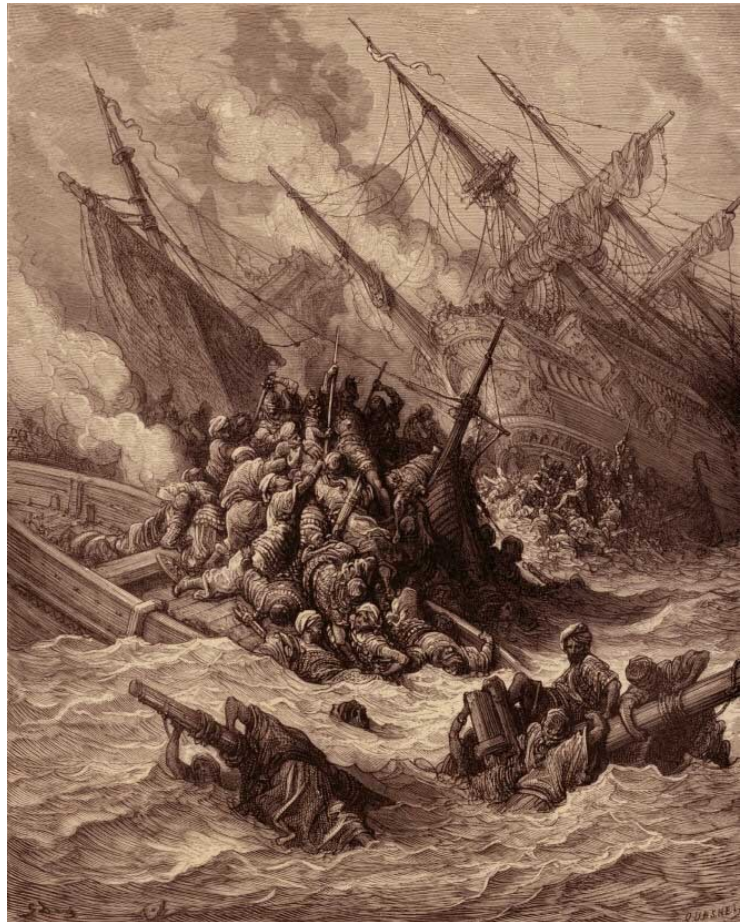
by Robert McMullen

...Now, the Turks had raised a fleet of 181 ships, carrying some 30,000 soldiers, and Malta was the prize they sought. Their goal was to plunder and sweep all the ships of Christian Europe from the Mediterranean. Then, in control of the sea lanes and trade routes, with their naval and economic power supreme, all of Europe would be set to fall before them.

The Turkish fleet appeared off the coast of Malta, and laid siege to the island. All through the summer of 1565 the contest for Malta raged. In the end, the Knights of St. John (Knights of Malta) were victorious, and the Turks were forced to withdraw in defeat. It did not, however, end the threat from the Ottoman Turks.

In 1566, Pius V ascended to the Chair of St. Peter in Rome. Pius V was a Dominican Monk with a reputation for piety and austerity. A teacher of philosophy and theology for 16 years, unlike some previous Popes, he was a humble man who continued to lead the ascetic life of a simple monk even after becoming Pope.

Pius V was also very serious about defending Christendom against the Ottoman Turks. He knew they were not just going to go away and leave Europe in peace. Vienna and the eastern borders continued to be threatened by Moslem military power and incursions, and the Papal States



The Battle of Lepanto, by Gustave Doré

themselves could soon be at risk. Cyprus came under attack again in 1570. Seeing the increasing danger to Christendom, Pius V called on "The Holy League," consisting of the Papal States, Spain, Genoa, Venice, and the Knights of Malta, to address the Moslem threat...

Read on:

http://www.traditioninaction.org/History/A_001_Lepanto.html

The Battle of Lepanto

by Georgios Rigas

<http://www.hellas-guide.com/nafpaktos/history-nafpaktos.html>

Lepanto, by G.K. Chesterton

White founts falling in the courts of the sun,
And the Soldan of Byzantium is smiling as they run;
There is laughter like the fountains in that face of all men feared,
It stirs the forest darkness, the darkness of his beard,
It curls the blood-red crescent, the crescent of his lips,
For the inmost sea of all the earth is shaken with his ships.
They have dared the white republics up the capes of Italy,
They have dashed the Adriatic round the Lion of the Sea,
And the Pope has cast his arms abroad for agony and loss,
And called the kings of Christendom for swords about the Cross...

The rest of the poem: <http://www.theotherpages.org/poems/chester1.html#1>

The 'Hunger' Hoax

It's part of the larger poverty hoax..

by Thomas Sowell, 5 Oct 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/279037/hunger-hoax-thomas-sowell>

Paternalism and principle

Once you accept the paternalistic premise, there is no end to government interference.

by Michael Tanner, 5 Oct 2011

http://www.cato.org/pub_display.php?pub_id=13741

Freedom of speech on trial

In Australia, talking about race is now a thoughtcrime.

by Hal G.P. Colebatch, 5 Oct 2011

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/10/05/freedom-of-speech-on-trial>

Holder's dubious history

The AG's Fast & Furious amnesia is reminiscent of his Marc Rich amnesia.

by Andrew C. McCarthy, 5 Oct 2011

House Republicans are now calling for a special counsel to investigate whether Attorney General Eric Holder perjured himself in congressional testimony about the scandalous Fast & Furious program. Specifically, the attorney general claimed on May 3 that he had only "over the last few weeks" heard about the reckless gun-walking program his Justice Department was running with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) — a program in

which guns were steered to violent Mexican gangs with predictably lethal results, including the murder of a Border Patrol agent. Contrary to Holder's testimony, it is now being reported that he had actually been receiving briefings on the program since early summer 2010...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/279201/holder-s-dubious-history-andrew-c-mccarthy>

Media silence is deafening about important gun news

by John R. Lott Jr., 30 Sept 2011

Murder and violent crime rates were supposed to soar after the Supreme Court struck down gun control laws in Chicago and Washington, D.C...But Armageddon never happened. Newly released data for Chicago shows that, as in Washington, murder and gun crime rates didn't rise after the bans were eliminated—they plummeted. They have fallen much more than the national crime rate...

Read on: <http://www.foxnews.com/opinion/2011/09/30/media-silence-is-deafening-about-important-gun-news/>

Warmists think we're stupid

by Ross Kaminsky, 4 Oct 2011

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/10/04/warmists-think-were-stupid>

Ten lessons from Obama

In less than three years Barack Obama has reversed all expectations.

by Victor Davis Hanson, 4 Oct 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/279022/ten-lessons-obama-victor-davis-hanson>

'Stop whining'?

by Thomas Sowell, 4 Oct 2011

...All this came back to me during a recent cleanup of my office, which turned up an old yellowed copy of the *New York Times* with the following front-page headline: "White-Black Disparity in Income Narrowed in 80's, Census Shows" (July 24, 1992). How many people in the media have pointed out that the black-white income gap narrowed during the Reagan administration, just as it has widened during the Obama administration? For that matter, how many Republicans have pointed it out?

The Reagan administration did not have any special program to narrow the racial gap in incomes. The point is that the kinds of policies followed in the 1980s had that effect, just as the kinds of policies followed by the Obama administration had opposite effects. But just listening to rhetoric won't tell you that. Over the years, some of the most devastating policies, in terms of their actual effects on black people, have come from liberal Democrats, from the local to the national level...

More: <http://www.creators.com/conservative/thomas-sowell/-stop-whining.html>

Shameful follow-up on Perry and Race

by Seth Mandel, 4 Oct 2011

If you were wondering whether the *Washington Post* would double-down on or retreat in shame from its blockbuster story alleging that Rick Perry lives in the same state as a formerly offensive rock, the paper has answered that question in style today.

Here is the blaring headline: "Perry built complicated record on matters of race." What would normally follow such a headline is a story backing up that vague allegation. What readers are treated to instead is a **story** about how yesterday the *Post* ran a story calling Perry a racist. This paragraph has to be read to be believed...

Read on: <http://www.commentarymagazine.com/2011/10/04/perry-race-washington-post/>

Pastor Yousef Nadarkhani

by Eileen F. Toplansky, 3 Oct 2011

It is my moral obligation as a Jew to speak out on behalf of an Iranian Christian whom I have never met.

Imprisoned since October 2009, Yousef Nadarkhani was first accused of apostasy against Islam by the Islamic Republic of Iran. In 2010 he was found guilty "and sentenced to **death** ... for abandoning the Islamic faith." Yet, according to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Article 18 includes a "provision for the right to 'have or to adopt' a religion, which has been interpreted authoritatively by the UN Human Rights committee as including the right to **change** one's religion." Thus, Iran is violating its own obligations. Furthermore, the Iranian constitution "sanctions Christianity as a legitimate minority faith." Clearly, however, this did not matter as the Iranian Supreme Court sought to establish that Nadarkhani was still guilty of apostasy because he has Muslim **ancestry**...

Continue: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/pastor_yousef_nadarkhani.html

ATF Fast and Furious: New documents show Attorney General Eric Holder was briefed in July 2010

by Sharyl Atkisson, 3 Oct 2011

http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-31727_162-20115038-10391695.html

MSM more concerned with Perry's relationship with rock than Obama's racially-charged past

by John Nolte, 3 Oct 2011

So tell me if I have this right: decades ago, on a hunting ranch Texas Governor Rick Perry's family was leasing a very small portion of, Perry's father pro-actively painted over a rock with an offensive word on it and according to the news media that's not only news but worthy of the furious narrative that's currently raging everywhere. But...! It's not news within the intellectually honest way in which I'm framing the story. It's news within the craven, dishonest way the cravenly dishonest MSM is framing it...

Read on: <http://bigjournalism.com/jjmolte/2011/10/03/msm-more-concerned-with-perrys-relationship-with-rock-than-obamas-racially-charged-past/>

The do-gooders obstinately refuse to learn. So many of their (presumably) well-intentioned remedies create terrible Unintended Consequences, because when free people find their freedoms arbitrarily restricted, they seek ways to work around the restrictions. Of course, liberals don't really like people to be very free—only free to do the "right" things, as defined by overlords like Barack Obama, Al Gore, Nancy Pelosi, Barney Frank, Warren Buffett, and George Soros.

Thank Wal-Mart for your new bank card fee

by Timothy P. Carney, 3 October 2011

http://campaign2012.washingtonexaminer.com/article/thank-wal-mart-your-new-bank-card-fee?utm_source=TEMPLATE:%20Washington%20Examiner%20Political%20Digest%20-%2010/03/2011&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Washington%20Examiner%20Political%20Diges

This damning exposé includes Gore's video, many photos, and more than 700 intelligent comments.

Video analysis and scene replication suggests that Al Gore's Climate Reality Project fabricated their Climate 101 video "Simple Experiment"

by Anthony Watts, 28 Sept 2011

UPDATE: New images added prove without a doubt the faked split screen. See below.] It has been over a week now since the Gore-a-thon aka "24 hours of climate reality." The front page of the Climate Reality Project has changed from "live mode" to offering clips of video shown during the 24 hour presentation. Note the circled video on the front page below Mr. Gore. I've discovered that by watching carefully it reveals an "inconvenient truth" of the worst kind...

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/09/28/video-analysis-and-scene-replication-suggests-that-al-gores-climate-reality-project-fabricated-their-climate-101-video-simple-experiment/#more-47926>

James Delingpole celebrates Watts's work:

...What the internet has proved in these debates, time and again—from Glacieregate to Amazongate to Polarbeargate—is that when the rebellious amateurs of the sceptical blogosphere go head to head with the climate establishment, the bloggers always win...

More: <http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/jamesdelingpole/100107989/gore-fakes-proof-of-man-made-global-warming-shock/>

Leftist witch hunts in light of the A.B. Breivik case

by Takuan Seiyo, 1 Oct 2011

...Those who are sickened by the slaughter of the innocents in Jerusalem [during the Crusades] ought to read descriptions of the fate of contemporaneous Christian pilgrims to the Holy Land at the hands of the Muslims, or of the Fall of Constantinople in 1453, or of the genocidal Muslim invasions of India, such as by Mahmoud al Ghazni, Muhammad Ghorri, or Timur's conquest of Delhi (1398) preceded by an execution of 100,000 Hindu captives, or the destruction of the Americas' then-greatest city, Tollan (about 1170), by the Huastecs who murdered, sacrificed, or sold its population into slavery.

But they never do read the countervailing evidence; it's not in the plan of the S&M socialist intelligentsia that dispenses education and culture in the Western world. The results show in nations like Norway, where overt or tacit guilt about White racism, intolerance, violence, injustice etc. — guilt unaccompanied by any knowledge or even interest in the universal parallels of frequently greater magnitude in other races and cultures — leads to a massive "turning": a voluntary hairshirt, mea-culpism, and majority-supported policies of self-debasement leading to extinction...

More: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/09/on-fanciful-attributions-and-wishful.html>

An excellent essay. But Takuan Seiyo seems to have misinterpreted Pope Benedict's **brief remarks** of 23 Sept 2011—and this passage in particular: **"An essentially homogeneous society laid the foundations that we today consider valid for a markedly pluralistic world, foundations that actually point out the evident limits of pluralism: it is inconceivable, in fact, that a society could survive in the long term without consensus on fundamental ethical values."** The setting was essentially a diplomatic one, and called for the usual diplomatic subtleties and nuances. In speaking of the "limits of pluralism" and "consensus on fundamental ethical values," the Pope was actually pointing out that (1) immigrants must eventually be integrated into society at large, and (2) a society must ultimately adhere to one coherent set of laws. He's not pretending that either of those things have happened; rather, he is laying down a premise for further discussion that must take place.

—Don John

The Turks have been building up their navy just a bit, and have hinted that they might use it to help the "Palestinians" harass Israel. The Iranians, too, have built up their navy, and have more than hinted that they might send some ships within 100 miles of the U.S. coast. If these people want another Lepanto, we will give it to them—just as soon as Obama has been replaced by a patriotic citizen of Western culture. But it needn't be a massive sea battle this time. We possess weapons that can simply vaporize the enemy ships.

Erdoğan and the long shadow of Lepanto

by James G. Wiles, 2 Oct 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/erdogan_and_the_long_shadow_of_lepanto.html

A person's upbringing isn't *always* determinative. But here are a couple of upbringings that *just might* have been. You decide.

Raising Cain

The very different life lessons of the president and his challenger.

by Fred Barnes, 1 Oct 2011 (Oct 10 issue)

http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/raising-cain_594675.html

Science, Lies, and Videotape

by Clarice Feldman, 2 Oct 2011

...But beyond the self-congratulatory nonsense exemplified by Janeane Garofolo, the history of who believes in science and who opposes scientific thinking and methods is far more muddled. There's plenty of evidence that the clown shoes belong on the other (political) foot, and this week, because of the work of *Watts Up With That* and videotape

analysis, we can establish that not only is the left unscientific, but it also relies on demonstrably false "evidence" to make its arguments...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/10/science_lies_and_vidiotape.html

Many generations from now, this marvelous essay will still be widely read, quoted, and even taught in schools.

America's enduring ideal

Jeffrey Sachs is only the latest in a long line of thinkers to reject the values of our commercial republic.

by *Paul D. Ryan, 1 Oct 2011*

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424053111903703604576589090204327736.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEFTTopOpinion

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.