

Obama recruits Qaradawi

by Andrew C. McCarthy, 31 Dec 2011

The surrender is complete now. The *Hindu reports* that the Obama administration has turned to Sheikh Yusuf al-Qaradawi, the Muslim Brotherhood's leading jurist, to mediate secret negotiations between the United States and the Taliban...

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/286854/obama-recruits-qaradawi-andrew-c-mccarthy>

Support the Sacketts: EPA Suit Goes to Supreme Court

The Environmental Protection Agency halted their home's construction arbitrarily and unconstitutionally.

by Mark Hyman, 30 Dec 2011

<http://pjmedia.com/blog/support-the-sacketts-epa-suit-goes-to-supreme-court/>

The fraudulent strategy of tolerance and dialogue

Baron Bodissey, 31 Dec 2011

Back in October we posted an article about Sabatina James, a former Muslim who now lives in Germany and speaks out courageously on behalf of apostates. The article below about Ms. James appeared a couple of weeks ago in Politically Incorrect. Many thanks to JLH for the translation...

<http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/12/fraudulent-strategy-of-tolerance-and.html#more>

A State of Emergency in Nigeria

Baron Bodissey, 31 Dec 2011

In the wake of the Christmas Day bombings, President Goodluck Jonathan has declared a state of emergency in Nigeria. Many thanks to Vlad Tepes for uploading this video:

<http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/12/state-of-emergency-in-nigeria.html#more>

Don't miss Penn Jillette's comments on Tommy Smothers.

George Carlin Wasn't Funny: the top five most overrated liberal comedians

by Kathy Shaidle, 31 Dec 2011

<http://pjmedia.com/lifestyle/2011/12/31/george-carlin-wasnt-funny/>

Ten 2011 Examples of Major Media Malfeasance

It will get even worse in 2012.

by Tom Blumer, 31 Dec 2011

<http://pjmedia.com/blog/ten-2011-examples-of-major-media-malfeasance/>

Will Obama steal the 2012 election?

by Jeffrey T. Kuhner, 30 Dec 2011

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/dec/30/voter-id-terrifies-democrats-will-obama-steal-the-/>

So many outrages, so little time

Stories I under-covered in 2011.

by Quin Hillyer, 30 Dec 2011

- The Obamite war against the heroic FDNY
- The Obamite effort to discourage voting by the military
- Judicial Wars

- Blocking Obamite efforts to nationalize education policy
 - Obamite flouting of clear legislative language
 - Obamites cheating for union goons
 - Obamite war against Catholics and other traditionalist people of faith
 - Ecuadoran environmental case against U.S.-based Chevron Corp.
- <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/12/30/so-many-outrages-so-little-tim>

Prophet of Doom

Islam's terrorist dogma in Muhammad's own words.

<http://prophetofdoom.net/>

Jed Babbin emerges as a rather clever humorist.

2011: The Year the Wheels Fell Off

by *Jed Babbin*, 30 Dec 2011

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/12/30/2011-the-year-the-wheels-fell>

Leftist Talking Points of 2011

by *Matt Palumbo*, 31 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/leftist_talking_points_of_2011.html

The Worst of Obama 2011

Our columnist resumes his annual end-of-year tribute to the great orator.

by *Aaron Goldstein*, 28 Dec 2011

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/12/28/the-worst-of-obama-2011>

Chavez falls off the edge of the world

by *Walter Russell Mead*, 30 Dec 2011

<http://blogs.the-american-interest.com/wrm/2011/12/30/chavez-falls-off-the-edge-of-the-world/>

Who is Obama kidding?

by *Mike Rosen*, 29 Dec 2011

http://www.denverpost.com/opinion/ci_19633823

Yes, the *New York Times* supported Communists in the 1930s as much as it does today.

Tintin vs. Walter Duranty, Stalin Stooge

by *Arnold Cusmaruu*, 30 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/tintin_vs_walter_duranty_stalin_stooge.html

Meryl Streep film and EU debates bring Maggie Thatcher's moment

by *Amanda Foreman*, 19 Dec 2011

A wonderful tribute; includes some videos:

<http://www.thedailybeast.com/newsweek/2011/12/18/meryl-streep-film-and-eu-debates-bring-maggie-thatcher-s-moment.html>

The Crusades in context

by *Dr. Paul Stenhouse*, 30 May 2007

...A school textbook, *Humanities Alive 2*, for Year 8 students in the Australian State of Victoria, carries the anti-Christian/anti Western argument further: "Those who destroyed the World Trade Centre are regarded as terrorists. Might it be fair to say that the Crusaders who attacked the Muslim inhabitants of Jerusalem were also terrorists?"

Muhammad died in Medina on June 8, 632 AD. The first of the eight Crusades to free the Holy Places in Palestine from Muslim control, and offer safe passage to the Holy Land for Christian pilgrims, was called only in 1095. At the risk of sounding pedantic, the period in question is not 'five centuries,' but four-hundred and sixty-three years; and those years, we contend, were not characterized by 'peaceful coexistence.' For the Christian states bordering the Mediterranean, it was a four-hundred and sixty-three year period of regular, disorganized [and occasionally organized] bloody incursions by Muslim mainly Arab and Berber land and sea forces. These came intent on booty—gold, silver, precious stones and slaves—on destroying churches, convents and shrines of the 'infidels,' and on the spread of politico-religious Islam throughout Europe from their bases in the Mediterranean and the Adriatic...

Read it all: <http://answering-islam.org/Authors/Stenhouse/crusades.01.htm>

Keep locking 'em up

by Charles Murray, 29 Dec 2011

I got into a good-natured argument with my friend Pete Wehner of the Ethics and Public Policy Center over lunch last week about the importance of incarceration in explaining the gratifying drop in crime since the 1990s...

Read on: <http://blog.american.com/2011/12/keep-locking-em-up/>

\$6.5 Billion Wasted

by Andrew Stiles, 29 Dec 2011

Many Americans are no doubt making resolutions to eliminate their bad habits in the New Year. The federal government would be well advised to do the same. President Obama and members of Congress could start by reviewing the jaw-dropping **report** put out by Sen. Tom Coburn (R., Okla.) outlining 100 examples — totaling more than \$6.5 billion — of wasteful federal spending over the past year alone. What follows is a collection of some of the more outrageous examples...

Appalling: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/286628/65-billion-wasted-andrew-stiles>

Barack Obama will still be president on January 19, 2017

by Zombie, 28 Dec 2011

That is, unless we jettison this freak show of Republican so-called candidates...

Zombie has some ideas about getting Allen West, Chris Christie, Sarah Palin, Paul Ryan, Marco Rubio and Bobby Jindal (or at least three of them) to join the GOP presidential race. Here's how:

<http://pjmedia.com/zombie/2011/12/28/barack-obama-will-still-be-president-on-january-19-2017?singlepage=true>

Clean it Up

Baron Bodissey, 27 Dec 2011

This is the feel-good story of the day, and maybe for the entire Christmas season. A culturally-enriched young man — Mostafa Kamel Hendi by name — approached the counter of a "We Buy Gold" franchise in western North Carolina, waved a gun, and demanded money. After the would-be robber came behind the counter, the clerk decked him with a left, knocking him out cold. When the unfortunate perp came to, the clerk made him mop up his own blood from the floor. Thank goodness for surveillance video!

Watch: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/12/clean-it-up.html#more>

New film reminds us we could use a dose of Margaret Thatcher today

by Bernie Reeves, 29 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/new_film_reminds_us_we_could_use_a_dose_of_margaret_thatcher_today.html

Echoes from the minarets: the discreet evasion of Swiss democracy

by Kitman, 27 Dec 2011

<http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/12/detouring-around-democracy.html#more>

Even the Warmists don't believe in Global Warming

by Louis Woodhill, 28 Dec 2011

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/louiswoodhill/2011/12/28/even-the-warmists-dont-believe-in-global-warming/>

The Democratic Party's War on the Poor

by John F. Di Leo, 29 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/the_democratic_partys_war_on_the_poor.html

How to break a camel's back

by Daren Jonsescu, 29 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/how_to_break_a_camels_back.html

Obama's Scandals — and Scandal Deniers

For every outrageous misuse of power, there's a sycophant to downplay it.

by Michelle Malkin, 28 Dec 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/286699/obama-s-scandals-and-scandal-deniers-michelle-malkin>

Repo Men

by Kevin D. Williamson, 28 Dec 2011 (Dec 19 issue)

If you're making money on the Wall Street scale — which is nothing like your boring, middle-management in the Fortune 500, Hamptons-and-Mercedes, barely-a-1-percenter type money — then you can buy basically anything...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/286704/repo-men-kevin-d-williamson>

Graphs of key metrics show that the economy is still "going nowhere."

Farewell 2011, you will not be missed

by Jay Cost, 28 Dec 2011

http://www.weeklystandard.com/blogs/morning-jay-farewell-2011-you-will-not-be-missed_614911.html

Barack Obama's always 'helpful' never 'hurtful' lies

by Jeannie DeAngelis, 28 Dec 2011

<http://jeannie-ology.com/?p=10448>

We're enforcing the law

by Joseph Arpaio, 28 Dec 2011

<http://www.usatoday.com/news/opinion/editorials/story/2011-12-27/Joe-Arpaio-illegal-immigration/52245530/1>



Cartoon by the great Michael Ramirez. Background story (16 Dec 2011) Hat tip: James F.K.

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The Debt Generation

TNCollegeGOP, 14 Nov 2011

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GnDyXrSwJnA>

Hat tip: Marty

The intolerance of diversity

Pat Condell, 22 Dec 2011

"...Leftist academics or some other Equality Nazis who hate their own culture so much they can't wait to abolish it..."

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IolHgMf_nbw&feature=channel_video_title

Linus converts Charlie Brown to radical Islam

Dennis Leary, 22 Dec 2011

<http://www.whosay.com/DenisLeary/videos/108117>

Hat tip: Richard

Contains lots of "bad language" (for emphasis).

Adam Carolla explains the OWS Generation

fotop06, 21 Nov 2011

9:34: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJD8pZiRIzs&feature=related>

Hat tip: Marty

Sorry, Tom Friedman. Even your Chinese dictator heroes are subject to the laws of economics.

China Rail Fail: 42% spending cut in bullet train meltdown

by *Walter Russell Mead*, 26 Dec 2011

<http://blogs.the-american-interest.com/wrm/2011/12/26/china-rail-fail-42-spending-cut-in-bullet-train-meltdown/>

The Solyndra Scandal

Solyndra: Politics infused Obama energy programs

by *Joe Stephens and Carol D. Leonnig*, 25 Dec 2011

http://www.washingtonpost.com/solyndra-politics-infused-obama-energy-programs/2011/12/14/gIQA4HIIIHP_print.html

There's some substance behind Newt Gingrich's latest "crazy notion."

Newt and the Judges

by *Bruce Walker*, 27 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/newt_and_the_judges.html

Team O's 'poor' trick

by *Robert Rector*, 22 Dec 2011

http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/opedcolumnists/team_poor_trick_hmh726JdxaRenT0G6T0HCL

Obama's Sterilized Society

by *Christopher Chantrill*, 27 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/obamas_sterilized_society.html

Job creation is price for new U.S. health law

by *Andrew Puzder*, 26 Dec 2011

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-12-27/job-creation-is-price-for-new-u-s-health-law-commentary-by-andrew-puzder.html>

How the Left sees the life of Vaclav Havel, and why they do not mourn his passing

by *Ron Radosh*, 24 Dec 2011

<http://pjmedia.com/ronradosh/2011/12/24/how-the-left-sees-the-life-of-vaclav-havel-and-why-they-do-not-mourn-his-passing/?singlepage=true>

Obama Derangement Syndrome?

by *Victor Davis Hanson*, 23 Dec 2011

<http://pjmedia.com/victordavishanson/obama-derangement-syndrome/?singlepage=true>

Denigrating religious stupidity

by *Henrik R. Clausen*, 25 Dec 2011

<http://english.savefreespeech.org/?p=457>

"A black day for Austria"

by *Soeren Kern*, 26 Dec 2011

An Austrian appellate court has upheld the conviction of Elisabeth Sabaditsch-Wolff, a Viennese housewife and anti-Jihad activist, for "denigrating religious beliefs" after giving a series of seminars about the dangers of radical Islam...

Read on : <http://www.hudson-ny.org/2702/sabaditsch-wolff-appeal>

The persecution of Elisabeth Sabaditsch-Wolff

by Jamie Glazov, 26 Dec 2011

<http://frontpagemag.com/2011/12/26/the-persecution-of-elisabeth-sabaditsch-wolff/>

A world without schoolteachers

by Richard F. Minitzer, 26 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/a_world_without_schoolteachers.html

The real Main Street agenda

by Matthew Continetti, 26 Dec 2011 (January 2 issue)

http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/real-main-street-agenda_614769.html

Christmas comes with bombs in Nigeria

Baron Bodissey, 25 Dec 2011

<http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/12/christmas-comes-with-bombs-in-nigeria.html>

Defense department agrees to allow Muslim cadets to wear hijabs

by Jeff Kuerth, 22 Dec 2011

<http://blogs.orlandosentinel.com/features-the-religion-world/2011/12/22/defense-department-agrees-to-allow-muslim-cadets-to-wear-hijabs/>

The danger of a new medical care 'bioethics'

by Jerome Arnett, Jr. MD and John Dale Dunn, MD, 26 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/the_danger_of_a_new_medical_care_bioethics.html

The Best Notable Quotables of 2011

The twenty-fourth annual awards for the year's worst reporting.

by Media Research Center (Brent Bozell et al.), 22 Dec 2011

Includes the following categories:

- The Tea Party Terrorists Award
- Tying Granny to the Train Tracks Award for Condemning Budget Cuts
- The Obamagasm Award
- Hopeless Dopes Award for Discrediting Obama's Opponents
- Damn Those Conservatives Award
- The Media Millionaires for Higher Taxes Award
- The Grim Reaper Award for Saying Conservatives Want You to Die
- Occupy My Heart and Soul Award for Left-Wing Protest Promotion
- The Media Hero Award
- Flunk the Founding Fathers Award
- The Poison Tea Pot Award for Smearing the Anti-Obama Rabble
- MSNBC = Mean-Spirited, Nasty, Belligerent Chris Award
- The Ku Klux Con Job Award for Smearing Conservatives with Phony Racism Charges
- America Is the Real Evil Empire Award
- Refusing to Acknowledge the Obvious Award for Denying Liberal Media Bias
- The Audacity of Dopes Award for the Wackiest Analysis of the Year
- The Barbra Streisand Political IQ Award for Celebrity Vapidity
- Quote of the Year

<http://mrc.org/notablequotables/bestof/2011/default.aspx>

Christmas: a cosmic revolution

by Fay Voshell, 25 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/christmas_a_cosmic_revolution.html

Exclusive interview with jailed Pakistani Christian Asia Bibi

by Pamela Geller, 25 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/exclusive_interview_with_jailed_pakistani_christian_asia_bibi.html

An upside-down family tree

by Mark Steyn, 24 Dec 2011

<http://www.ocregister.com/opinion/people-332895-women-percent.html>

Newt sets up a surprise

by Conrad Black, 22 Dec 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/286265/newt-sets-surprise-conrad-black>

The way the world—and free-market economics—works

by Peter Ferrara, 22 Dec 2011

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/peterferrara/2011/12/22/the-way-the-world-and-free-market-economics-works/>

Hate crime at Williams?

by Roger Kimball, 22 Dec 2011

...There's a lot of talk about the "higher education bubble" these days. The bubble exists and is growing ever fatter and more fragile as colleges price themselves out of the market. But it is not only in the matter of money that American universities have gone insane. There is also the spectacle, at once risible and dismaying, of their embrace of the politically correct, multicultural agenda. More and more, academic culture is politically correct culture, which means it is devoted not to the discovery of truth and the preservation and transmission of "the best that's been thought and said" but the nurturing of speech codes and ideological conformity. It's a travesty of liberal arts education and obscenely expensive to boot. What's happening at Williams is just one rancid corner of a rotten edifice that is poised to collapse.

Read the rest: <http://pjmedia.com/rogerkimball/2011/12/22/hate-crime-at-williams/?singlepage=true>

Harvard fires critic of jihad

by Pamela Geller, 23 Dec 2011

...Harvard has dropped economics courses taught by a Hindu professor, Subramanian Swamy, president of the Janata Party of India and a former Union Cabinet minister, because of something that had nothing to do with economics: he wrote an **editorial** that Muslims find offensive. And now the *Harvard Crimson* has added insult to injury by applauding this decision and declaring a barbarian's war on the founding principle of this great nation—our unalienable individual rights...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/harvard_fires_critic_of_jihad.html

The GOP's message problem

by Kimberly A. Strassel, 23 Dec 2011

...As a result, the constant GOP refrain that Mr. Obama has overspent—the "fiscal" argument—washes over these voters; they are convinced anyone in Washington would do the same. What resonates instead is the "moral" argument about the size of government. Complain to voters that Mr. Obama has "overspent," and they tune out. Explain to voters that Mr. Obama—in keeping with his vision of all-powerful federal government—wasted millions on Solyndra with a loan that impeded private markets and created no jobs, and they are enraged.

"To lock down voters in the middle, Republicans are going to have to convince them that Obama isn't just a flawed

and ineffective leader, but that he has an agenda and motivations that they don't share...

More: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204552304577114731545793546.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_BelowLEFTSecond

Why ObamaCare isn't sinking Romney

by Jonathan S. Tobin, 20 Dec 2011

...Romney is not the only politician whose position on the issue has evolved over the years, but it seems to me that Romney's campaign pledges on the issue have left him little wiggle room...Even more to the point, Klein's claim that Romney's "record tells us to not trust anything he says while he's campaigning for office, because his positions will change when he's trying to appeal to a different electorate" is itself inaccurate. In fact, just the opposite is true...

Read on: <http://www.commentarymagazine.com/2011/12/19/obamacare-romney-trust/>

ObamaCare and the Ratchet Theory of history

by Mike Stopa, 23 Dec 2011

...But the message of Tribe's piece was panic. Tribe used more words than Nancy Pelosi, but in the end, what he said was: "Are you serious? Are you serious?"...

...The most pertinent fault of Tribe's argument, however, is to establish a chain whereby the regulated activity, in some cases, is causally linked with an undesirable economic consequence. It is not failing to buy insurance that causes economic damage—it is failing to pay the doctor's bill. Thus, an ultimately statistical argument is being used as a moral arbiter of behavior. By this reasoning, the Commerce Clause would permit, for instance, establishment of a legal requirement that mothers be married to the father of their children before being allowed to give birth, since it is well-established that children of single parents are far more likely to incur upon society the cost of incarceration (as well as many other consequences of crime)...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/obamacare_and_the_ratchet_theory_of_history.html

Holder's voter ID fraud

The AG invents fears of ballot suppression.

Wall Street Journal editorial, 23 Dec 2011

...In 2008's *Crawford v. Marion County Election Board*, the Supreme Court likewise ruled 6-3 that an Indiana law requiring photo ID at the ballot box was constitutional. The court's liberal lion, then-Justice John Paul Stevens, wrote for the majority that Indiana's law "is unquestionably relevant to the State's interest in protecting the integrity and reliability of the electoral process." Indiana offered free voter ID cards to all citizens, so the inconvenience of picking up an ID at the Department of Motor Vehicles wasn't an undue burden and was reasonably balanced by the state's interest in reducing fraud, Justice Stevens wrote. That isn't good enough for Mr. Holder, who says his department's priority is to "expand the franchise." But expand it for whom, exactly? ...

More: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203893404577100313135266898.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEADTop

Christians are under fire in the historic Holy Land

by Steve Huntley, 23 Dec 2011

...The uprising in Egypt unleashed anti-Christian attacks, with Coptic Christian churches burned and their parishioners murdered. In one particularly bloody incident, Egyptian security forces joined stick-wielding thugs in killing 24 Christians and wounding 300 in Cairo in the worse sectarian violence in Egypt in 60 years...

...The situation for Christians in the disputed territories of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip — the locale of many Bible stories — has been grim for a long time. Christians in 1970 accounted for 5.3 percent of the population of these areas, but it's less than half that now, the World Christian Database told the BBC. Thirty-five years ago, Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus Christ, was nearly 100 percent Christian; today Christians make up less than a third of its residents...

...Only in Israel, where religious freedom is honored, have Christians increased, soaring from 34,000 in 1948 to 140,000 today. Advocates for Islam talk about its history of tolerance, but political, revolutionary Islamism is the driving force in Mideast history today; it has little use for religious freedom. That has Christians literally running for their lives.

More: <http://www.suntimes.com/news/huntley/9400290-452/christians-are-under-fire-in-the-historic-holy-land.html>

It's time to say goodbye to the 'both/and' era of government

by *Bill Frezza, 20 Dec 2011*

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/billfrezza/2011/12/20/its-time-to-say-goodbye-to-the-bothand-era-of-government/>

Iraq War a great success

by *Bernie Reeves, 22 Dec 2011*

The US withdrawal from Iraq has stimulated the smarmy Left to bash George Bush once again, and in the process denigrate the achievements of our fighting forces and diplomatic infrastructure...

Read on: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/iraq_war_a_great_success.html

Democrats tell Lie of the Year

by *William Tate, 22 Dec 2011*

Politifact has **given** its Lie of the Year award to Democrats who claim that Republicans are trying to 'end Medicare as we know it'...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/12/democrats_tell_lie_of_the_year.html

Don't extend the ill-conceived, evil payroll tax cut

by *Louis Woodhill, 21 Dec 2011*

...Why didn't the (approximately) \$27 billion per calendar quarter tax cut spur demand? Well, let's look at what actually happened in 1Q2011. First, the Treasury borrowed \$27 billion additional dollars. Then the \$27 billion was (incrementally) distributed to workers via the payroll tax cut. What did those people do with the money? They saved it. Saved it how? On the margin, they saved it by buying the bonds that had been issued so that they could have the payroll tax cut. Who will ultimately have to pay off the bonds? The same people who got the tax cut. Isn't Keynesianism clever? ...

Read the rest: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/louiswoodhill/2011/12/21/dont-extend-the-ill-conceived-evil-payroll-tax-cut/>

2011 could be called The Year of Krugman Thuggishness

by *Brent Bozell, 21 Dec 2011*

<http://news.investors.com/Article/595499/201112211804/krugman-quotes-in-2011-were-the-worst.htm>

Chicago Sun Times does hit-and-run on Obama-Rezko payoff lead

by *Lee Cary and Marty Watters, 22 Dec 2011*

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/chicago_sun_times_does_hit-and-run_on_obama-rezko_payoff_lead.html

ObamaCare's terrible, horrible, no good, very bad year

A look at the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act's year in review.

by *Paul Conner, 21 Dec 2011*

<http://dailycaller.com/2011/12/20/obamacares-lousy-no-good-year/>

Capitalism and the right to rise

In freedom lies the risk of failure. But in statism lies the certainty of stagnation..

by Jeb Bush, 19 Dec 2011

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203893404577100330414585006.html>

‘When the legend becomes fact, print the legend’

by Victor Davis Hanson, 16 Dec 2011

<http://pjmedia.com/victordavishanson/when-the-legend-becomes-fact-print-the-legend/?singlepage=true>

Margaret Sanger and the War on Compassion

A new book attempts to airbrush a eugenicist’s sins from history.

by Chuck Donovan & Nora Sullivan, 21 Dec 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/286203/margaret-sanger-and-war-compassion-chuck-donovan>

Where no mortgage news is fit to print

The New York Times op-ed page and the left-wing echo chamber.

by Peter J. Wallison, 20 Dec 2011

<http://www.american.com/archive/2011/december/where-no-mortgage-news-is-fit-to-print>

The House, Harry Reid, and the Payroll Tax

National Review editorial, 21 Dec 2011

...The Senate plan, then, was to pass the temporary extension, send it back to the House, and enjoy a lengthy Christmas holiday. The New Year, they seem to believe, will bring with it fresh opportunities to kick the can down the road. But the 60-day extension is both irresponsible and unworkable, and House Republicans were right to hold the line against it, even if it keeps Congress in Washington through these holy nights.

Don’t take our word for it. Ask the National Payroll Reporting Consortium, a non-profit, non-partisan trade association of tax-service providers. NPRC warns that a last-minute, temporary extension of the payroll-tax cut could create chaos for small businesses, causing “substantial problems, confusion and costs affecting a significant percentage of U.S. employers and employees.” The National Association of Wholesale Distributors agrees, warning that the Senate measure “would exacerbate and escalate the uncertainty about fiscal policies that has inhibited business activity and slowed economic recovery . . . for the last several years.”...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/286357/house-harry-reid-and-payroll-tax-editors>

Deflecting blame for tax-cut logjam

by Charles Hurt, 20 Dec 2011

...Yet in every corner on Capitol Hill, you hear this same absurd canard about how the Tea Party is somehow to blame for a looming tax increase. And the ever-adoring press obediently shovels it around for widespread consumption.

But wait! The vast majority of Tea Partiers in Congress actually voted in favor of extending this tax cut. In the Republican-controlled House, they overwhelmingly supported the bill to extend the tax cut for a year. The Democrat-controlled Senate, meanwhile, approved a bill to extend the tax cut for only two months.

So the Tea Party supports a 12-month extension, Democrats want a two-month extension, therefore the Tea Party wants to kill this tax cut. Only in Washington and only among liars...

More: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/dec/20/deflecting-blame-for-tax-cut-logjam/>

The GOP's payroll tax fiasco

Wall Street Journal editorial, 21 Dec 2011

...The GOP leaders have somehow managed the remarkable feat of being blamed for opposing a one-year extension of a tax holiday that they are surely going to pass. This is no easy double play. Republicans have also achieved the small miracle of letting Mr. Obama position himself as an election-year tax cutter, although he's spent most of his Presidency promoting tax increases and he would hit the economy with one of the largest tax increases ever in 2013. This should be impossible...

More: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204791104577110573867064702.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEADTop

Inequality in perspective

Liberal thinking is all we need to know about life's fundamental unfairness.

by *Ron Ross*, 9 Dec 2011

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/12/09/inequality-in-perspective>

Nicolai Sennels' latest essay examines the possible psychological causes behind the bizarre state of denial that is imposed on Westerners by political correctness.

Psychological explanations of political correctness

by *Nicolai Sennels*, 20 Dec 2011

<http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/12/psychological-explanations-of-political.html#more>

The Gingrich Gestalt

by *Mark Steyn*, 19 Dec 2011

I was wrong about Newt. Or, as Newt would say, I was fundamentally wrong. *Fundamentally* and *profoundly* wrong. I was as adverbially wrong about Newt as it's possible to be...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/286068/gingrich-gestalt-mark-steyn>

Coburn releases list of most wasteful government spending

by *Rick Moran*, 20 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/12/coburn_releases_list_of_most_wasteful_government_spending.html

The Madness of Lord Keynes

Enlightened experts haven't saved us from their hubris.

by *Samuel Gregg*, 19 Dec 2011

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/12/19/the-madness-of-lord-keynes>

Truth in Advertising

by *Baron Bodissey*, 20 Dec 2011

As reported in the live-blog earlier today, the high-court judge in Vienna actually quoted an authoritative hadith in the courtroom: "Muhammad's wife Aisha entered the marriage at age 6, which was consummated at the age of 9." He then acknowledged that the passage was already public knowledge, and thus repeating it could not be punishable under the law. He upheld Elisabeth's conviction, however, based on a somewhat peculiar interpretation of Austrian law...

More: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/12/truth-in-advertising.html#more>

The Left and Israel

New York Timesman Thomas Friedman suffers from "pathological altruism."

by *Dennis Prager*, 20 Dec 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/286245/left-and-israel-dennis-prager>

Havel's 'respect for mystery' versus the Techno-Gnostics

He understood the need to save "serious" thought from itself.

by Joseph P. Duggan, 20 Dec 2011

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/12/20/havels-respect-for-mystery-ver>

On Vaclav Havel—and Chris Hitchens

One of the seven individuals most responsible for peacefully ending the Cold War has died.

by Paul Kengor, 19 Dec 2011

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/12/19/on-vaclav-havel-and-chris-hitc>

More than 100 links! You'll laugh! You'll cry!

Handy reference guide to Obama's gaffes and goofs

by Blonde Gator, 13 July 2011

<http://blondephotos.org/BlondeGator/?p=2332>

Harvard's deep green pockets

When elitism, environmentalism, and careerism hook up with the largest academic endowment in the world, the results are unintentionally hilarious.

by Peter Wilson, 19 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/harvards_deep_green_pockets.html

The Good, the Bad, and Repeal

by Jonathan V. Last, 19 Dec 2011

Over at the *Washington Examiner*, Philip Klein reacts to a Romney video Ben Domenech highlighted this weekend. In the clip, Mitt Romney, who is responding to a young Mike Warren's question at Vanderbilt, talks about the similarities and differences between Romneycare and Obamacare and says, among other things, he wants to "repeal the bad and keep the good." Boston, we have a problem...

http://www.weeklystandard.com/blogs/good-bad-and-repeal_613576.html

New reason to doubt Romney would repeal ObamaCare

by Philip Klein, 17 Dec 2011

<http://campaign2012.washingtonexaminer.com/blogs/beltway-confidential/new-reason-doubt-romney-would-repeal-obamacare/263116>

Mitt Romney on RomneyCare vs. ObamaCare

April 2010

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XI5JjBHq8_0&feature=player_embedded

'A Monstrous, Ramshackle, Stinking Machine'

by Shoshana Bryen, 19 Dec 2011

In an odd cosmic juxtaposition, Vaclav Havel and Kim Jong Il died at nearly the same time. They bounded the opposite ends of 20th Century moral and political thought: a soaring belief in the power of morality and intellect on one end vs. the degradation of the human spirit that comes with the degradation of economic and social norms on the other.

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/12/a_monstrous_ramshackle_stinking_machine.html

In Fay Voshell's fine update to this story, she accidentally refers to Kim Jong-II's father as 'Kim Jung-II' instead of Kim Il-Sung (1912-1994).

Testing the waters of economic liberty

by *George Will*, 16 Dec 2011

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/testing-the-waters-of-economic-liberty/2011/12/15/gIQAP0NDzO_story.html

George Will demolishes Robert Reich: 'You are a pyromaniac in a field of straw men'

by *Noel Sheppard*, 18 Dec 2011

<http://newsbusters.org/blogs/noel-sheppard/2011/12/18/george-will-demolishes-robert-reich-you-are-pyromaniac-field-strawmen>

Rats in the Kitchen: a parable

The rational way to deal with invaders and interlopers.

by *Rob Miller*, 18 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/rats_in_the_kitchen_a_parable.html

Vaclav Havel was both a political and an intellectual hero

by *Ed West*, 18 Dec 2011

<http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/edwest/100124848/vaclav-havel-was-both-a-political-and-an-intellectual-hero-you-couldnt-say-that-of-our-politicians/>

60 Minutes broadcast edits out laughable Obama claim as 4th best president

by *P.J. Gladnick*, 16 Dec 2011

<http://newsbusters.org/blogs/pj-gladnick/2011/12/16/60-minutes-broadcast-edits-out-laughable-obama-claim-4th-greatest-presi>

The long con

Obama officials say we don't trust the government enough. Why would we?

by *Michael Tanner*, 18 Dec 2011

http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/opedcolumnists/the_long_con_Npl60YsmGHclwPHdbi5hnJ

RIP Christopher Hitchens: abortion survivor, post-abortive father, cognitive pro-lifer

by *Jill Stanek*, 17 Dec 2011

<http://newsbusters.org/blogs/jill-stanek/2011/12/17/rip-christopher-hitchens-abortion-survivor-post-abortive-father-cogniti>

The two essays below are loving tributes to Mr. Hitchens by devout Christians (like me). But in a way they're also somewhat presumptuous, and some loving atheist Commenters explain why.

Christopher Hitchens and the meaning of life

by *J. Robert Smith*, 18 Dec 2011

Death has a sting for us all, but that sting must be greatest for an atheist—at least for a thinking atheist like Hitchens.

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/christopher_hitchens_and_the_meaning_of_life.html

Could Hitch be Tebowing today?

by *Kyle-Anne Shiver*, 18 Dec 2011

Hitchens spent his very substantial intellect, oratory gifts, and writing talents defaming God, yet I have grieved over his passing as though he were a close friend or relative.

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/could_hitch_be_tebowing_today.html

Why the government punished Roscoe Filburn for feeding his own wheat to his family and their animals.

World War II and the genesis of ObamaCare

by *Byron W. King*, 17 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/world_war_ii_and_the_genesis_of_obamacare.html

The significance of Wyden-Ryan

National Review editorial, 16 Dec 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/286028/significance-wyden-ryan-editors>

The marriage gap presents a real cost

by *Ruth Marcus*, 16 Dec 2011

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-marriage-gap-presents-a-real-cost/2011/12/16/gIQAz24DzO_story.html

NTSB: the banning nannies

by *Mona Charen*, 16 Dec 2011

<http://www.creators.com/opinion/mona-charen/ntsb-the-banning-nannies.html>

The Editorial—My Take

by *Jonah Goldberg*, 16 Dec 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/285934/editorial-my-take-jonah-goldberg>

The Chicago Expulsion Act of 2011

Windy City pols are bankrupting Illinois with bailouts for their hometown. Now downstate legislators are fighting back.

by *Allysia Finley*, 17 Dec 2011

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204012004577072790106769870.html>

Let there be light!

Bringing back the bulb.

National Review editorial, 17 Dec 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/286078/let-there-be-light-editors>

British police raid Climategate blogger's home

by *Timothy Birdnow*, 16 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/12/british_police_raid_climategate_bloggers_home.html

The wages of appeasement

by *Charles Krauthammer*, 16 Dec 2011

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-wages-of-appeasement/2011/12/15/gIQA5KEzwO_story.html

Obama's New Nationalism more Sukarno than Teddy Roosevelt

The origins of Obama's social justice rhetoric can be found in Indonesia.

Michael Patrick Leahy, 16 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/obamas_new_nationalism_more_sukarno_than_teddy_roosevelt.html

Communist Muppets and Capitalist Self-Loathing

by Robert Tracinski, 16 Dec 2011

http://www.realclearmarkets.com/articles/2011/12/16/communist_muppets_and_capitalist_self-loathing_99424.html

How to shut down the Welfare State

It's easier than you think.

by Richard B. Jones, 16 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/how_to_shut_down_the_welfare_state.html

The real sleeping giant

by Ross Kaminsky, 16 Dec 2011

A new Gallup poll suggests Obama's class warfare is becoming a big loser for the left.

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/12/16/the-real-sleeping-giant>

Simon Wiesenthal Center: time to clean up the discourse

by Jennifer Rubin, 13 Dec 2011

http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/right-turn/post/simon-wiesenthal-center-time-to-clean-up-the-discourse/2011/12/13/gIQAThG6rO_blog.html

The Gospel According To Wright

by Charles C. Johnson, 9 Dec 2011

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/12/09/the-gospel-according-to-wright>

American Spectator reader Rich Rostrom has pointed out two factual errors in this otherwise fine piece:

(1) Tinley Park is a suburb, not a neighborhood. (2) The *Chicago Reader* is not a "black" newspaper, it's a free weekly for the hip crowd. It has comprehensive listings of music, film, stage, and art events, a foodie section, and some hard-hitting local affairs coverage.

Christopher Hitchens is dead. Dammit.

The world is a much less learned and witty place this morning without the Hitch in it.

James G. Wiles, 16 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/christopher_hitchens_is_dead_damnit.html

In Memoriam, my courageous brother Christopher, 1949-2011

by Peter Hitchens, 16 Dec 2011

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-2075133/Christopher-Hitchens-death-In-Memoriam-courageous-sibling-Peter-Hitchens.html>

Christopher Hitchens, RIP

by Hugh Hewitt, 16 Dec 2011

<http://www.hughhewitt.com/blog/g/b4c8e93d-a9e5-4fc1-aad6-ab068a196c9d>

In Memoriam: Christopher Hitchens, 1949-2011

by Juli Weiner, 15 Dec 2011

His Finest Hour

September 2005: a debate against the execrable George Galloway, hosted by the self-parodying Amy Goodman.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XLKQGwVkcZg>

Friedman is wrong

His misunderstanding of Israel is evident in his underlying assumptions.

Jerusalem Post editorial, 16 Dec 2011

...Friedman's use of an extremist such as Levy to prove his point is akin to taking the writings of America-bashing left-wing linguist Noam Chomsky as proof that America is bad...

<http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Editorials/Article.aspx?id=249685>

Civilization vs. barbarism and savagery

by Eeyore, 15 Dec 2011

<http://vladtepesblog.com/?p=41585>

The post includes two videos, **Hints of the God Particle** and **Belgian Islamist Sheik Abu Imran opposite the Atomium Monument in Brussels**, and also a link to the book *Allah is Dead: Why Islam is Not a Religion*.

Behind Holder's war on voter-ID laws

by Michael A. Walsh, 15 Dec 2011

...The history of voting in America has been one of expanding the franchise to include (by constitutional amendment) blacks, women and young adults. But it's not infinitely expandable to felons, foreigners and fraudsters — no matter how much use the Dems might see in those constituencies.

Were photo-ID regulations as onerous as liberals claim, "the young, the poor, the elderly and minorities" would barely be able to function. Further, it is an insult to millions of Americans to assume that they are too ignorant to know when elections are (hint: they're generally on Tuesdays)...

More: http://www.nypost.com/p/news/opinion/opedcolumnists/behind_holder_war_on_voter_id_laws_q2b1T6orOkmMipcdhg25L

Turning Frauleins into Muslimas

"The Koran tells us how to behave..."

Baron Bodissey, 15 Dec 2011

The following clip is from a German version of the *Sesame Street* TV program for children. It is a blatant *da'wa* operation on behalf of Germany's Islamic community.

<http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/12/turning-frauleins-into-muslimas.html>

Newt Gingrich's general election prospects look bleak

by Aaron Blake and Chris Cillizza, 15 Dec 2011

If former House Speaker Newt Gingrich manages to win the Republican presidential nomination, he could jeopardize his party's chances of ousting President Obama next November, according to several new national polls released this week. Surveys from the NBC News and the Wall Street Journal, AP/GfK and Reuters/Ipsos all show former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney running better than Gingrich in general election matchups against Obama...

More: http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/the-fix/post/newt-gingrichs-general-election-prospects-look-bleak/2011/12/14/gIQAx1IyuO_blog.html

Wisconsin's GAB rules Adolf Hitler and Mickey Mouse can be counted on recall petitions

by Phil Boehmke, 15 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/12/wisconsins_gab_rules_adolf_hitler_and_mickey_mouse_can_be_counted_on_recall_petitions.html

What's Islam got to do with it?

by Clifford D. May, 15 Dec 2011

Is there anything Islamic about Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps? On what basis does Ayman al-Zawahiri, now al-Qaeda's leader, formerly the head of Egyptian Islamic Jihad, claim to be a jihadi — an Islamic warrior? Do groups that justify terrorism on the basis of Islam have a doctrinal leg to stand on? Let's not start by answering these questions. Let's start by agreeing that such questions need to be asked — not suppressed. Yet right now suppression seems to be the goal of senior officials in the Obama administration...

Continue: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/285815/what-s-islam-got-do-it-clifford-d-may>

Not all 'protesters' created equal

by Jack Cashill, 15 Dec 2011

...As might be expected, *Time Magazine* did not choose to cite the one serious protester who served real jail time in 2011. That would be Lt. Col. Terry Lakin. Unknown to *Time* readers, Lakin spent five months in prison at Fort Leavenworth before his release in May of this year. His crime—his real crime, that is—was to challenge Barack Obama's constitutional eligibility to be president... For Lakin, that did it. If he had to produce a birth certificate to deploy, Obama needed one to send him. By refusing deployment—he had already served in Afghanistan and Bosnia—Lakin hoped to take advantage of military due process to resolve the eligibility question. He did not succeed. The media brought no pressure to bear on his behalf. To the degree that the media noticed, they ridiculed him. Our progressive friends had found a military protester they could not embrace.

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/not_all_protesters_created_equal.html

Winnowing the field

National Review editorial, 14 Dec 2011

...Each week we see the same traits that weakened Republicans from 1995 through 1998: *I'd vote for Paul Ryan's Medicare reform; Paul Ryan's Medicare reform is radical right-wing social engineering; I apologize for saying that, and no one should quote what I said because I was wrong; actually, what I said was right all along but nobody understood me. I helped defeat Communism; anyone who made money in the '80s and '90s owes me; I'm like Reagan and Thatcher. Local community boards should decide what to do with illegal immigrants. Freddie Mac paid me all that money to tell them how stupid they were.* Enough. Gingrich has always said he wants to transform the country. He appears unable to transform, or even govern, himself. He should be an adviser to the Republican party, but not again its head...

Read it all: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/285787/winnowing-field-editors>

The Hundred Years' German War

Germany's dominance was won by national character, not arms or handouts.

by Victor Davis Hanson, 15 Dec 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/285767/hundred-years-german-war-victor-davis-hanson>

Another step toward Medicare reform

by Yuval Levin, 15 Dec 2011

While the Republican presidential race continues to flirt with catastrophe, Rep. Paul Ryan continues to advance the ball in some remarkable ways on the key conservative policy reforms of our time...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/285837/another-step-toward-medicare-reform-yuval-levin>

Amazingly good, and only 1,087 words.

Hard times and Liberalism's dream of a painless world

by *Michael Knox Beran*, 13 Dec 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/285415/hard-times-and-liberalism-s-dream-painless-world-michael-knox-beran>

One year ago, Holder's Operation Fast and Furious came undone

by *Neil W. McCabe*, 13 Dec 2011

...During the overnight of December 14 into 15, an AK-47 sold to a straw purchaser with the blessing of the ATF at the Lone Wolf gun store was used in the firefight that cut down Border Patrol Agent Brian A. Terry...

Includes a tribute video: <http://www.humanevents.com/article.php?id=48088>

Our Marxist Wizard of Oz

Obama's not in Kansas anymore.

by *Peter Ferrara*, 14 Dec 2011

...This Luddite analysis fundamentally misconceives the role of technology in a modern economy. Such advancing technology increases worker productivity, and, therefore, wages and standard of living. Technological progress over the decades is why the average American worker in 2000 enjoyed 7 times the standard of living of the average American worker in 1900...

...The deficit in the last budget adopted by Republican Congressional majorities was \$161 billion for fiscal 2007. Today that deficit is nearly 10 times as much. Total federal revenues under Bush soared by nearly 30%, from \$1.991 trillion in 2001 to \$2.568 trillion in 2007. The day the Democrat Congressional majorities took office, January 3, 2007, the unemployment rate was 4.6%. George Bush's economic policies, "the failed policies of the past" in Obama's rhetoric, had set a record of 52 straight months of job creation. What has continued to fail us now is that Obama's own policies, the exact opposite of Reaganomics in every detail, have failed to produce any timely real recovery from the last recession...

The rest: <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/12/14/our-marxist-wizard-of-oz>

Mitt's Moment

He fixes problems; we've got 'em.

by *Holman W. Jenkins Jr.*, 14 Dec 2011

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203430404577096171333039952.html>

Newt versus the Ruling Class

by *L. Brent Bozell III*, 14 Dec 2011

<http://www.humanevents.com/article.php?id=48142>

Harry Morgan—Grownup

The otherwise insufferable *M*A*S*H* was his triumph.

by *Larry Thornberry*, 12 Dec 2011

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/12/12/harry-morgan-grownup>

An appreciation of Richard Epstein's *Why Progressive Institutions are Unsustainable*

Obama's stark progressivism gives voters choice of the century.

by *Charles Kadlec*, 13 Dec 2011

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/charleskadlec/2011/12/12/obamas-stark-progressivism-gives-voters-choice-of-the-century/>

Time Magazine 'Person of the Year.' The Protester?

by *Rick Moran*, 14 Dec 2011

... "Millions of supporters?" Wha? Who? WTF? There were barely 200 Occupy San Francisco protesters at a demonstration last weekend. The big protest planned by the OWS this week—to shut down every port between San Diego and Alaska—fizzled so badly that the press was forced to forget about reporting the original goal. Most ports saw little or no protest activity at all. Only one port was shut down—the Port of Oakland. If they Tea Party had boasted about closing the ports and then have the demonstrations flop as badly as OWS, it would have been headline news...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/12/time_magazine_person_of_the_year_the_protester.html

Don John sez: a real protest looks like **this**.

Regulation for Dummies

Wall Street Journal editorial, 14 Dec 2011

... The evidence is overwhelming that the Obama regulatory surge is one reason the current economic recovery has been so lackluster by historical standards. Rather than nurture an economy trying to rebuild confidence after a financial heart attack, the Administration pushed through its now-famous blitz of liberal policies on health care, financial services, energy, housing, education and student loans, telecom, labor relations, transportation and probably some other industries we've forgotten. Anyone who thinks this has only minimal impact on business has never been in business...

The evidence:

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204770404577082920364818792.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEADTop

Job creators fighting back

by *John Stossel*, 14 Dec 2011

... Politicians rarely understand this. One who learned it too late was Sen. George McGovern. After he left office, he started a small bed-and-breakfast and hit the regulatory wall he helped create. Later, he wrote, "I wish during the years I was in public office I had this firsthand experience about the difficulties businesspeople face. ... We are choking off business opportunity."

More: <http://www.wnd.com/index.php?fa=PAGE.view&pageId=377169>

Adultery, character, and politics II

Clarifying some moral issues.

by *Dennis Prager*, 14 Dec 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/285716/adultery-character-and-politics-ii-dennis-prager?pg=1>

Newt Gingrich commits a capital crime

by *George F. Will*, 13 Dec 2011

Newt Gingrich — the friend of his detractors, to whom he offers serial vindications — provided on Monday redundant evidence for the proposition that he is the least conservative candidate seeking the Republican presidential nomination: He faulted Mitt Romney for committing acts of capitalism...

Here's how: http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/newt-gingrich-commits-a-capital-crime/2011/12/13/gIQAjvVhsO_story.html

Lies, damned lies, and 'fact checking'

The liberal media's latest attempt to control the discourse.

by *Mark Hemingway*, 12 Dec 2011 (Dec 19 issue)

http://www.weeklystandard.com/articles/lies-damned-lies-and-fact-checking_611854.html?page=1

The colossal hypocrisy of Amnesty International.

Arrest Bill Clinton!

by *Marc A. Thiessen*, 12 Dec 2011

http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/arrest-bill-clinton/2011/12/12/gIQACQ7wpO_story.html

Liberal history from Osawatomie Bam

by *Christopher Chantrill*, 13 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/liberal_history_from_osawatomie_bam.html

Voters not buying Obama's bogus inequality talk

by *Ramesh Ponnuru* 12 Dec 2011

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-12-13/voters-not-buying-obama-s-bogus-inequality-talk-ramesh-ponnuru.html>

Air of desperation in Democrats' attempts to roll back voter laws

Oklahoman editorial, 13 Dec 2011

<http://newsok.com/air-of-desperation-in-democrats-attempts-to-roll-back-voter-laws/article/3631452>

This includes two maps of the myriad U.S.-Canada pipelines already in use.

Obama the Keystone Kop

His dithering kills jobs.

by *Deroy Murdock*, 12 Dec 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/285499/obama-keystone-kop-deroy-murdock>

The only conservative at a liberal dinner party

How to counter Democrats' smug assumptions as you break bread together.

by *Belladonna Rogers*, 6 Dec 2011

...“I resent the Democrat Party’s assumption that I vote as a vagino-American...”

More: <http://pjmedia.com/blog/the-only-conservative-at-a-liberal-dinner-party/>

(Hat tip: Ann Marie)

Internet piracy bill: A free speech 'kill switch'

by *Bill Wilson*, *Americans for Limited Government*, 12 Dec 2011

<http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/technology/198687-internet-piracy-bill-a-free-speech-kill-switch>



Actually, health care costs *are* under control

by Deane Waldman, 12 Dec 2011

...As a doctor, I can "charge" whatever I like for doing a heart catheterization procedure in a baby. The actual bill can read \$2,000, \$4,000, or sometimes over \$5,000. Regardless of what you call my price, charge, or bill, I get \$387. That is what the government says it will pay. So the price may seem steep, but the payment is peanuts.

For Medicare, just as for my cath, payments are now lower than the cost of doing business. So if you want to know why your Medicare doctor can no longer see you and is not accepting new patients, it is because she gets paid less by Medicare than her costs to keep the office doors open. How much of health care spending is for **administration and for regulations?** No one knows because no one measures...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/actually_health_care_costs_are_under_control.html

Exactly what is Crony Capitalism, anyway?

by Bill Frezza, 12 Dec 2011

http://www.realclearmarkets.com/articles/2011/12/12/exactly_what_is_crony_capitalism_anyway_99412.html

We're right about the euro—that's why Europe is angry

by Boris Johnson, 12 Dec 2011

...We warned that you would need a kind of central Euro-government to control national budgets and taxation, and that the peoples of Europe wouldn't wear it. Now look. It wasn't the Anglo-Saxon bankers who caused the trouble in the eurozone, Sarkozy *mon ami*. It was the utter failure of the eurozone countries—starting with France, incidentally—to observe the Maastricht rules... They blame David Cameron for "vetoing" a new EU treaty, when really he has done no such thing. It is perfectly open to the other EU countries now to go ahead and form their own new fiscal rules. If they want, they can decide to create an economic government of Europe. They may decide that now is the time—even though electorates are already feeling alienated from the political process—to hand sensitive decisions on tax and spending to unelected bureaucrats. It strikes me that this would be an amazingly dangerous thing to do, since the peoples of this Supra National And Fiscal Union (SNAFU) would rapidly discover that they could no longer remove their government from office...

More: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/columnists/borisjohnson/8950101/Were-right-about-the-euro-thats-why-Europe-is-angry.html>

'God Particle' glimpsed at Hadron

by Rick Moran, 12 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/12/god_particle_glimpsed_at_hadron.html

To his credit

Labour Party Leader Ed Miliband has said this about the Conservative government of Margaret Thatcher (1979-91): "It was right to let people buy their council houses. It was right to cut tax rates...it was right to change the rules on the closed shop, on strikes before ballots. These changes were right, and we were wrong to oppose them at the time."

Voter Fraud for the Complete Idiot

by Jon N. Hall, 11 Dec 2011

A Doonesbury cartoon on a recent Sunday contained a distillation of a current talking point among progressives: "Question: What fraud? Voter fraud is close to non-existent!" Progressives think that if they make the above claim as though it were an indisputable fact, it will become a fact. All they have to do is repeat the claim over and over again until it sticks...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/voter_fraud_for_the_complete_idiot.html

Obama: man on a mission

A profile in cynicism.

by Jonah Goldberg, 9 Dec 2011

...Obama cherry-picks TR's "new nationalism" as a justification for his own agenda and proof that today's Republicans are extreme. After all, was not TR a "Republican son of a wealthy family," as Obama put it? Well, yes, he was. And then, he wasn't. TR left the Republican party to promote his "new nationalism" philosophy and run as a Progressive — a "super socialist," in the words of the *New York Times* in 1913. As a Republican president, Roosevelt had been a "trust buster." As Progressive gadfly, Roosevelt believed in making the trusts bigger, stronger, and more entwined with the federal government...

All of it: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/285342/obama-man-mission-jonah-goldberg>

Malnourished Muppets and the indoctrination of America's children

by Jeannie DeAngelis, 11 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/12/malnourished_muppets_and_the_indoctrination_of_americas_children.html

Islamic Parking Privileges

Baron Bodissey, 11 Dec 2011

The NYPD made a major mistake when they cut some slack for Muslim cab drivers who wanted to attend Friday prayers at a mosque in the Upper West Side of Manhattan...

Includes video: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/12/islamic-parking-privileges.html>

The differences between corporate greed and government greed

by Michael Bargo Jr., 11 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/the_differences_between_corporate_greed_and_government_greed.html

A global gay-rights crusade

National Review editorial, 10 Dec 2011

There is some that is commendable and much that is pernicious in Secretary Clinton's speech Tuesday announcing that the United States will be making "LGBT rights" — that is, the rights of lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgendered persons — "a priority of our foreign policy" and a factor in determining the uses of "foreign assistance."...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/285416/global-gay-rights-crusade-editors>

Holy chutzpah: 3 Jewish heroes of 2011

by Stella Paul, 11 Dec 2011

All is not lost. We live in an age of terrifying anti-Semitism, and so far, the Jewish establishment's only real response has been a competition over who can surrender fastest. But Jewish self-respect is not dead. A few courageous men and women -- barely more than a minyan -- jump out of bed each morning, determined to defend Israel and the Jewish people, combat Islamic outrages, and expose the **Jews in the Basement** -- the craven, self-appointed Jewish grandees...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/holy_chutzpah_3_jewish_heroes_of_2011.html

Britain should pity those still trapped in the euro nightmare

Angela Merkel and Nicolas Sarkozy are engaged in something that has little to do with democracy.

by Janet Daley, 11 Dec 2011

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/financialcrisis/8948267/Britain-should-pity-those-still-trapped-in-the-euro-nightmare.html>

Climate change...120,000 years ago

by Ethel C. Fenig, 10 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/12/climate_change120000_years_ago.html

The NLRB's Boeing Sham

After a union all-clear, the labor board drops its lawsuit.

Wall Street Journal editorial, 10 Dec 2011

...The damage here goes well beyond Boeing, which presumably understands the tradeoffs. The NLRB is exposed as one more federal agency that can't be trusted to make honest decisions. The ability of the 21 right-to-work states, which passed such laws under the 1947 Taft-Hartley Act, to attract businesses from pro-union states will also be eroded. The AFL-CIO may cheer that message, but in practice the result is likely to be that more companies simply send jobs overseas where there's no NLRB... **More:** <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203833104577070572768248242.html>

The ultimate devastating price of government dependency

by Lloyd Marcus, 7 Dec 2011

The devastating price of government dependency. I witnessed it up close and personal in the late '50s, when I was a child. Both of my mom's sisters had five kids each by various men who simply deposited their seed and moved on. Thus, both of my aunts were totally dependent on government. They lived in the projects...

Read on: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/the_ultimate_devastating_price_of_government_dependency.html

Great Britain saves itself by rejecting the EU

The French and Germans may howl with outrage, but David Cameron did the right thing in pulling up the drawbridge to

a continent on the verge of collapse.

by *Niall Ferguson*, 10 Dec 2011

<http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2011/12/09/niall-ferguson-great-britain-saves-itself-by-rejecting-the-eu.html>

Statist Delusions

The bill for cradle-to-grave welfare has come due.

by *Mark Steyn*, 10 Dec 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/285409/statist-delusions-mark-steyn>

Obama's charity capitalism

by *Mickey Kaus*, 7 Dec 2011

<http://dailycaller.com/2011/12/07/obamas-charity-capitalism/?print=1>

One-off Democracy: when the first election is the last

by *Jeff Lipkes*, 10 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/one-off_democracy_when_the_first_election_is_the_last.html

Kristof's dinner with Islamists

by *Jonathan Tobin*, 9 Dec 2011

The New York Times has a long history of publishing disingenuous articles and columns that whitewashed totalitarians and tyrants. It's not easy to top Walter Duranty's Pulitzer Prize-winning lies about Stalin and the terror famine in the Ukraine which took the lives of millions; Herbert Mathews's portrayal of Fidel Castro as a democrat freedom-fighter; or, more recently, Roger Cohen's attempt to depict the Islamist regime in Iran as unthreatening philo-Semites who were not oppressing that country's tiny Jewish remnant. And it must be said that as bad as it was, Nicholas Kristof's column today depicting members of Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood as just an updated Middle Eastern version of "Ozzie and Harriet," falls short of those epic frauds...

More: <http://www.commentarymagazine.com/2011/12/08/kristof-egypt-muslim-brotherhood/>

Science boxes in Barbara Boxer

by *Jeannie DeAngelis*, 10 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/science_boxes_in_barbara_boxer.html

More unsupported hysteria over fracking

Washington Examiner editorial, 9 Dec 2011

<http://washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/editorials/2011/12/here-comes-another-rush-judgment-fracking/1987696>

A probe from Darkest Norway

by *Baron Bodissey*, 9 Dec 2011

<http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/12/probe-from-darkest-norway.html#more>

Climate Corruption 101

by *Claudia Rosett*, 8 Dec 2011

Never mind where you might stand on the question of global warming, global cooling, climate change or plain old weather. If there's one constant to this entire climate debate, it is that in the name of "climate," the United Nations wishes to regulate and tax the economy of the planet — stripping resources from the most productive economies to hand them out as assorted UN bureaucrats deem fit. This is an agenda for global central planning — which, at the extreme, is what the Soviet Union envisioned as the radiant future of mankind, at least until the USSR itself collapsed as a basket case of monstrously misallocated resources, pervaded by the nightmare repression required to enforce such a system. Nonetheless, at the UN this agenda keeps coming up, year after year...

More: <http://pjmedia.com/claudiarosett/climate-corruption-101/?singlepage=true>

On the controversy of John Mearsheimer

Counterpoint editorial, 30 Nov 2011

When, after a long career built on a theory that domestic political relationships had a minimal impact on any state's foreign policy, John Mearsheimer co-wrote *The Israel Lobby*, a popular book alleging the maximal impact of a small cabal on American foreign policy, we were perplexed at the incoherence. When the book was written without accompanying scholarship on the Turkish lobby which has had a hand in the failure to recognize the Armenian Genocide or push for a Kurdish state, the Irish lobby which greatly influenced the American policy in Northern Ireland for decades, or Arab, Chinese, Tibetan, Greek, Indian, or Pakistani lobbies that have all made their mark on American foreign policy, we were left wondering at the motives of his focus. When the book was finally read and its narrative of the Israeli-Arab conflict rested on shoddy history, a mix of long-ago refuted facts (whose falsehood was easily available over Google) and stark errors of omission, we began to question the animus of Professor Mearsheimer...

More: <http://www.chicagocounterpoint.com/archives/423>

The end of religious freedom

In an age when the persecution of Egypt's Coptic Christians is more bloody than ever the bill to continue funding the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom was held up by just one man, Senator Dick Durbin (D-III).

by Phyllis Chesler, 6 Dec 2011

Time has run out for the cause of worldwide religious freedom. On November 18, 2011, America chose not to extend any further lifeline to persecuted religious minorities around the planet. On that day, the U.S. government shut down the work of an important and unique American effort: the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF). Oddly enough, the mainstream media does not seem to have covered this story. I certainly did not know about it. Did you? The only article about this appeared at [CNS News](#)...

More: <http://pjmedia.com/blog/the-end-of-religious-freedom/?singlepage=true>

The coming rift between OWS and the unions: longshoremen reject port blockade

by Zombie, 9 Dec 2011

Monday December 12 is Armageddon Day for the Occupy movement on the West Coast. Or at least it was *supposed* to be Armageddon Day until recent events have somewhat dampened prognostications...

More: <http://pjmedia.com/tatler/2011/12/09/the-coming-rift-between-ows-and-the-unions/?singlepage=true>

Cameron jets home a Tory hero after using veto for the first time to block new euro treaty

(but will Coalition survive fury of the Lib Dems?)

by Nicholas Petche, 9 Dec 2011, 1827 GMT

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2071952/Eurozone-crisis-David-Cameron-vetoes-EU-treaty-save-euro.html?ITO=1490>

A Paleo-Conservative Guide to the British Empire

by H.W. Crocker, 9 Dec 2011

Don John sez: Allah is very different from the God of the Jews and Christians. And I support the right of animals to bleed Muslims to death.

Creeping Halal

by *William Sullivan*, 9 Dec 2011

...Animal rights activists opposed it because "research suggests that animals can die a slow painful death" as a result of the bleeding halal requires, primarily because the animals are often not stunned prior to the act. Others, however, had a more **religious objection**. Over 10,000 Christians signed a petition that called for proper labeling, citing "reservations about eating meat from animals that are bled to death while an Islamic prayer is recited." Church official Alison Ruoff suggested that "there is a lot of fear about upsetting Muslims but as Christians you have to stand up for Christian values. Because we are unwittingly eating halal meat, we are spreading the practice of sharia law."...

Read the rest: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/creeping_halal.html

Obama's gay rights pander

by *Abe Greenwald*, 8 Dec 2011

...At the end of this year, the United States will cease to be a military presence in Iraq. Here's whose influence will grow in Iraq once the U.S. leaves: Al-Qaeda, whose **new leader once shot** a male teenage rape victim in the head for the "crime" of homosexuality. You read that right. The boy was first deemed gay for having been raped and then killed for being gay. Who else stays on in Iraq after the pro-LGBT president has pulled out American forces? Iran, world leader in the public hanging of gay teens...

...Although George W. Bush is vilified by many in the gay community for talking about the sanctity of marriage, the freedom agenda he instituted did more for global human rights—gay or otherwise—than any speech or memo that might warm your heart. Sorry if it addressed freedom in the broad and embarrassing language that actually inspires action and not the chic shorthand of identity advocacy...So, all the gay-rights talk rings a bit hollow, as the people talking are the very same ones who campaigned for an end to America's post-9/11 freedom agenda...

More: <http://www.commentarymagazine.com/2011/12/08/obama-gay-rights/>

Holder, Blago, Richardson: Triangle of Sleaze

A rough week for the Obama administration's corruptocracy.

by *Michelle Malkin*, 9 Dec 2011

<http://michellemalkin.com/2011/12/09/holder-blago-richardson-triangle-of-sleaze/>

Don't 'drill for roads'

Two reasonable policies shouldn't intersect.

by *Marc Scribner*, 9 Dec 2011

...During the 35 years that it took to build the Interstate system, fuel taxes provided an adequate source of pay-as-you-go funding. As a result, America built its modern superhighways without adding to the national debt. In 1982, Congress authorized that a portion of fuel-tax revenue be dedicated to mass transit. It was at this time that the user-pays/user-benefits bond began to weaken. Fast forward to 2011, and the Highway Trust Fund is facing insolvency...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/285205/don-t-drill-roads-marc-scribner>

Is Gallmann's memoir the source for Obama's?

by *Jack Cashill*, 9 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/is_gallmanns_memoir_the_source_for_obamas.html

Some history: how the U.S. income tax started, and how it has "progressed."

FDR's class warfare: a tutorial for Obama

Not that he needs any further lessons from the master of confiscatory taxation.

by *Burton Folsom, Jr. & Anita Folsom, December 2011*

<http://spectator.org/archives/2011/12/08/fdrs-class-warfare-a-tutorial>

We pay for 'free' health care, Obama gets the thanks

by *Robert Tracinski, 7 Dec 2011*

...What struck me about Ward's article is that she is a lot like me. She is in her forties with two kids. Me too. She and her spouse are both self-employed and long ago stopped having their health insurance paid for by a big, beneficent employer. Same here. She has gone without health insurance for years, taking the risk that her medical bills would be less expensive than the high monthly premiums she was paying. Been there, done that. She and her husband have both seen their businesses hit by the recession. Ditto. There is only one really big difference between us: I'm paying for her health care. How am I paying for it? Because I'm one of the suckers who has kept on paying his health insurance premiums, making provision for my medical needs *before* I get sick...

More: http://www.realclearmarkets.com/articles/2011/12/07/we_pay_for_free_health_care_obama_gets_the_thanks_99406.html

Rand Paul, libertarian extremist

by *Andrew C. McCarthy, 3 Dec 2011*

The Tea Party's limited-government, constitutional heart is in the right place. But it needs much better guidance about how the Constitution works in wartime...

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/284698/rand-paul-libertarian-extremist-andrew-c-mccarthy>

Obama in Osawatomie

Big Government cannot be reconciled with "fair play."

by *John Hayward, 6 Dec 2011*

<http://www.humanevents.com/article.php?id=47974>

Obama's Kansas Declaration

by *J.K. Gregg, 8 Dec 2011*

Invoking former President Theodore Roosevelt, President Barack Obama has endorsed a political philosophy antithetical to Jeffersonian liberty...The President made the regent argument that the "rugged individualism" that characterizes laissez-faire capitalism has "never worked"...This argument—that free-market capitalism is incongruent with "a real democracy"—stems from the most profoundly insidious premises...

The twisted, fascist logic of Woodrow Wilson, Herbert Croly, et al.:

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/obamas_kansas_declaration.html

Five big lies in Obama's economic fairness speech

by *Investor's Business Daily, 8 Dec 2011*

<http://news.investors.com/Article/594075/201112071902/obama-reruns-5-lies-in-fairness-speech.htm>

Organizing the Takers against the Makers

Obama unveils his campaign strategy for 2012.

by *Peter Ferrara, 7 Dec 2011*

...Let me help bring Teixeira and Halpin out of the smoky haze as to what that means. Virginia and North Carolina will not be in play in 2012. It is New York and New Jersey that will be in play...I think in 2012 Obama will finally deliver on his 2008 rhetoric of uniting the American people, behind a Gingrich/Rubio ticket...

...The liberal Washington establishment is still in the mode of embracing the Occupy Revolutionaries. The

bureaucrats at CBO chime in with a **new study** claiming to show that "The share of income received by the top 1% grew from about 8% in 1979 to over 17% in 2007." The perennially out of touch *Washington Post* columnist Eugene Robinson **says right on cue** that "this jaw-dropping report [shows] why the Occupy Wall Street protests have struck such a nerve."

These people can't count. Alan Reynolds **explains** in yesterday's *Wall Street Journal* why. The CBO study estimated incomes from individual income tax returns. And income on those returns was not the same in 1979 as in 2007. Because of the Reagan revolution in tax policy reducing the top individual income tax rate from 70 percent in 1979 to 28 percent in 1986, billions in business income switched to reporting on individual tax returns rather than corporate tax returns. So the top 1% weren't earning any bigger share of income than before. They were just reporting it on a different tax form...

More: <http://spectator.org/archives/2011/12/07/organizing-the-takers-against>

A GOP presidential candidate must seize the Center to win

It's simple math, backed up by the historical record: no conservative can win the White House without moderate votes.
by *Michael Medved*, 7 Dec 2011

What sort of fool or fantasist would ever suggest that "Republicans need a centrist candidate in 2012"? I certainly reject the notion of a "**centrist candidate**," though some angry conservatives have misinterpreted my arguments (and misquoted my words) to accuse me of this fatuous heresy... Please note: I argue that a conservative candidate must earn moderate votes in order to win, not that a centrist nominee is the only formula for victory...

More: <http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2011/12/06/a-gop-presidential-candidate-must-seize-the-center-to-win.html>

Ten Years to Greece

by *John Stossel*, 6 Dec 2011

When Greece blew up, its government debt was 126 percent of gross domestic product. Ours is on track to exceed that in about 10 years...

<http://www.wnd.com/index.php?pageId=374897>

Obama promises to save the middle class by enslaving it

Nothing says middle-class triumph like more regulation, unionism, cronyism and endless spending.

by *David Harsanyi*, 7 Dec 2011

<http://reason.com/archives/2011/12/07/obama-promises-to-save-the-middle-class>

The Richmond Tea Party audit and the First Amendment

It looks like the government bullies in Richmond picked on the wrong victims.

by *Mark J. Fitzgibbons*, 7 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/the_richmond_tea_party_audit_and_the_first_amendment.html

An ally no more

by *Caroline Glick*, 5 Dec 2011

...When taken together with Clinton's and Panetta's speeches, Gutman's remarks expose a distressing intellectual and moral trend that clearly dominates the Obama administration's foreign policy discourse. All three speeches share a common rejection of objective reality in favor of a fantasy. In the administration's fantasy universe, Israel is the only actor on the world stage. Its detractors, whether in the Islamic world or Europe, are mere objects. They are bereft of judgment or responsibility for their actions. There are two possible explanations for this state of affairs—and they are not mutually exclusive...

More: <http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Columnists/Article.aspx?id=248256>

Obama and the Hezbollah terrorist

by David B. Rivkin, jr. and Charles D. Stimson, 7 Dec 2011

Call it the triumph of ideology over national interest and honor. Having dithered for nearly three years, the Obama administration has only a few weeks to bring to justice a Hezbollah terrorist who slaughtered five U.S. soldiers in Iraq in 2007. Unfortunately, it appears more likely that Ali Musa Daqduq will instead be transferred to Iran, to a hero's welcome...

Read on: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970204903804577082383203542526.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEADTop

Better health through consumer choice

by Ken Cuccinelli, 6 Dec 2011

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2011/dec/5/better-health-through-consumer-choice/>

Beat Back Barack

by William L. Gensert, 6 Dec 2011

There has been much talk lately about the need for the Republican presidential nominee to move to the center. This is a mistake. The only way to beat Barack Obama is to oppose him rigorously, relentlessly, and without remorse... Nothing should be off the table... Barack Obama has provided, in less than three years, plenty of ammunition to do battle against his most dismal presidency. The Republican candidate cannot take the high road like John McCain and refuse to fight. Barack Obama will not be constrained; he will use whatever he can against whoever is his opponent, without reservation, including every underhanded trick and lie at his disposal.

The legacy media will not only support him in this, but they will be complicit in his dirty politics... Barack Obama is the ultimate of bullies. Yet, like most bullies, it is the challenge he fears, the truth he despises. The ultimate terror for Barack Obama is that the world will see who he really is: a petty man of little talent and few gifts. The Republican candidate needs to show the world this truth.

More http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/beat_back_barack.html

Paul Krugman's big government prescription for Europe proves that US liberals are stuck in a time warp

by Nile Gardiner, 6 Dec 2011

...Krugman and US liberal elites remain firmly in denial on the debt question, stuck in a time warp even as most of the free world has moved on. If this crisis is not caused by borrowing that markets find unsustainable, then what is it caused by? Their foolhardy solutions for the European economic crisis as well as their prescriptions for America's financial mess—more government spending and of course borrowing—simply beggar belief. The building up of towering levels of debt is at the very heart of the economic turmoil engulfing Europe, and it threatens to bring down the US economy as well. All of the major European economies that are now in trouble have two things in common: membership of the eurozone and staggering public debts...

Read it all: <http://blogs.telegraph.co.uk/news/nilegardiner/100121576/paul-krugman%E2%80%99s-big-government-prescription-for-europe-proves-that-us-liberals-are-stuck-in-a-time-warp/>

Government gone wild

by Monty Pelerin, 6 Dec 2011

...The U.S. is an example of what is considered a mixed economy. Government runs some programs or sectors. Comparisons of efficiency at the federal level are difficult because there are virtually no private counterparts.

At the local level, direct comparisons are available. Publicly run and privately run services like garbage collection, transit systems, etc. often coexist among neighboring municipalities. These comparisons generally show public services to be higher-priced and lower in quality. Some studies have shown inefficiencies in the neighborhood of 100%—that is, private service are half the cost of public.

More devastating than direct efficiency comparisons is **the tendency for government to eventually bankrupt**

everything it manages, including itself. Amtrak, the Postal Service, Social Security, Medicare, Fannie and Freddie, FHA, FDIC, FSLIC, Student Loans, etc. are some examples. Major government initiatives are likewise judged failures. The War on Poverty, the Farm Program, the War on Drugs, etc. have wasted trillions of dollars and produced no improvements in terms of their intended objectives. Many programs actually made matters worse...

Read the rest: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/government_gone_wild.html

Debt and Taxes: Settled Science

by *Randall Hoven, 6 Dec 2011*

...It all sounds so simple and unassailable: debt is the disease and taxes are the cure. Colin Powell calls it algebra. However, the hidden assumption behind all those syllogisms is *everything else equal*. Unfortunately, everything else does not stay equal. Believe it or not, humans tend to change their economic behavior when you change their economic circumstances. (Hard to believe, I know.) To understand that, one needs to go beyond the *Music Man's* "think method" and look at real-world data. The first syllogism, that raising tax rates yields more revenue, can be demolished by one **simple graph**: the federal government's top tax rates and tax revenues over time. The top rate has varied between 28% and 92%, yet total federal revenues have been consistently about 18% of GDP since World War II. For those who refuse to think for themselves and need a credentialed authority, I give you an **academic study** saying the same thing: the **Laffer Curve** is real. Science says...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/debt_and_taxes_settled_science.html

Now it's 'Obama the irrelevant'

by *Gene Healy, 6 Dec 2011*

<http://campaign2012.washingtonexaminer.com/article/now-its-obama-irrelevant/238921>

Another Christian martyred in Pakistan

by *Nina Shea, 4 Dec 2011*

Another Christian in Pakistan has been murdered, and the local Catholic Church is calling her a "martyr of the faith." The 18-year-old Amariah Masih (also reported as Mariah Manisha), a Catholic girl from the village of Tehsil Samundari, near Faisalabad, in Punjab province, was shot dead on November 27, after putting up resistance when a Muslim man abducted her with the intent to rape her. Fr. Khalid Rashid Asi, General Vicar of the Catholic diocese of Faisalabad **told** Fides, the Catholic news agency, that "cases like these occur daily in Punjab. It is very sad; Christians, often girls, are helpless victims."

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/corner/284856/another-christian-martyred-pakistan-nina-shea>

The Political Persecution of Elisabeth Sabaditsch-Wolff

by *Ned May, 30 Nov to 2 Dec 2011* **Part 1** **Part 2** **Part 3**

F*ck these people.

Report: Obama, UN to tax US for Green Climate Fund

by *Joel Gehrke, 5 Dec 2011*

<http://campaign2012.washingtonexaminer.com/blogs/beltway-confidential/report-un-tax-americans-green-climate-fund/237466>

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 Kernen

Reckless Endangerment by Gretchen Morgenson and Joshua Rosner

This is why I said, on the day after 9/11, that those America-pitying Europeans could take their flowers and candles, and shove them.

The banality of everything

by Baron Bodissey, 3 Dec 2011

...At some point between the death of John F. Kennedy in 1963 and the death of Princess Diana in 1997, the accepted form of public mourning shifted away from formal ceremony using time-honored rituals. The solemn state funeral gave way to Elton John and stuffed animals. The Book of Common Prayer was discarded and replaced by schlock, kitsch, and hackneyed sentimentality. Inspiring oratory has all but disappeared from public occasions. Politicians and preachers deliver bromides. We are regaled with clichés and bombarded with truisms. We are, in a word, awash in banality...

...One does not have to approve of vigilante action to recognize that the pitchforks-and-torches response is more rational and more sane than the candlelight vigil. Knee-jerk sentimentality in the face of deliberately-inflicted mass slaughter is evidence of a deep mental dysfunction at the collective level. Our societies seem to have lost the ability to respond effectively to forces that threaten them. In immunological terms, we no longer produce antibodies that will engulf and destroy deadly invaders... The form of these new rituals is dictated by the feminized zeitgeist, which demands the inhibition of all expressions of negative or violent feelings. The shaking of fists is out. The laying on of flower bouquets is in. We have become a teddy-bear people...

More: <http://gatesofvienna.blogspot.com/2011/12/banality-of-everything.html>

O's Legacy: Unemployment rate now meaningless

by C. Edmund Wright, 5 Dec 2011

...What the Obama administration has done is simply shrink the definition of the "labor force" by pretending that hundreds of thousands of non-working adults are no longer in existence for all intents and purposes...

...Even Santelli's regular antagonist on CNBC, liberal economist Steve Liesman, admitted that this was the case—albeit in gentler terms: "The workforce declined by 315 thousand and that makes it easier to get to the lower unemployment rate." Uh, ya think? Now, just where the hell did those 315 thousand people go? They have given up hope, so the administration is just pretending that they aren't there anymore.

Actually, it's worse than that. A closer look at the figures shows that some 435 thousand non-working adults have been statistically vaporized, while the newly employed 125 thousand folks are counted, equaling the net loss of adult workers of over 300 thousand. Translation: the administration lied to us to make itself look good. That big Obama supporter Steve Liesman is admitting this on an NBC network is significant. Which is why I believe this cooking of the books may be reaching a critical mass of ineffectiveness...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/os_legacy_unemployment_rate_now_meaningless.html

The Ancient Virtues and Modern Sins

by Victor Davis Hanson, 4 Dec 2011

<http://www.victorhanson.com/articles/hanson120411.html>

Europe's predicament is similar to ours

by Robert Samuelson, 5 Dec 2011

...The modern welfare state has reached a historic reckoning. As a political institution, it hasn't adapted to change. Politics and economics are at loggerheads. Vast populations in Europe and America expect promised benefits and, understandably, resent any hint that they will be cut. Elected politicians respond accordingly. But the resulting inertia poses an economic threat, one already realized in Europe. As deficits or taxes rise, the risk is that economic instability will increase, growth will decline, or both. Paying promised benefits becomes harder. Or austerity becomes unavoidable.

The paradox is that the welfare state, designed to improve security and dampen social conflict, now looms as an

engine for insecurity, conflict and disappointment...

More: http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-welfare-states-reckoning/2011/12/02/gIQAI1xrTO_story.html

The Chicago Tribune reveals the Democrat 2012 pitch to independents

by Lee Cary, 5 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/the_chicago_tribune_reveals_the_democrat_2012_pitch_to_independents.html

Harry Potter and the Islamization of America

by William A. Levinson, 4 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/harry_potter_and_the_islamization_of_america.html

He presents compelling arguments against both of them, and actually touts **Jon Huntsman's** program as the most conservative.

Romney and Gingrich, from bad to worse

by George F. Will, 2 Dec 2011

Fascinating: http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/romney-and-gingrich-from-bad-to-worse/2011/12/02/gIQArsM3LO_story.html

Obama throwing Israel under the bus again

by Richard N. Wertz, 4 Dec 2011

...If this arrogant, ignorant no-goodnik had been President in the 1930s or 40s, he'd no doubt have demanded that Chaim Weizsmann or the Jewish Agency go negotiate with Adolf Hitler.

<http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/12/obama.html>

A very insightful analysis of why a united Europe was never going to be possible.

Eurozone crisis: the US has to ride to the rescue once again

Meanwhile, the politicians of Europe seem determined to make themselves irrelevant.

by Janet Daley, 4 Dec 2011

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/financialcrisis/8933236/Eurozone-crisis-the-US-has-to-ride-to-the-rescue-once-again.html>

Global warming alarmists try again

Global warming devotees gather for U.N. conference to demand money from developed nations, even as more and more countries defect from "the cause."

by Mark Landsbaum, 4 Dec 2011

<http://www.ocreger.com/opinion/global-329709-warming-climate.html>

George Mason on how governments can become oppressive

by Lee Cary, 4 Dec 2011

In April 1775, founder George Mason (1725-1792) wrote how a government established by free people could, over time, become oppressive...

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/12/george_mason_on_how_governments_can_become_oppressive.html

One Nation Under God

America was founded on the principle of equality under God, for better or worse.

by *Jeremy Lott*, 2 Dec 2011

<http://www.splicetoday.com/politics-and-media/one-nation-under-god>

New Fast and Furious memo backs up whistleblower testimony

by *M. Catharine Evans*, 3 Dec 2011

...One thing for sure—this one's not going away despite big media's silent complicity in the cover-up...

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/12/new_fast_and_furious_memo_backs_up_whistleblower_testimony.html

Egypt's Descent

Two-thirds of the Arab world's largest nation is voting for sharia.

by *Mark Steyn*, 3 Dec 2011

I've been alarmed by the latest polls. No, not from Iowa and New Hampshire, although they're unnerving enough. It's the polls from Egypt... The Kingdom of Egypt in the three decades before the 1952 coup was flawed and ramshackle and corrupt, but it was closer to a free-ish pluralist society than anything in the years since. In 1923, its finance minister was a man called Joseph Cattai, a member of parliament, and a Jew. Couldn't happen today...

More: <http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/284773/egypt-s-descent-mark-steyn>

What the big drop in the unemployment rate means for Obama's reelection

by *James Pethokoukis*, 2 Dec 2011

Despite a sharp drop in the U-3 unemployment rate last month to 8.6 percent from 9.0 percent, there was no triumphalism coming from the Obama White House this morning. As economic adviser Alan Krueger wrote on the [White House blog](#) about the November employment numbers...

More: <http://blog.american.com/2011/12/what-the-big-drop-in-the-unemployment-rate-means-for-obamas-reelection/>

Choking on Obamacare

by *George F. Will*, 2 Dec 2011

...In an economic climate of increasing uncertainties, Puzder says, one certainty is that many businesses now marginally profitable will disappear when Obamacare causes that margin to disappear. A second certainty is that "employers everywhere will be looking to reduce labor content in their business models as Obamacare makes employees unambiguously more expensive."

According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, by 2008 the cost of federal regulations had reached \$1.75 trillion. That was 14 percent of national income unavailable for job-creating investments. And that was more than 11,000 regulations ago...

More: http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/choking-on-obamacare/2011/12/02/gIQAKDCXMO_story.html

UN envoy says US isn't protecting the rights of OWS protestors

by *Rick Moran*, 3 Dec 2011

The poor, confused, addle-brained numbskull...

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/12/un_envoy_says_us_isnt_protecting_the_rights_of_ows_protestors.html

Mall rats can't bring about the Wealth of Nations

by *Caroline Baum*, 2 Dec 2011

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-12-02/mall-rats-can-t-bring-about-the-wealth-of-nations-caroline-baum.html>

Chicago corruption trials and the Sounds of Silence

by Larry Bell, 2 Dec 2011

Barack Obama's and Rod Blagojevich's convicted felon fund-raiser, Tony Rezko, has recently been sentenced to ten years minus 44 months for time served in jail for wide-ranging corruption. Many people would like to ask him about his connections to others who knew—even participated in—practices that helped to get him planted in the pokey. They are also curious about why he was never subpoenaed to testify at trials of some of those who were subsequently convicted of corrupt associations with him, including former Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/chicago_corruption_trials_and_the_sounds_of_silence.html

And this Comment by canuck: Thought I was reading the Onion when the statement "Fitz(gerald) is broadly regarded as an upstanding, nonpartisan prosecutor" appeared in the text...

The Gathering Storm

Pat Condell, 29 Nov 2011

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

I got 15 kids & 3 babydaddys—someone's gonna pay for me & my kids!!!

The saga of The Entitled Angel Adams.

NightwingBMV1, 23 Nov 2011

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bavou_SEj1E&feature=player_embedded

Obama and the Occupoopers

by James Lewis, 2 Dec 2011

...The radical left has finally found its own perfect metaphor. Let's hope the United States doesn't have to step in it twice: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/12/obama_and_the_occupoopers.html

Dreams From My President

by Randall Hoven, 1 Dec 2011

While others try to divine what really goes on in [the mind of Barack Obama](#), all I know is what he says and what he does. Thanks to *The Daily Caller*, we now have one of the best summaries of Obama's philosophy ever caught on tape, uttered by the man himself, and without a teleprompter. He wants to quash our dreams and replace them with his...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/12/dreams_from_my_president.html

Ayers owns up to Obama fundraiser

by Jack Cashill, 1 Dec 2011

http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/12/ayers_owns_up_to_obama_fundraiser.html

A Tale of Two Surges

More troops and better tactics aren't enough in Afghanistan.

by Victor Davis Hanson, 1 Dec 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/284515/tale-two-surges-victor-davis-hanson>

The Happy Meal Ban flops

The law reveals the motivations behind the nanny state.

by Jeff Stier, 1 Dec 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/284509/happy-meal-ban-flops-jeff-stier>

Andy Stern: In praise of Communist China

by Rick Moran, 1 Dec 2011

Oh, the irony! If former SEIU Thug-in-chief Andy Stern tried to set up a union independent of the Chinese government, he would be thrown in prison for a very long time...

More: http://www.americanthinker.com/blog/2011/12/andy_stern_in_praise_of_communist_china.html

Methanol Wins

It's time to open up the Open Road with H.R. 1687.

by Robert Zubrin, 1 Dec 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/articles/284560/methanol-wins-robert-zubrin>

Is the Fed pursuing our interest or banks' interests?

by Kevin D. Williamson 1 Dec 2011

<http://www.nationalreview.com/exchequer/284557/fed-pursuing-our-interest-or-banks-interests>