

Eye on the World

March 2, 2019

This compilation of material for "Eye on the World" is presented as a service to the Churches of God. The views stated in the material are those of the writers or sources quoted by the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the members of the Church of God Big Sandy. The following articles were posted at churchofgodbigandy.com for the weekend of March 2, 2019.

Compiled by Dave Havar

Luke 21:34-36—"But take heed to yourselves, lest your souls be weighed down with self-indulgence, and drunkenness, or the anxieties of this life, and that day come on you suddenly, like a falling trap; for it will come on all dwellers on the face of the whole earth. But beware of slumbering; and every moment pray that you may be fully strengthened to escape from all these coming evils, and to take your stand in the presence of the Son of Man" (Weymouth New Testament).



An article titled "Pope Compares Child Sex Abuse to 'Human Sacrifice' " was posted at bbc.com on Feb. 24, 2019. Following is the article.

Pope Francis has promised concrete action to tackle child sex abuse at the end of a Roman Catholic Church summit on paedophilia.

Clergy guilty of abuse were "tools of Satan," the Pope said, pledging to face every case with "utmost seriousness."

Child sex abuse, he said, reminded him of the ancient religious practice of child sacrifice in pagan rites.

Bishops would now review and strengthen their guidelines to prevent abuse and punish perpetrators, he added.

The Pope spoke largely in general terms, but victims and survivors of abuse will call for detailed practical steps to be announced, says the BBC's Vatican correspondent, James Reynolds.

What did the Pope say?

"I am reminded of the cruel religious practice, once widespread in certain cultures, of sacrificing human beings—frequently children—in pagan rites," he said at the end of a four-day summit held in the Vatican.

“The inhumanity of the worldwide phenomenon becomes even more serious and more scandalous in the Church, because it is in contrast with its moral authority and its ethical credibility.

“The consecrated person, chosen by God to guide souls to salvation, lets himself be subjugated by his own human frailty, or by his own illness, thus becoming a tool of Satan. In the abuses, we see the hand of evil that does not spare even the innocence of children.”

He said victims would now be the priority and promised an end to cover-ups, saying all abusers would be brought to justice.

He also stressed child sexual abuse was a universal problem—“a widespread phenomenon in all cultures and societies.”

What happened at the summit?

The unprecedented conference—called Protection of Minors in the Church—was attended by the heads of all national bishops’ conferences from more than 130 countries.

They were handed a roadmap of suggestions on how to handle abuse, such as drawing up mandatory codes of conduct for priests, training people to spot abuse and informing police.

Those gathered at the Vatican also heard testimonies from victims—who mostly remained anonymous—telling stories of abuse and cover-up.

One woman from Africa said she had been forced to have three abortions after being abused for years as a teenager by a priest who refused to use contraception.

Another victim from Asia said he had been molested more than 100 times.

How much pressure is the Pope under?

When he was elected in 2013, he called for “decisive action” on the issue, but critics say he has not done enough to hold to account bishops who allegedly covered up abuse.

Thousands of people are thought to have been abused by priests over many decades, and the Church has been accused of covering up crimes around the world.

Survivors say new safeguarding protocols are needed to protect minors.

Pope Francis is under serious pressure to provide leadership and generate workable solutions to what is the most pressing crisis facing the modern Church—one which some say has left its moral authority in tatters.



An article by Joyce Karam titled “Saudi Arabia Names Princess Reema Bint Bandar As It’s First Female Ambassador” was posted at thenational.ae on Feb. 24, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

Saudi Arabia has appointed Princess Reema bint Bandar as its diplomatic representative to the US—the first female ambassador in the history of the kingdom.

In a series of royal decrees issued by Saudi Arabia late on Saturday [Feb. 23], Riyadh named its current envoy to Washington, Prince Khalid bin Salman, as deputy minister of defence with the ranking of minister, in addition to allocating a bonus of a month's salary to soldiers fighting to the south at the Saudi border with Yemen.

Princess Reema is familiar with US politics and society, having studied at US universities and lived in Washington when her father, Prince Bandar, was ambassador.

Princess Reema's appointment is a legacy affair. Her father is one of the grandchildren of the founder of Saudi Arabia, King Abdulaziz.

Prince Bandar had an illustrious career as a Saudi official who, along with being the secretary general of the National Security Council and director general of the Saudi Intelligence Agency, was the kingdom's ambassador to the US from 1983 to 2005. He retired in 2015.

The princess comes from an entrepreneurial background, and has chaired and co-founded initiatives since returning to Saudi Arabia in 2005.

She serves as president of the mass participation federation and deputy of development and planning for the Saudi sports authority.

She was the first woman to assume these positions, and has spoken publicly about challenges and social barriers she had to defy on a regular basis to do her job.

Princess Reema also worked as an adviser at the office of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

Among her achievements is working alongside the Ministry of Education to establish sports education for girls in schools and the participation of women in many sports competitions.

During her work she has championed women empowerment in the kingdom and encouraged the reform programme in Prince Mohammed's Vision 2030.

The new ambassador visited Washington last year and spoke extensively at research institutes and think tanks about the need to integrate Saudi women fully into the workforce.

Princess Reema is diplomatic, fluent in English and Arabic and is expected to take up the position soon.

Despite that, she is quite critical of western media's perception of Saudi society.

"You ask us to change but then when we begin to exhibit change you come to us with cynicism," she said during the last World Economic Forum.

"And I don't know how to explain how destructive that is when you wake up every morning and you go into the office and you're motivating people to make a change for their community.

"We're so thrilled and so excited. Then the article comes out and it says "This was fabulous, but . . ." Why but? Do you say that to anyone else?"

Princess Reema co-founded Yibreen, a women's day gym and spa, and was a former executive at Alfa International and Harvey Nichols in Riyadh.

She received her bachelor of arts from Mount Vernon College at George Washington University in 1999 and was the president of the Saudi Federation for Community Sports.

She launched the 10ksa initiative, which holds the Guinness World Record for making the world's largest pink ribbon, symbolising the fight against breast cancer.

Princess Reema was chosen as 16th in the Forbes Middle East magazine for the 200 most powerful Arab women.



"Eye on the World" comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which are considered international. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

■ An article by Jason Horowitz and Elisabetta Povoledo titled "Vatican's Secret Rules for Catholic Priests Who Have Children" was posted at nytimes.com on Feb. 18, 2019.

■ An article by Nasser Karimi titled "Iran Launches Cruise Missile From Submarine During Drill" was posted at apnews.com on Feb. 24, 2019.

■ An article by Ben Hubbard and Daniel E. Sanger titled "Mohammad Javad Zarif, Iran's Foreign Minister, Says He Is Resigning" was posted at nytimes.com on Feb. 25, 2019.

■ A Reuters article titled "Iran's Rouhani Rejects Resignation of Foreign Minister Zarif" was posted at reuters.com on Feb. 27, 2019.

■ An article by Sahidul Hasan Khokon titled "Attempt to Hijack Dubai-Bound Plane in Bangladesh Foiled, Suspect Killed" was posted at indiatoday.com on Feb. 24, 2019.

■ A Reuters article by Fayaz Bukhari and Alasdair Pal "More Than 100 Separatists Detained in Kashmir in Pre-Election Crackdown" was posted at reuters.com on Feb. 23, 2019.

■ An article by Riaz Khan and Aijaz Hussain titled "Tensions Escalate As Indian Airstrike Hits Inside Pakistan" was posted at apnews.com on Feb. 26, 2019.

- A Reuters article by Abu Arqam Naqash and Sanjeev Miglani titled “India Launches Air Strike in Pakistan; Islamabad Denies Militant Camp Hit” was posted at reuters.com on Feb. 26, 2019.
- An article titled “India-Pakistan Clash Intensifies As Airstrikes Reportedly Are Launched [by Both Nations]” was posted at cnbc.com on Feb. 27, 2019.
- A Reuters article titled “Pakistan Claims It Shot Down Two Indian Jets” was posted at yahoo.com on Feb. 27, 2019.
- An article titled “Pakistan Shoots Down Indian Warplanes, Says Indian Mortar Shells Killed Six Civilians in Kashmir” was posted at yahoo.com on Feb. 27, 2019.
- An article by Patrick Goodenough titled “Defiant Turkey to Go Ahead With Buying Russian Missile System, Despite US Opposition” was posted at cnsnews.com on Feb. 22, 2019.
- An article by Josie Ensor titled “Saudi Crown Prince Defends China’s Right to Put Uighur Muslims in Concentration Camps” was posted at telegraph.co.uk on Feb. 22, 2019.
- A Reuters article titled “Magnitude 7.5 Quake Hits Peru-Ecuador Border Region” was posted at reuters.com on Feb. 22, 2019.
- An article by Zamira Rahim titled “Venezuela: At Least 100 Soldiers ‘Flee to Colombia’ As Two Killed and Hundreds Injured in Humanitarian Aid Clashes” was posted at independent.co.uk on Feb. 24, 2019.
- An article by Nosheen Iqbal titled “It’s Cool to Spool Again As the Cassette Returns on a Wave of Nostalgia [in the U.K.]” was posted at theguardian.com on Feb. 23, 2019.



An article by Katie Pavlich titled “When Murder Is Easy” was posted at town-hall.com on Feb. 11, 2019. Following is the article.

Blood spilled first is more stunning than blood spilled second. Today, abortion is the primary type of murder that no longer shocks Americans. Why? Because we have—collectively—committed murder so frequently. Women accept and even laud abortion while men and religious figures have turned their heads.

We all need to recover a healthy dose of shock when an American doctor kills a sweet baby girl or boy with a fully developed heart, brain and soul—for profit.

“No one has benefited more from our thriving economy than women, who have filled 58% of the newly-created jobs last year!”

In giddy elation, Democratic congresswomen wearing white jackets leapt to their feet, fist-pumped the air and cheered in unison after President Trump described the current economic boon for their gender.

On Tuesday [Feb. 5] night, that is. By Wednesday morning, liberals were quick to “correct the record,” and claim—as The Associated Press did: “The increase [of females in the workplace] is due to population growth—and not something Trump can credit to any of his policies.”

Such broken logic.

Trump’s policies—and those of prolife politicians before him—that protect life absolutely are responsible for more women in the workplace if the surge is due to “population growth.” On the other hand, Democrats are pushing policies that have and will continue to reduce the number of women, and men, in our population.

Two in five pregnancies end by abortion in New York City alone. And Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo increased the odds that more pregnancies will be terminated in New York City by signing the “Reproductive Health Act,” which will allow abortion at birth, including by certain non-doctor medical employees.

“Don’t stand between a woman and her doctor!” Democrats told us for years. They just did.

Blood-red colored coats would indeed have been more appropriate apparel for the congresswomen claiming false credit for empowering women to thrive in America.

Mothers against life

Our pro-life President is hounded by mothers and even bishops for his efforts to prioritize the health of pregnant women and innocent babies over unvetted immigrants, many with proven criminal records.

Hollywood star Ashton Kutcher recently stood up for life. Whereas clergy (think Bishop Roger Foys, who has since apologized) loudly chastised young men for supporting President Trump at a pro-life rally. And mother-of-four, Rep. Kathy Tran, introduced legislation in Virginia to sanction abortion at full term and during birth. (Perhaps her reasoning is that if a baby cannot cry “Me too!” it is not a victim.)

Mothers and grandmothers who hold blatantly anti-life views (except, apparently, regarding their own families) are announcing 2020 presidential runs:

- Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY): mother of two
- Sen. Kamala Harris (D-CA): step-mother of two
- Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA): mother of two, grandmother of three
- And pro-abortion House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) recently boasted more maturity than President Trump because: “I’m a mother of five, grandmother of nine.” (Using her logic, Trump—who himself has exactly five children and nine grandchildren—is very mature indeed. But no one ever accused Pelosi of using logic.)

“When people ask me, oh, isn’t it exciting, to be on the floor of the House and to be a member of Congress?” I say, “It’s wonderful, but it’s nothing like having a newborn baby,” Pelosi recently told TIME. “My greatest accomplishment is my family.”

If only Pelosi empowered other women—alive and unborn—to feel the same joy and accomplishment.

No nurturers without protectors

Women are natural nurturers and social role models. Women ought to be last in any society to clamor for death. We have wombs; men have testosterone. But in America, women are loudest in their support for publicly-subsidized abortion and birth prevention. Because women have been telling each other for decades that abortion is not murder, but “choice.”

Men, for their part, are natural protectors and political leaders in a society. Women are often stronger than men emotionally, but men are better-suited to succeed at conquests. Fear and laziness, however, have compelled men to hand women the reigns of every aspect of American culture—including the role of selfless protector.

Men are wired to lead; to protect and provide—especially for the vulnerable. Unfortunately, mired by fear and selfishness, many men have left this job to women—and many women, in pride and stubbornness—think they want this job to rest entirely on their shoulders.

Men are not leading, and women have taken on too much, and consequently our society is completely falling apart. To the extent that men of the cloth are telling parishioners: God would rather that you encourage unvetted immigrants to violate our nation’s laws than to prevent fully-developed babies from being stabbed in the skull with a scissors.

Ironically, Instagram-surfing Millennials—who love photos of cute, smiling pregnant women in tight tops caressing baby bumps—will never see photos portraying the anti-baby views of female presidential hopefuls because Instagram (owned by Facebook) will consider such facts “fake news.”

The first murder

The reason Agatha Christie is one of the best-selling novelists of all-time is because she understood human nature. Once someone commits his or her first murder in Christie’s mysteries, it’s very likely that he or she will commit a second murder.

This is the biggest lesson from Christie. That we are all broken individuals—and after we allow our will to submit to the most horrific of evils, it will not be difficult to commit a second murder.

The first abortion that an abortion doctor commits is the most difficult one. After the professional who is trained to be a healer has convinced himself that he is God—and has seen how very simple and socially acceptable murder really is—every successive abortion is easier.

As a culture, we are absolutely numb to bloodshed. And this is why we have lulled ourselves into thinking that “immigration is a life issue” and a president who stands up for life from conception is an orange-haired impeachable clown. Whereas a snobbish bishop like Foys who welcomes illegal immigrants—including some unvetted, violent criminals—is a social justice warrior deserving of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Look at any military cemetery. Row after row of identical white tombstones. Then, imagine combining all the military cemeteries from all U.S. wars. That image would roughly represent the number of babies who die to abortion every year.

Our children are gifts from God, not commodities. Children are also the visible reflection of love—the gift of self—between a man and a woman. What abortion really does is help us lie to ourselves about the value of life, and of love.

Fortunately, today is a new day. Be brave. Speak the truth about life. As Edmond Burke warned: “The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.”



An article by William Davis titled “Here Are Politicians Who Rushed to Judgment on the Smollett ‘Hate Crime’ ” was posted at dailycaller.com on Feb. 17, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

When Jussie Smollett claimed he was assaulted by two men wearing “Make America Great Again” hats, many Democratic politicians quickly came to his defense.

Those Democrats included Sens. Cory Booker and Kamala Harris, and Reps. Maxine Waters, Nancy Pelosi, and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, among others.

- Waters blamed the attack on President Donald Trump and asked, “Why all of a sudden do we have people unable to study while black, unable to mow a lawn while black, unable to have picnic while black, and being attacked?”

- Pelosi tweeted, “The racist, homophobic attack on [Smollett] is an affront to our humanity. No one should be attacked for who they are or whom they love.”

- Kamala Harris tweeted that the attack was a “modern-day lynching.”

- Fellow senator and presidential candidate Cory Booker used the same term to describe the alleged attack.

- Meanwhile, Ocasio-Cortez tweeted that the attack was not “possibly” a racist and homophobic attack, but that “it was a racist and homophobic attack.”

Smollett, who is gay, claimed that his attacker shouted racist and homophobic slurs at him. However, additional details later added a cloud of doubt to Smollett’s story.

Two Nigerian brothers were arrested in connection with the case, and on Saturday CNN reported that the brothers are “now cooperating fully with law enforcement.”

Chicago police now believe that Smollett paid the two brothers to stage the assault.



An article by Cortney O’Brien titled “Tim Scott Highlights the Real Hate Crime That Happened This Week” was posted at townhall.com on Feb. 22, 2019. Following is the article.

Jussie Smollett's fake hate crime may have done real damage to actual victims. Chicago Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson shared that concern during Thursday's [Feb. 21] press conference.

Thanks to the actor's false police report, in which he reportedly pretended to be attacked by two President Trump supporters, actual hate crimes may "now be met with a level of skepticism," Johnson feared. Or, they may be overlooked by the media, who flocked to the Smollett story.

We already have an example in California. A conservative student at UC Berkeley was attacked on campus while trying to recruit members for the group Turning Points USA. Campus Reform captured the moment Hayden Williams, a Leadership Institute field representative, was punched on campus multiple times.

Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC) was outraged that the media isn't dedicating even a quarter of the coverage to this incident as they did to Smollett's tale.

"Can you imagine that happening to an African-American or to someone else on that campus?" Scott asked. "The kind of uproar that would have happened because of that hateful act would have had national attention, and yet only Fox News is covering it thoroughly."

Scott called on the university to act because their initial response was not good enough. The senator also took the opportunity to defend President Trump and his supporters. The president's policies, he noted, have actually been pretty beneficial for the African-American community.

"The MAGA hat has nothing to do with inciting racism," he said.

"It's the Left that wants to demonize Donald Trump, even though we have the lowest unemployment rate we've seen in 50 years, even though we have the lowest African-American unemployment rate that we've had in the history of the country, even though we keep moving in the right direction."



An article by Brent Bozell and Tim Graham titled "Andrew McCabe, the Justice Department's Jussie Smollett" was posted at townhall.com on Feb. 22, 2019. Following is the article.

Just like his boss and hero former FBI Director James Comey, former FBI deputy director Andrew McCabe has written a Trump-trashing book. And like Comey, he's getting hours and hours of airtime to sell laughable notions, like the idea that the FBI has been utterly nonpartisan.

This man will say anything. Truth means nothing. He's worse than Comey. It barely matters to his interviewers that he was fired from the top of the FBI for allegedly lying his face off to the FBI.

The Justice Department inspector general, Michael Horowitz—appointed by former President Barack Obama, not President Trump—charged McCabe with lying three times under oath about having leaked to the newspapers, and not for a national security reason, just to make himself look good.

While the media relish the idea of jail time for Trump aides caught lying to investigators, this man gets a red carpet and a pat on the back.

McCabe's book tour has created headlines like this, from a CNN interview: "McCabe: It's Possible Trump Is a Russian Asset." Let's be blunt. This is as credible as birtherism. It's exactly as responsible and reliable as broadcasting a headline that says, "Trump: It's Possible Obama Was Born in Kenya." McCabe is the Jussie Smollett of the Justice Department.

McCabe's publisher, St. Martin's Press, is reaping a bonanza of book advertising.

- 30 minutes on CBS' "60 Minutes"
- 15 minutes on NPR's "Morning Edition"
- 24 minutes on ABC's "The View"
- 60 minutes on NPR's "Fresh Air"
- 30 minutes on CNN's "Anderson Cooper 360"
- 40 minutes on MSNBC's "The Last Word with Lawrence O'Donnell"
- 20 minutes on CBS' "Late Show With Stephen Colbert"

Then, there was more MSNBC. Notice February 20.

- 40 minutes on "Morning Joe"
- Another 40 minutes on "Deadline: White House"
- 20 minutes on "All In with Chris Hayes"
- Then came the "PBS NewsHour."

There's an obvious term for a media that offers a shameless partisan liar this much free advertising/mudslinging. It's the "Opposition Party."

McCabe despises Trump. The press (and Hollywood) despises Trump.

The media love McCabe. Most of these journalists have presented McCabe as nonpartisan and skipped asking (or even reporting) about how his wife, Jill McCabe, ran for the Virginia state Senate as a Democrat in 2015, and how Clinton crony Terry McAuliffe directed almost \$500,000 in PAC money to her campaign. This created an obvious conflict of interest if McCabe was later working on the Hillary Clinton email probe. The media forced then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions to recuse himself from the Russia probe, but McCabe never recused. It was never an issue.

The toughest pushback on McCabe's lying came from Meghan McCain on "The View."

She said to his face: "I don't believe you're a reliable narrator. And I'm not convinced this not just some kind of PR campaign to stop yourself from getting indicted. You were fired at the recommendation of the FBI."

Republican members of Congress like Rep. Jim Jordan have sounded this same alarm—including new charges of lying—but their objections aren't included in the gushy interviews.

McCabe's lying under oath also drew several minutes on NPR's "Morning Edition," and even then, NPR cut the interview into two segments and eagerly promoted the other half—the Trump-and-Russia half.

Most interviewers flunked.

- "60 Minutes" and "Morning Joe" strenuously made excuses for lying under oath.
- Anderson Cooper arrived on the subject only as the interview wrapped up.
- NPR "Fresh Air" host Terry Gross tossed one perfunctory question.
- MSNBC's Lawrence O'Donnell and Nicolle Wallace didn't ask a single question about it over their 40-minute interviews.
- Unsurprisingly, comedian Stephen Colbert did worse than avoid the question. As he asked McCabe to grade the press on their Trump-scandal coverage, he joked with McCabe that he was "under oath right now." Those words mean nothing to McCabe. That's why he smirked.



An article by Jonathan Greenberg titled "The 6 Essential Cons That Define Trump's Success" was posted at washingtonpost.com on Feb. 22, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

Nearly four decades ago, Donald Trump deceived me into including him on the first Forbes 400 list of the riches Americans. He claimed a net worth of \$100 million but was actually worth less than a tenth of that.

Donald Trump is a self-promoter willing to lie, swindle and destroy to advance his insatiable self-interest.

Here, in roughly chronological order, are the six essential cons around which Donald Trump has built and sustained his success.

- Con No. 1: To borrow billions, Trump lies to inflate his net worth.
- Con No. 2: To avoid taxes, Trump lies to deflate his net worth.
- Con No. 3: To be a winner, Trump makes losers of those he does business with.
- Con No. 4: To win in politics, Trump makes voters believe that his presidency benefits them.
- Con No. 5: To avoid accountability, Trump makes the media, and truth, the "enemy of the people."
- Con No. 6: To stoke fear, Trump recasts perpetrators as victims.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Feminist, Phooey!" was posted at patriot-post.us on Feb. 23, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

One of the many dirty little secrets of the feminist movement, aside from their reflexive defense of sexual predators and abusers like Harvey Weinstein, Keith Ellison and Bill Clinton, so long as they're Democrats and regard Roe v. Wade as sacred text, is that they hate most women as much or more than they hate men.

That is why they never speak out against Islamic treatment of Muslim women, Planned Parenthood or Hillary Clinton, who spent decades trashing the very women her husband preyed upon.

It is the reason why they don't even take the time to attack males who pretend to be women in order to win female athletic competitions and steal college scholarships intended for female athletes.

What I'm waiting for is the inevitable team of adults insisting they're children so they can participate in Little League competition and walk off with the world title.

A Baltimore lesbian, Julia Beck, was kicked off an LGBT commission because she refused to refer to a convicted English rapist named David Thompson who insisted he was a woman named Karen White as "she."

It's worth noting that the British court system, which is apparently every bit as loony as our own, decided to take him at his word and incarcerated him in a women's prison, where—surprise, surprise—he quickly commenced to rape two other women.

Why, I'd ask, isn't the judge who carried out this travesty not being indicted for aiding and abetting in the two inevitable rapes?

As Ms. Beck explained her own plight: "After a months-long witch hunt, I was found guilty of 'violence.' My crime? Using a male pronoun to talk about a convicted male rapist who identifies himself as a transgender and prefers female pronouns. Apparently, it is more criminal for me to call a male rapist 'he' than it is for him to rape."

Apparently, in certain circles in Baltimore, pronouns trump verbs, as well as commonsense.

■ Baltimore or Detroit?

Speaking of Baltimore, is it my imagination, but over the past few years, has it made a concerted effort to replace Detroit as the most deranged large city in America?

■ Confiscated drug funds for wall

Joaquin Guzman, "El Chapo" to his friends and murder victims, has just been convicted of a slew of drug-related charges in a New York courthouse. That

means his fortune, estimated to be \$14 billion could be confiscated by the U.S. government if we can track it down.

Sen. Ted Cruz has presented a bill suggesting that the money, if recovered, go towards building a border wall. The man is making a lot more sense since he grew that beard.

■ Menendez has gall

Sen. Bob Menendez, who is Central Casting's idea of a corrupt politician, as well as my own, ridiculed President Trump for daring to consider people who sneak across the border criminals, as well as those who are found guilty of driving under the influence.

Granted, compared to Menendez's crimes, they're probably small potatoes, but they're criminal acts nonetheless, and it doesn't behoove a U.S. senator to trivialize our laws. Especially not this particular senator.

After all, Menendez, the latest politician to prove that there is one set of laws for most Americans and another for elected officials, somehow managed to convince a jury that accepting bribes from a crooked donor isn't as bad as Trump's trying to build a wall at the border.

But not only did Menendez accept free airplane flights and hotel suites from his deep-pocketed pal, but the two of them apparently took a page out of Bill Clinton's book and engaged in sexual activities with underage females on their foreign jaunts.

In a way, you can see where Sen. Menendez is coming from. After all, if accepting bribes and engaging in statutory rape aren't to be punishable offenses, why should drunk driving and border jumping be considered such a big deal?

■ Warning label

In the wake of the political brouhaha in Virginia, a Breaking News item has gone viral on the Internet: Shoe polish manufacturers are now adding a warning label for products sold to Democrats: "Do not apply to face."

■ Cowardly and amnesia

Republicans in Congress are always quaking in their booties, fearful that if Donald Trump does something adventurous such as using the Army Corps of Engineers to build his wall, a future Democratic president might use that as precedent to do something equally foolhardy.

Apparently, Republicans are not only cowardly, but suffer from a form of amnesia that erases the sins of Democrats from their consciousness. The Democrats, as every Republican in Congress should realize by now, don't rely on precedent; that's because they've got a full complement of guts. What they lack are brains.

Have the Republicans really forgotten so quickly that Harry Reid broke two centuries of tradition in using the nuclear option to seat federal judges; that Obama squandered a trillion dollars on Solyndra and a "shovel-ready" job stimulus; lied about the Affordable Care Act; and air-mailed \$150 billion to

his Islamic comrades in Iran? And the Democrats didn't even break a sweat, knowing full well that, precedent or no precedent, their Republican colleagues would never have the nerve to behave so boldly.

■ What goes around, comes around

Jeff Bezos, the man behind Amazon and the *Washington Post*, may be undergoing the worst mid-life crisis in human history. Not only did he start an adulterous affair, but he sent the other woman selfies of his private parts which somehow fell into the hands of the National Enquirer. (The photos, that is, not, thank heavens, his private parts.)

It has led to a divorce that will cost him \$70 billion and custody of his four children, but the schnook is doing all this for a trophy who is older than his wife.

If Bezos had been half as smart as he is rich, he would have bought himself a Ferrari and a hair piece.

The irony of the situation, as Glenn Greenwald pointed out to Tucker Carlson, is that Bezos got into this mess because the National Enquirer invaded his privacy, but Bezo's own company, the all-intrusive Amazon, has been invading its customers' privacy for years to its own financial advantage.

■ Amy Klobucher

One of the latest presidential aspirants, Sen. Amy Klobucher, is apparently such a nasty harridan that a large number of her staffers have quit rather than put up with her demands that they wash her dishes and pick up her dry cleaning while having obscenities hurled at them.

But Klobucher still believes she'd make a great president because she cares so much for the little people.

■ Is this love?

I'm reminded that the ex-wife of William Saroyan, the lady who later went on to marry Walter Matthau, could have been describing every [darn] hypocritical liberal in the world when she said of Saroyan: "He loved humanity, but he hated people."

■ Public lynching

To be fair, it's not just Klobucher, it's every single Democrat who took part in the public lynching of Brett Kavanaugh, all of whom knew that Christine Blasey Ford, an obvious political operative, was lying, but nevertheless accused a decent man in front of his parents, his wife and his two daughters, of being a serial rapist.

■ Little-known facts

Finally, people are constantly sending me the same list of little-known facts, such as a dime has 118 ridges around its edge and that a goldfish has a memory span of just three seconds, which happens to be two seconds longer than the typical Republican member of Congress. (Although how anyone but a gold-

fish would ever know this is anybody's guess. The real tragedy is that even if a goldfish was made aware of this failing, he'd forget it in four seconds.)

But there was one item on the list that jumped out at me. It seems that an Ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain. It made me wonder if that meant Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez is an ostrich.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "What's New, Green & Dumb?" was posted at patriotpost.us on Feb. 25, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

Someone tossed out the possibility that Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, creator of the Green New Deal, is a mole whose meteoric political career has been financed by Donald Trump.

On the face of it, it just sounds like another of those bizarre conspiracy theories that screwballs in tin hats provide for our general amusement and to assure us that there are actually people out there who are even crazier than we are.

But it's been four days now and I can't seem to cut it loose. I can't quite dismiss it because it's one of those things which, if it isn't true, should be.

What a brilliant bit of political jujitsu it would have been if Trump had engineered the young woman's emergence as a party favorite. How could he have better ensured his re-election than by promoting this pinhead who, just a few weeks into her first term in Congress, is leading the Democratic lemmings over the cliff?

Imagine Trump getting to run against a candidate who is espousing an end to plane travel, the retrofitting of every structure in the nation and an end to hamburger, steaks and, by the way, milk.

That's on top of the Democrats calling for our borders to be swung open to accommodate every rapist, drug dealer and sex trafficker in Central America and, while they're at it, adding infanticide to their 2020 platform.

■ Governor Newsom scuttled trains

I found it oddly coincidental that shortly after Secret Agent Ocasio-Cortez called for airplanes to be mothballed in favor of high-speed trains, here in California, Governor Gavin Newsom scuttled Jerry Brown's legacy item, a high-speed train running between L.A. and San Francisco, explaining it would be prohibitively expensive.

And when a left-wing nutball like Newsom says something is too expensive, you have to sit up and pay attention because those are not words one associates with Democrats.

■ Train to Hawaii?

One of the glaring problems with doing away with planes is that we can't take the train to Hawaii or France or South Korea. I suppose Ms. Ocasio-Cortez's would suggest we take the subway. After all, that's how she got around New York.

■ Trains make stops

The fact is, unlike the lady I will only refer to as AO-C from now on because her name is too long to keep typing, I have actually ridden on Japan's bullet train. It worked fine because I was only going from Shizuoka to Tokyo, which is roughly 107 miles. It moved very fast, but the trip still took about two and a half hours because trains have to make stops to pick some people up and let other people off.

At that rate, it would take you about three days to go from L.A. to New York.

But at least Democrats could no longer refer to fly-over-country.

■ Socialist Bernie owns 3 homes

I believe that one of the oddest success stories in American political life is Bernie Sanders. He is a very odd duck who looks and sounds like the kibitzer in every Jewish pinochle game that's ever been played in New York, Chicago or L.A., and yet he's a senator from Vermont. Moreover, he's a hardline Socialist and proud of it, and yet he owns three homes just like a very wealthy Capitalist.

And, finally, he's such a weird fellow that he and the equally weird Mrs. Bernie honeymooned in the Soviet Union.

■ Misinformation about Civil War

I never saw the sense of the Civil War. Propaganda and myth aside, it was not fought to free the slaves. Even Lincoln admitted that he was only out to preserve the Union, otherwise he would have freed the slaves in the border states along with those in the Confederacy.

At the start of the War, there were 23 states loyal to the Union, 11 in the Confederacy. During the War, West Virginia and Nevada were added to the Union. Over the next century, 14 more states joined up.

So if the Confederacy would have been left to its own devices, slavery would have inevitably vanished from the scene, as the industrial revolution would have made slaves redundant. And today there would be 39 states, not 50. But at least those of us who reside in liberal conclaves would have an English-speaking, conservative country we could readily escape to.

■ 750,000 dead

One could argue, and many have, that even one additional day of slavery would have been reprehensible. But more reprehensible than a war that left 750,000 men dead, millions crippled, families divided, homes burned, farms destroyed and an entire region of the nation left embittered and impoverished?

■ Being gay might help this candidate

Picking up on my theory that Sen. Cory Booker is probably gay, one of my readers thought that, if true, it could prove his undoing.

I disagreed. I actually believe it could boost his chances among liberal voters. After all, a great many people voted for Barack Obama because they thought that voting for a man who was half-white/half African Muslim but who could pass for black made them seem tolerant. Voting for a black man who was also a homosexual could make them feel even better about themselves, if such a thing were even possible.

■ Oh my

Someone sent me a series of photos of President Obama placing Medal of Freedom ribbons around the necks of Bill Clinton, Anthony Weiner, Harvey Weinstein and Bill Cosby, with a caption reading: "I didn't know there was a sexual predator award."

■ Reality of voter IDs

Each time that anyone raises the notion of passing and enforcing photo IDs for voters, Democrats shout "Racist!" insisting that it's just a Republican stunt to suppress the votes of blacks and Hispanics. All the while, the Democrats make a sham of elections by enabling non-citizens and dead people to cast ballots.

The fact is, there are very few, if any, Americans who couldn't provide a photo ID. That's because without it, they couldn't board a plane, drive a car, buy cigarettes or beer, enter a courthouse, cash a check, send a package FedEx or attend a presidential debate.

I suppose there might be one or two guys who don't do any of those things, but they would be a couple of hermits living in caves and they're really not interested in voting.

■ Three lists

Stephen Hanover sent me a pair of lists,. The first tells us that Heaven is where the police are British, the chefs Italian, the mechanics German, the lovers French and it's all organized by the Swiss.

Hell, on the other hand, is where the police are German, the chefs British, the mechanics French, the lovers Swiss and it is all organized by the Italians.

A third, even more hellish, list might have it that the police are Liberals, the chefs are Liberals, the mechanics are Liberals, the lovers are Liberals and it is all organized by Nancy Pelosi.

■ Tech billionaires are cheap

Between the billionaires who reside in Seattle and the Silicon Valley, one could easily conclude that there is something in the vapor of the Pacific Ocean that corrodes the brain, especially if you toss in the politicians whose careers were launched in the San Francisco Bay area, including Jerry Brown, Gavin Newsom, Barbara Boxer, Dianne Feinstein, Nancy Pelosi and Kamala Harris.

Besides being self-congratulatory Leftists, these tech billionaires are cheap. Although they accuse Republicans of not caring about the little guy, these business titans pull every trick in the book in order to augment their bottom line.

For instance, Amazon and Facebook make it a practice to import foreign workers because they'll work cheaper than Americans. They also see to it that they limit the hours of employment so they can keep from having to pay pensions and provide health insurance.

Instacart, a company worth \$6 billion, pays its delivery staff \$10-an-hour, but if the driver gets a \$6 tip for delivering a meal, it means Instacart counts it against his hourly wage so that they only have to make up the \$4 difference.

It does help explain why these schmucks all call themselves Socialists. Everyone knows that Socialism means the government pays for everything.

■ Pet-owners and pet-haters

I only heard the tail end of a discussion on the radio dealing with whether people should consider marrying someone if that person doesn't like your pet or happens to be allergic to dogs or cats.

As I say, I only came in at the, you might say, tail end of the debate, so I have no idea what arguments were presented. But I say if it calls for dumping your pet, I'd advise you to dump the creep—male or female—who presents you with such an outrageous ultimatum.

To me, a pet lover setting up housekeeping with someone who insists their home be a pet-free zone makes no more sense than a Conservative consorting with a Liberal.

For one thing, Liberals always think they know best. For another, they're impossible to housebreak.



"Eye on the World" comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which involve the United States. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

Deficit

- Looking back to July, an article titled " 'Medicare for All' Plan Touted by Bernie Sanders Would Cost \$32.6 Trillion" was posted at [cbsnews.com](https://www.cbsnews.com) on July 30, 2018.
- An article by Ari Natter titled "Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's Green New Deal Could Cost \$93 Trillion, Group Says" was posted at [bloomberg.com](https://www.bloomberg.com) on Feb. 25, 2019.
- An article by Michael Morris titled "Kevin Sorbo to Those Advocating Socialist Policies: With \$22 Trillion National Debt, Giving People Free Stuff 'Doesn't Add Up' " was posted at [cnsnews.com](https://www.cnsnews.com) on Feb. 28, 2019.

Finances

- An article by Natalie Hoberman titled "The Mountain of Beverly Hills [the 157-Acre Mountaintop Spread in Beverly Hills] Just Got a \$350 Million Price Chop" was posted at [therealdeal.com](https://www.therealdeal.com) on Feb. 21, 2019.

- An article by Saleha Mohsin titled "U.S. Tax Refunds Plunge 17% As Treasury Ratchets Up Defense" was posted at bloomberg.com on Feb. 23, 2019.
- An article by Sarah O'Brien titled "Social Security Expansion Bill Poised to Gain Traction in Congress" was posted at cnbc.com on Feb. 23, 2019.

Green New Deal

- A video and an article by Matt Vespa titled "Here's the Video of Dianne Feinstein Pretty Much Telling Green New Deal Supporters to Shove It" were posted at townhall.com on Feb. 23, 2019.
- An article by Conrad Duncan titled "Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez Delivers Impassioned Response to Critics: 'I'm the Boss, How About That?' " was posted at independent.co.uk on Feb. 24, 2019.
- An article by Ryan Saavedra titled "Ocasio-Cortez: People Maybe Shouldn't Reproduce Due to Climate Change" was posted at dailywire.com on Feb. 25, 2019.
- A video titled "Nancy Pelosi Dismisses 'Medicare-For-All' and the Green New Deal" was posted at fox business videos on Feb. 28, 2019.

Illegal immigration

- An article titled "NYPD: MS-13 Planning to Target Off-Duty Cops at Their Homes" was posted at cbsnewyork.com on Feb. 27, 2019.
- An article by Joseph Simonson titled "Bernie Sanders Hires Illegal Immigrant to Be Press Secretary" was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on March 1, 2019.

Comments about weapons

- An article by Liz Sly titled "The Kalashnikov Assault Rifle Changed the World; Now There's a Kalashnikov Drone" was posted at washingtonpost.com on Feb. 23, 2019.

Comments about Trump support

- An article by Leah Barkoukis titled "'Life Is Winning': At Least 10 States Pushing Heartbeat Bills" was posted at townhall.com on Feb. 19, 2019.

Comments about Trump opposition

- An article by David Harsanyi titled "Senate Vote Against Born-Alive Infants Prove Democrats Aren't 'Pro-Choice'—They're Pro-Infanticide" was posted at thefederalist.com on Feb. 26, 2019.
- An article titled "Democrats Bet on Mueller Delivering the Goods, What If He Doesn't?" was posted at time.com on Feb. 28, 2019.
- An article by Judge Andrew Napolitano titled "Trump's Unconstitutional Overreach" was posted at townhall.com on Feb. 21, 2019.

- An article by Emily Cochrane titled "House Votes to Block Trump's National Emergency Declaration About the Border" was posted at nytimes.com on Feb. 26, 2019.
- An article by Natalie Andrews and Kristinn Peterson titled "Senate Republicans Urge Trump to Retreat on Emergency Declaration" was posted at wsj.com on Feb. 28, 2019.
- An article by Justin Charity titled "Bernie Sanders Dragged Democrats Left; Will He Be Left Behind?" was posted at theringer.com on Feb. 26, 2019.
- An article by Michael Burke titled "Nearly 40 Percent of Sanders 2020 Donors So Far Appear to Be New Supporters: Report" was posted at the-hill.com on Feb. 25, 2019.
- An article by Valerie Block titled "Washington Gov. Jay Inslee Enters 2020 Presidential Race to Focus on Climate Control" was posted at cnbc.com on March 1, 2019.
- An article by Lee Moran titled "Hillary Clinton: 'Just Because I'm Not Running, I'm Not Going to Keep My Mouth Shut' " was posted at huffpost.com on Feb. 27, 2019.
- An article by Laretta Brown titled "Kamala Harris Says She Is 'Disappointed' by Smollet Case, Offers No Apology for Her Rush to Judgment" was posted at townhall.com on Feb. 22, 2019.
- An article by Alexandra DeSanctis titled "Why Did Senate Democrats Refuse to Protect Infants?" was posted at nationalreview.com on Feb. 27, 2019.
- An article by Chris Perez titled "The Oscars Stage This Year Strongly Resembles Donald Trump's Hair" was posted at nypost.com on Feb. 24, 2019.

Irishman Robert Francis (Beto) O'Rourke

- An article Gromer Jeffers, Jr. titled "Sources: Beto O'Rourke Won't Challenge John Cornyn for Senate, Paving Way for Presidential Bid" was posted at dallasnews.com on Feb. 27, 2019.

News about the media

- An article by Dave Boyer titled " 'Played All of Them for Fools': Media Burned by Rush to Judgment on Jussie Smollet" was posted at washington-times.com on Feb. 19, 2019.
- An article by Rebecca Downs titled "Media Malpractice: Media Refers to Born-Alive Act As 'Anti-Abortion' " was posted at newsbusters.org on Feb. 28, 2019.
- An article by Nicholas Fondacaro titled "CBS, NBC Ignore Trudeau Wrapped in Scandal, Pounce on Netanyahu's" was posted at newsbusters.org on Feb. 28, 2019.
- An article by Alex Christy titled "Donny Deutsch [of MSNBC] Says Trump Won't Leave Peacefully, Capable of Starting a Civil War" was posted at newsbusters.org on Feb. 28, 2019.

■ An article by Susan Whitlock titled "Unhinged Behar Hijacks Segment to Rant About 'Thug' Trump" was posted at newsbusters.org on Feb. 28, 2019.

General interest

■ An article by Madison Flager titled "Drinking Two Or More Diet Sodas a Day Leads to a 'Significantly Greater Likelihood' of Strokes and Heart Attacks, New Study Says" was posted at yahoo.com on Feb. 15, 2019.

■ An article by Will Sabel Courtney titled "Virgin Atlantic Boeing 787 Dreamliner Hits 801 MPH Over Pennsylvania, Thanks to Jet Stream" was posted at thedrive.com on Feb. 19, 2019.

■ An article titled "J.C. Penney to Close 24 More Stores [15 Full-Line Stores and 9 Home-And-Furniture Locations]; Sales Fall As Department Stores Struggle" was posted at usatoday.com on Feb. 28, 2019.

■ An article titled "A February to Remembrrr in L.A.; It Never Even Reached 70 Degrees" was posted at latimes.com on Feb. 28, 2019.

■ A video titled "LeBron James Plays Terrible Defense and Blames Teammates for Loss: Fans Threaten to Burn James' Jersey" was posted on youtube.com on Feb. 25, 2019.



An article by David French titled "Michael Cohen Made Four Big Allegations; How Skeptical Should We Be?" was posted at nationalreview.com on Feb. 28, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

It's over. Michael Cohen's public testimony has ended, and amidst the hours of assertions, speculation, and contention, four allegations stand out from the others.

■ First, Cohen testified that Roger Stone told Donald Trump about the WikiLeaks document dump in advance of the Democratic Convention.

■ Second, Cohen testified that he suspected Trump knew in advance about Donald Trump Jr.'s infamous meeting with a Russian lawyer.

■ Third, Cohen asserted that Trump directed Cohen to make porn-star-hush-money payments and later reimbursed him while Trump was president.

■ And fourth, Cohen claimed that Trump gave him implied directions to lie to Congress and that Trump's personal lawyer edited his false testimony.

The bottom line?

If you're invested in the idea that Trump was some kind of co-conspirator with Vladimir Putin, Cohen's testimony was a profound disappointment.

If you understand that Trump is a man of exceedingly poor character who—at the very least—lies continually and surrounds himself with crooks and grifters, then Cohen’s testimony merely reaffirmed a fundamental truth.

If you want to know the whole story of the Trump team’s conduct in 2016, Cohen’s testimony was only marginally helpful.

No single witness will decide this case, and the real losers in yesterday’s testimony were the Americans who thought that Cohen’s testimony would somehow represent the beginning of the end of one of the most divisive national controversies of modern times.

The controversies will rage on, and we now turn our attention to the next big event—the long-awaited Mueller report, rumored to be released soon. I expect it to be far more instructive and dispositive (for good and ill) than anything we heard Wednesday in Washington, D.C.



“Eye on the World” comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of article about the Cohen hearings. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

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- An article by Marc A. Thiessen titled “Michael Cohen Was Supposed to Provide ‘Bombshell’ Testimony; It Didn’t Explode” was posted at washingtonpost.com on Feb. 28, 2019.
 - An article titled “Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez Lays Groundwork for More Subpoenas Against Trump, Attributing Cohen Questions to Bartending Experience” was posted at independent.co.uk on Feb. 28, 2019.
 - An article by Jeremy Herb and Laura Jarrett titled “Republican Lawmakers Ask Justice Department to Investigate Michael Cohen for Perjury” was posted at cnn.com on Feb. 28, 2019.
 - An article by Mary Clare Jalonick, Eric Tucker and Laurie Kellman titled “Democrats Eye New Inquiries, Witnesses After Cohen Testimony” was posted at apnews.com on Feb. 28, 2019.
 - A Reuters article by Richard Cowan titled “Factbox: Democrats in U.S. Congress Take Aim at Trump With Multiple Probes” was posted at reuters.com on March 1, 2019.
 - An article by Paula Dedaj titled “Michael Cohen Testimony Undermined Russia Collusion Narrative at 4 Points, Tucker Carlson Says” was posted at foxnews.com on March 1, 2019.
 - An article by Alexander Burns and Jonathan Martin titled “Michael Cohen’s Testimony Opens New Phase of Political Turbulence for Trump” was posted at nytimes.com on March 1, 2019.

■ An article by Geoffrey Rowland titled “Cohen Testimony Turns Up Heat on Trump Associates” was posted at thehill.com on March 1, 2019.



Isaiah 55:6-11—“Seek you the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. ‘For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,’ says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”