Eye on the World Aug. 21, 2021

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 churchofgodbigsandy.com for the weekend of Aug. 21, 2021.

Compiled by Dave Havir

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 by Sarah Taylor titled "Glenn Beck's Audience Raises Staggering \$22 Million in 2 Days to Rescue Christians Trapped in Afghanistan" was posted at the blaze.com on Aug. 20, 2021. Following is the article.

Glenn Beck's audience has raised \$22 million—and counting—in two days to benefit the Beck-founded Nazarene Fund, which tirelessly works to rescue Christians and other religious minorities from persecution and slavery in the Middle East and across the globe.

What are the details?

Blaze Media previously reported that the Nazarene Fund is gearing up to extract approximately 5,000 people—mainly women and children—from Afghanistan as the newly Taliban-controlled country descends into violence and chaos.

During Beck's Wednesday morning radio show, the conservative firebrand and humanitarian urged his listeners to "give until it hurts"—and his loyal audience delivered beyond belief: Beck's audience donated even more than the \$20 million goal by early Friday morning.

On Wednesday, Beck pleaded, "Every single penny that you can come up with will go to flying those planes and getting those people out. We need, obviously, an enormous amount of money. These are people that are marked for death for what they believe in. This is why we started the Nazarene Fund. Don't wait around for anyone

else to do it. Don't wait around. Please, go to theNazareneFund.org and donate . . . We need your help as soon as possible. I ask that you would give until it hurts today, because these people are entirely alone. And they will be crucified, if you are marked as a Christian, with the Taliban. You know what will happen to them. We can get them out. Be an Oskar Schindler today. Go to theNazareneFund.org."

In the first day, the fund raked in nearly \$10 million, prompting an emotional Beck to shower his listeners with gratitude.

"I asked you yesterday if you would give until it hurts. And this is the most remarkable audience I think ever assembled," an overwhelmed Beck announced Thursday. "In a 24-hour period . . . this audience gave \$9,334,652.24. We are halfway there in one day. It is truly a miracle that you, this one audience, gave nearly \$10 million yesterday. I have always said that this audience is going to be the one that saves the country. You might be the one that saves the world."

He continued, "I asked you to help me raise \$20 million by Friday so I could secure the aircraft, and the helicopters, and the teams to be able to get 5,000 Christians that are marked for death [out of Afghanistan]. And yesterday, there was a notice from the Taliban that any of these [Christian] people will be burned alive. In less than 24 hours, you gave \$9,334,652.24. This is the framework of hope. You are not alone! It is not just you. I've never seen anything like this before. I don't think any one audience has ever done that!"

"I have until tomorrow to raise the second half," the longtime broadcaster added. "You've given so much. The Nazarene Fund has put boots on the ground to do what needs to be done, to save the thousands of Christians who are in grave danger. We have the helicopters and the planes standing by. This is a logistical nightmare . . . but they are marked for death. So as long as we have the money, as long as our Marines can hold the airports, and as long as there is a Christian left in hiding, we will do what we need to do. But we need God's help. We need Divine Providence like we've never needed it before. Time is running out. People are clinging to the hope that someone will remember them and arise and save them from the blackness that is the Taliban."

By the end of Beck's Thursday radio program, the ever-growing total reached \$13 million, and by Friday morning, the donations exceeded \$20 million.

On Friday, Beck tweeted, "I'm BLOWN AWAY by what this audience has done to help rescue persecuted Christians in Afghanistan! OVER \$20 MILLION raised in less than 3 days! THANK YOU!"

You can continue to make donations to the Nazarene Fund at thenazarenefund.org.



An article by Bill Donahue titled "MSNBC Compares Christians to Taliban—Again" was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 18, 2021. Following is the article.

Twice in one week, senior pundits at MSNBC have compared Christians to the Taliban. On Saturday, MSNBC host Joy Reid, speaking of the Taliban, tweeted that "our own far religious right" is "dreaming of a theocracy that would impose a particular brand of Christianity" on American society.

On Wednesday, the lead story on MSNBC's website, written by Dean Obeidallah, picks up on the comparison by criticizing Republicans who cling to "a narrow reading of their religion's beliefs," suggesting that they want to make their "religious beliefs into the law of the land."

In both cases, the MSNBC pundits claimed that Christians are, just like the Taliban, against women's rights.

Reid accused Christians of wanting to "drive women from the workforce and solely into childbirth, and control all politics." What a plainly stupid remark. Perhaps she can explain why a record number of Republican women—35 of them—were recently elected to Congress. They are all Christians.

Three complaints against Christians

Obeidallah cites three issues to prove that Christians are Taliban-like creatures.

- Their opposition to abortion.
- Their opposition to the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act.
- Their opposition to the Paycheck Fairness Act.

Regarding abortion, Christians are committed to protecting the life of unborn babies. The Taliban are known to kill pregnant women such as Masooma, who was dragged out of her house in 2019, taken to a Taliban court, shot dead, and had her corpse, and that of her baby, thrown into an open field. Her crime? She criticized the Taliban for committing atrocities.

Christian Republicans opposed the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act because it redefined "domestic violence" to mean wholly non-violent acts such as "verbal" and "emotional" abuse. If that is the standard, then we will have to restock all the prisons recently emptied by Democrats.

Women earn less than men, in general, because they are more likely not to work in dangerous jobs, are more likely to work part-time, are more likely to turn down overtime, and are more likely to turn down promotions, all of which reflect women's choices and have nothing to do with discrimination. Hence, new laws are window-dressing ploys.

Facts about the Tabiban

Now how about the way the Taliban treat women? Here's a quick sample.

- Women are imprisoned in their home.
- Girls are beaten for wearing white shoes.
- Girls are not allowed to be educated after the age of eight.
- Girls are only allowed to read the Qur'an.
- Women are not allowed to speak loudly in public.
- Pictures of women are banned from all media outlets.
- Women are not allowed to appear on the balconies of their apartments.

In July, it was reported that the Taliban were ordering imams and mullahs in the Middle East to provide them with a list of girls above 15, and widows under 45, to be married to Taliban fighters. They are then treated as sex slaves. Now there are reports that this is already happening in Afghanistan as the Taliban are going "door-to-door" looking for girls as young as 12 to become "sex slaves."

Those who compare conservative Christians to the Taliban evince an extreme anti-Christian bigotry while denigrating the condition of women who are forced to live under Taliban rule. The comparison is obscene. So is MSNBC for giving these bigots a platform.

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An article by Ben Shapiro titled "Biden Chooses Decline" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 19, 2021. Following is the article.

In November 2009, the late Charles Krauthammer gave a seminal speech, titled "Decline Is a Choice." In it, Krauthammer stated, "The question of whether America is in decline cannot be answered yes or no. There is no yes or no . . . Nothing is inevitable. Nothing is written. For America today, decline is not a condition. Decline is a choice."

This week, President Joe Biden chose decline.

That choice was not inevitable. It was foolhardy in the extreme, a symptom of Biden's commitment to his own idiotic ideology—an ideology that crashed headlong into the steel wall of reality in Afghanistan. Former Presidents Obama and Trump both wanted to remove the United States from Afghanistan, but both recognized the reality on the ground: that removing all American support from the Afghan military would result in the Taliban—the terrorist regime responsible for providing aid and support to Osama Bin Laden and al-Qaida in the run-up to and aftermath of 9/11—taking over the country.

Biden knew this. He just didn't care. As he reportedly expressed in 2010, while speaking with Richard Holbrooke about American responsibility in Afghanistan, "F— that, we don't have to worry about that. We did it in Vietnam, Nixon and Kissinger got away with it."

And so, Biden destroyed the stalemate in Afghanistan that had allowed America's counterterror mission in-country to continue successfully. The Afghan military was built to work with U.S. close air support; Biden withdrew that support. In fact, he went so far as to bar American contractors from entering the country to help the Afghan air force maintain its equipment. He cut the Afghan military off at the knees, then blamed them when they left the battlefield.

And Biden lied. He lied that Afghanistan represented an "endless war" carrying the possibility of "endless rows of headstones at Arlington National Cemetery"; in reality, the United States ended its combat operations in Afghanistan in 2014, had just 2,500 troops on the ground before Biden's unplanned pullout, and has not suffered a combat casualty since February 2020. Biden suggested that his hands were tied by a tentative agreement between the Trump administration and the Taliban, though he has had no problem abrogating Trump's agreements, and despite the fact that the Taliban had obviously failed to fulfill any of the contingencies under the Trump agreement. And he lied that the Afghan military's

collapse simply reflected a lack of willpower: The Afghan military incurred 55,000 deaths since 2015, compared with nearly none from NATO.

Why did Biden do all of this?

Because American strength is not Biden's priority. He wants America's footprint on the world stage minimized; he wants America focused as much as possible on building a Nordic-style social welfare state accompanied by racially-inflammatory equity programming at home.

The result of Biden's withdrawal from Afghanistan will be a reconstituted terror threat as our enemies recognize we are a paper tiger; renewed Chinese aggression against Taiwan and diplomatic overtures toward the Taliban; and new offensives from Russia and Iran. Foreign policy abhors a vacuum. Biden has willfully created one. What's more, in abandoning an ally of two decades, Biden has sent a clear message: Those who rely on American support can no longer do so securely. They'd be better off making realpolitik connections with America's enemies in order to hedge their bets.

Meanwhile, Biden presses forward toward American hospice care. With the economy under inflationary pressure, he continues to foster trillions in spending, extraordinary new entitlement programs and a complete rethinking of the relationship between individuals and the government.

If there is a Biden doctrine, it's simply this: surrender abroad, bloated dotage at home. Decline is a choice. And Biden has made that choice.

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An article by Star Parker titled "Don't Forget: Debacle in Afghanistan Is a Symptom of Confusion at Home" was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 18, 2021. Following is the article.

President Joe Biden was right in his speech to the nation about our withdrawal from Afghanistan, that a long legacy of American involvement there preceded him.

But across the board, in domestic as well as foreign policy, any new president inherits realities that precede him. The issue confronting every president is what principles and policies will he put in place to deal with these existing realities that will define his administration.

Most clear now is that America's withdrawal from Afghanistan is surrounded by a perception of confusion, weakness, and humiliation.

For anyone who believes that our nation should be a beacon of strength for freedom in the world, that beacon has been deeply tarnished.

According to *The Jerusalem Post*, these are the nations that will most benefit from this moment: Qatar, Russia, China, Pakistan, Turkey, and Iran. According to the *Post*, "Most of these countries have hosted the Taliban or tacitly backed them."

In other words, this round has been won by forces in the world for whom freedom is not a value.

Biden in his remarks said, "We went to Afghanistan almost 20 years ago with clear goals: get those who attacked us on Sept. 11, 2001, and make sure al-Qaida could not use Afghanistan as a base from which to attack us again."

This is inaccurate. Months after the attack on Sept. 11, 2001, President George W. Bush defined a two-pronged strategy of retaliation in his State of the Union address. One, "Shut down terrorist camps, disrupt terrorist plans, and bring terrorists to justice." This was accomplished in our successful military incursion in Afghanistan.

But second, "We must prevent the terrorists and regimes who seek chemical, biological, or nuclear weapons from threatening the United States and the world."

Bush rightly noted that Afghanistan could not and cannot be viewed in isolation from forces in the world that hate us and hate our ideals. This humiliation of our nation in the current withdrawal from Afghanistan strengthens those forces.

Although Biden decided to continue the process of withdrawing from Afghanistan, he reversed President Donald Trump's withdrawal from the deal with Iran, and Biden's deal strengthens rather than weakens Iran and creates a path leading to nuclear capability of this dangerous and threatening nation.

But most critical is to appreciate that we cannot succeed in defending our nation abroad if we are not clear at home who we are.

President Ronald Reagan observed, "While America's military strength is important . . . I've always maintained that the struggle now going on for the world will never be decided by bombs or rockets, by armies or military might. The real crisis we face today is a spiritual one; at root, it is a test of moral will and faith."

Our enemies, per Reagan, "must be made to understand: We will never compromise our principles and standards. We will never give away our freedom. We will never abandon our belief in God."

It is here that Biden's credibility is so deeply in question.

Under the leadership of this administration, the values that Americans have always known that protect individual freedom and protect God-fearing Americans—certainly those that understand this as Christianity—are on historically shaky ground.

Cancel culture and wokeness limit our ability to speak and run our private lives and businesses freely. The values that have sustained marriage and family and protect the unborn have been dangerously weakened.

Government expansion and incursion into private life is unprecedented. Per the Hoover Institution's John Cogan, if Biden plans find their way into law, "for the first time in history, more than half of all Americans would be on the federal dole."

How can we expect leadership in Afghanistan or anywhere else abroad for these American values, when we don't see it at home?



[&]quot;Eye on the World" comment: The following headlines involve articles that are considered international. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

Afghanistan—Taliban advances

■ Looking back to July, an article by Najibullah Lalzoy titled "Taliban conduct 22,000 Attacks Against ANDSF [Afghan National Defense and Security Forces] in Four Months [Claiming That Foreign Troop Withdrawal From Afghanistan Has Prompted Escalated Violence]" was posted at khaama.com on July 29, 2021.

- An article by Jacob Bentley-York titled "Taliban Going Door to Door for Girls as Young as 12 to Make Them 'Sex Slaves' " was posted at news.com.au (Australia) on Aug. 12, 2021.
- An article by Yaroslav Trofimov titled "Taliban Seize Kandahar, Prepare to March on Afghan Capital Kabul" was posted at wsj.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Celine Castronuovo titled "Afghan President Appeals for Help as Taliban Closes In on Capital [Kabul]" was posted at thehill.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article by Ahmad Seir, Rahim Faiez, Tameem Akhgar and Jon Gambrell titled "Taliban Sweep Into Afghan Capital After Government Collapses" was posted at apnews.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Mike Allen titled "Taliban Declare Victory in Afghanistan" was posted at axios.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Emma Graham-Harrison and Luke Harding titled "The Fall of Kabul: a 20-Year Mission Collapses in a Single Day" was posted at theguardian.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Monica Showalter titled "On Afghanistan Fiasco, Even CNN Points the Finger Straight at Joe Biden" was pointed at americanthinker.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article by Pam Key titled "CNN's [Jake] Tapper on Afghanistan: 'Shocking That President Biden Could Have Been So Wrong'" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Rob Picheta, Clarissa Ward, Brent Swails, Anna Coren and Nic Robertson titled "Chaos in Kabul as Taliban Take Power and Thousands Try to Flee" was posted at cnn.com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- An article by Stephen Collinson titled "Desperate Scenes Lay Bare an Afghan Defeat That Biden Cannot Deny" was posted at cnn.com on Aug. 17, 2021.
- An article titled "How Biden Administration Underestimated 'Inevitable Outcome' in Afghanistan" was posted at msnbc.com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- A video and an article by Pam Key titled "MSNBC's [Ali] Arouzi: Taliban Takeover of Afghanistan 'Relatively Peaceful' " were posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- An article by Spencer Brown titled "CNN Reporter Remarked Taliban 'Seem Friendly'—Then They Tried to Pistol Whip Her Producer" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 18, 2021.
- An article by Lee Brown titled "Images Show Barbaric Afghanistan Reality After Taliban Seized Control" was posted at nypost.com on Aug. 18, 2021.

- An article by Natasha Turak and Emma Graham titled "Afghan President Ashraf Ghani Resurfaces in UAE After Fleeing Afghanistan, Emirati Government Says" was posted at cnbc.com on Aug. 18, 2021.
- An article by Jon Brown titled "Taliban Going Door to Door Seeking Christians, Searching Through Phones for Bible Apps: Report" was posted at dailywire.com on Aug. 19, 2021.

Afghanistan—crisis of competence

- An article by Chris Cillizza titled "Joe Biden Is Facing a Crisis of Competence" was posted at cnn.com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- Looking back to August 2020, an article by Alex Thompson titled "'The President Was Not Encouraging': What Obama Really Thought About Biden [Including Mr. Obama Saying 'Don't Underestimate Joe's Ability to F**k Things Up]" was posted at politico.com on Aug. 14, 2020.
- An article by Penny Starr titled "Former General Petraeus: Biden Must Take Responsibility for His 'Catastrophic' Afghanistan Withdrawal" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Barbara Sprunt titled "There's a Bipartisan Backlash to How Biden Handled the Withdrawal From Afghanistan" was posted at npr.org on Aug. 17, 2021.
- An article by Catie Edmondson titled "Lawmakers From Both Parties Express Fury Over the Withdrawal From Afghanistan" was posted at nytimes. com on Aug. 17, 2021.
- An article by Mark Joyella titled "CNN's Clarissa Ward in Afghanistan: 'If This Isn't Failure, What Does Failure Look Like Exactly?' " was posted at forbes.com on Aug. 19, 2021.
- An article by Ishaan Tharoor titled "Afghanistan's Crisis Underscores the U.S.'s Shifting Place in the World" was posted at washingtonpost.com on Aug. 20, 2021.

Afghanistan—Does Taliban now have U.S. weapons?

- An article by Marcus Weisgerber and Tara Copp titled "The Taliban Captured Helicopters; Can They Capture an Air Force?" was posted at defenseone.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Craig Bannister titled "Geraldo [Rivera]: 'Taliban Stooges Are Driving Our Humvees and Eating Our Lunch' Due to 'Most Bungled Retreat Ever'" was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- An article by Jake Epstein titled "Hundreds of Afghan Soldiers Have Fled Over the Border to Uzbekistan With Dozens of Military Aircraft and Helicopters" was posted at businessinsider.com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- An article by Becky Noble titled "Taliban Now Controls Unknown Amount of Advanced American Weaponry" was posted at the political insider.com on Aug. 17, 2021.

■ A Reuters article by Idress Ali, Patricia Zengerle and Jonathan Landay titled "Planes, Guns, Night-Vision Goggles: The Taliban's New U.S.-Made War Chest" was posted at reuters.com on Aug. 19, 2021.

Afghanistan—Are Americans left behind?

- An article by Charlie Spiering titled "Joe Biden Blames Donald Trump for Afghanistan Collapse—Despite Calling Taliban Takeover 'Unlikely' in July" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article by Staff titled "Biden in July [on July 8]: 'There's Gonna Be No Circumstance Where You See People Being Lifted Off the Roof . . . From Afghanistan [as Happened In Vietnam in 1975]" was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Pam Key titled "[Steve] Scalise [of Louisiana]: Afghanistan Is an 'Epic Failure'—'This Is President Biden's Saigon Moment' "was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article titled "Washington Post Publisher Asks Biden Administration to Help Evacuate Journalists" was posted at msnbc.com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- An article by Laura Widener titled "11,000+ [Maybe as Many as 15,000] Americans Remain in Afghanistan—Only Hundreds Evacuated So Far" was posted at americanmilitarynews.com on Aug. 17, 2021.
- An article by Sinead Baker and Mia Jankowicz titled "Photo Shows a U.S. Air Force Cargo Plane Crammed With 640 Afghans Trying to Flee the Taliban" was posted at businessinsider.com on Aug. 17, 2021.
- An article by Edmund DeMarche titled "No Official U.S. Evacuation Plan for Americans Outside Kabul, Report Says" was posted at foxnews.com on Aug. 18, 2021.
- An article by Jordan Davidson titled "Biden Administration Tells Americans Stranded in Afghanistan to Pay [\$2,000] for Their Own Flights Home" was posted at thefederalist.com on Aug. 19, 2021.

Afghanistan—Biden's statements

- An article titled "Defiant and Defensive, a President Known for Empathy Takes a Cold-Eyed Approach to Afghanistan Debacle" was posted at washingtonpost.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article titled "Biden Defends Decision to Pull Out of Afghanistan [Blaming the Chaos on the Failure of the Afghans to Fight]" was posted at nytimes.com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- An article by Brendan Morrow titled "CNN's Jake Tapper Calls Out Biden's Afghanistan Speech for Being 'Full of Finger-Pointing and Blame' " was posted at the week.com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- An article by Mark Deull titled "Biden's Statement 'Washing Hands' of Afghanistan 'Is One of Most Shameful in U.S. History'; Left and Right-Wing Media Unite in Condemnation of America's 'Chaotic Retreat' and 'Betrayal' of Afghan People" was posted at dailymail.co.uk on Aug. 16, 2021.
- An article by Charlie Spiering titled "Coming Unglued: 20 Mistakes Joe Biden Made in Bumbling Afghanistan Interview [on ABC]" was posted at breitbart. com on Aug. 19, 2021.

■ An article by Houston Keene titled "Afghanistan Withdrawal: Biden Continues Bunker Strategy After Widely Panned ABC Interview" was posted at foxnews.com on Aug. 19, 2021.

Afghanistan—Biden to Camp David

- An article by Charlie Spiering titled "Joe Biden Heads to Camp David for Extended Five-Day Vacation as Afghanistan Falls Apart" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Daniel Chaitin titled "Biden Ignores Questions and Retreats to Camp David After Afghanistan Address" was posted at washingtonexaminer. com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- An article by Charlie Spiering titled "Jen Psaki Not Sure When Hidin' Biden Will Return to the White House" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 17, 2021.
- An article by Brad Slager titled "We Are Witnessing Biden's Basement Doctrine" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 18, 2021.

Afghanistan—China's reaction to Biden

- An article by Zachary Evans titled "Chinese Media Threaten Taiwan After Kabul Debacle: 'The Island's Defense Will Collapse in Hours' "was posted at nationalreview.com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- An article by Yang Sheng and Cui Fandi titled "Taliban's Rapid Victory Embarrasses U.S., Smashes Image, Arrogance" was posted at globaltimes.cn on Aug. 17, 2021.
- An article by Wei Zongyou titled "U.S. Debacle in Afghanistan Deals Heavy Blow to Biden's Presidency, Deepening Division" was posted at globaltimes.cn on Aug. 18, 2021.

Afghanistan-Allies' reaction to Biden

- An article by Liz Sly titled "Afghanistan's Collapse Leaves Allies Questioning U.S. Resolve on Other Fronts" was posted at washingtonpost.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Matthew Karnitschnig titled "Disbelief and Betrayal: Europe Reacts to Biden's Afghanistan 'Miscalculation' " was posted at politico.eu on Aug. 17, 2021.

Afghanistan—Kamala Harris

- Looking back to April, an article by Allie Rice titled "Harris Says She Had Key Role in Biden's Afghanistan Withdrawal Decision" was posted at politico. com on April 25, 2021.
- An article by Dom Calicchio titled "Kamala Harris Plans Vietnam Visit—Just as Afghanistan Draws Comparisons to Fall of Saigon" was posted at foxnews.com on Aug. 18, 2021.

Afghanistan—Donald Trump

■ An article by Mike Pence titled "Mike Pence: Biden Broke Our Deal With the Taliban" was posted at wsj.com on Aug. 17, 2021.

Afghanistan-Barack Obama

■ An article by Hannah Nightingale titled "Taliban Leader Freed From Guantanamo Bay by Obama in 2014 Helped Organize Takeover of Afghanistan" was posted at the postmillennial.com on Aug. 17, 2021.

Afghanistan—Democrats

- An article by Aaron Blake titled "Democrats Offer Some Harsh Reviews of Biden on Afghanistan" was posted at washingtonpost.com on Aug. 17, 2021.
- An article by Craig Bannister titled "Pelosi Praises Biden's Handling of Afghanistan: 'It Was Strong, It Was Decisive and It Was the Right Thing to Do'" was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 18, 2021.
- An article by Kimberley A. Strassel titled "Democrats Run From Afghanistan" was posted at wsj.com on Aug. 19, 2021.

Afghanistan—Republicans

■ An article by Marc Caputo titled "Afghan Refugee Debate Fractures GOP" was posted at politico.com on Aug. 18, 2021.

Comments about Israel

- An article titled "Jerusalem Covered in Smoke as Wildfire Rages Outside City" was posted at apnews.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Arie Egozi titled "Israel Braces for Renewed Terrorism Coming From Taliban-Led Afghanistan" was posted at breakingdefense.com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- An article by Scott Thuman titled "In Wake of U.S. Departure From Afghanistan, Israel Examines Repercussions, Next Steps" was posted at komonews.com on Aug. 19, 2021.

Comments about Iran

- An article by Jonathan Spyer titled "Iran Goes on the Offensive as the U.S. Retreats From Afghanistan and Elsewhere" was posted at wsj.com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- An article by Tom O'Connor titled "Afghanistan's Fall Is China and Russia's Chance in Asia, Iran Wants to Join" was posted at newsweek.com on Aug. 19, 2021.

Comments about Saudi Arabia

- An article by Jeremy Binnie titled "Saudi Arabia Operating New Air-Defense Radar" was posted at janes.com on Aug. 19, 2021.
- An article by Sebastian Castelier titled "The End of Oil? Saudi Arabia Doesn't Think So, and Says It Loudly" was posted at haaretz.com on Aug. 19, 2021.

Comments about China

■ Looking back to July, an article by Derek Grossman titled "China and the Taliban Begin Their Romance" was posted at foreignpolicy.com on July 21, 2021.

- An article by Joe Deaux, Yvonne Yue Li and Ann Koh titled "China's Port [Ningbo-Zhoushan] Shutdown Raises Fears of Closures Worldwide" was posted at bloomberg.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by George Soros titled "Xi's [Jinping's] Dictatorship Threatens the Chinese State" was posted at wsj.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Jim Geraghty titled "Look Who's Calling Xi Jinping 'the Most Dangerous Enemy of Open Societies in the World' [Quoting George Soros] "was posted at nationalreview.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article titled "Detainee Says China Has Secret Jail in Dubai, Holds Uyghurs" was posted at apnews.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Shawn Fleetwood titled "China Plans to Build \$463 Million Airport on Closest Island to Taiwan" was posted at thefederalist.com on Aug. 18, 2021.

Comments about Russia

- An article by Zachary Cohen titled "New Satellite Images Show Russia May Be Preparing to Test Nuclear Powered 'Skyfall' Missile" was posted at cnn.com on Aug. 18, 2021.
- An article by Andrew E. Kramer and Anton Troianovski titled "With Afghan Collapse, Moscow Takes Charge in Central Asia" was posted at nytimes.com on Aug. 19, 2021.
- A Reuters article by Andrey Ostroukh and Crispian Balmer titled "Russia's Putin, Italy's Draghi and France's Macron Discuss Afghanistan" was posted at reuters.com on Aug. 19, 2021.

Comments about Cuba

■ A letter to the editor by Eduardo Suastegui (from Downey, California) titled "I Fled Communism in Cuba; Everyone There Is Oppressed, No Matter Their Ethnicity" was posted at latimes.com on Aug. 9, 2021.

Comments about other international nations

- A Reuters article by Mehmet Emin Caliskan and Bulent Usta titled "At Least 44 Killed in Turkey Flood as Search for Missing Continues" was posted at reuters.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- A Reuters article by Andre Paultre and Sarah Marsh titled "Hundreds Killed in Magnitude 7.2 Quake in Haiti" was posted at reuters.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article titled "Haiti Earthquake [Registering 7.2 Magnitude]: Rescuers Search for Survivors as Death Toll Climbs to 1,297" was posted at bbc.com on Aug. 15, 2021.

Comments about immigration around the world

■ An article by Adam Shaw titled "Europe Sees Surge in Illegal Migration, 59% More Than in 2020 So Far" was posted at foxnews.com on Aug. 14, 2021.

Comments about international covid news

- An article by Rob Gillies titled "Canada to Require Air Travelers to Be Vaccinated" was posted at apnews.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- A Reuters article by Caroline Copley titled "Germany Names Israel, Turkey, U.S. as High-Risk Covid Areas" was posted at reuters.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- A Reuters article by Benoit Van Overstraeten and Michaela Cabrera titled "Protesters in France Denounce Covid Health Pass Rules for Fifth Weekend" was posted at reuters.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article by Breitbart London titled "Australia's Biggest City [Sydney] Toughens Harsh Stay-at-Home Lockdown Orders" was posted at breitbart. com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article by Staff titled "Teen [in Singapore] Who Had Heart Attack After Vaccine Dose to Receive \$225,000" was posted at yahoo.com on Aug. 16, 2021.



An article by Stephen Collinson titled "Biden's Presidency Is Under Scrutiny as Never Before Over Afghan Chaos" was posted at cnn.com on Aug. 19, 2021. Following is the article.

President Joe Biden is struggling against an intensifying examination of his judgment, competence and even his empathy over the chaotic US exit from Afghanistan. And each attempt the administration makes to quell a furor that's tarnishing America's image only provokes more questions about its failures of planning and execution.

A defiant Biden on Wednesday rejected criticism of his leadership, as he battled the most significant self-inflicted drama of a term that he won by promising proficient government and to level with voters.

"I don't think it was a failure," the President said in an interview with George Stephanopoulos of ABC News, referring to a US pullout that sparked scenes of desperate Afghans clinging to, and falling to their deaths from, US evacuation planes.

The President had repeatedly pledged the withdrawal from the country's longest war would be orderly, deliberate and safe and that there were no circumstances that Afghanistan would suddenly fall to the Taliban.

But in the ABC News interview he changed tack, saying there was no way the US could have left without "chaos ensuing" and that such scenes were always baked into the decision to get all troops out this year.

In one part of the interview, Biden said that he didn't trust the Taliban but argued that the militia was cooperating with the US evacuation.

"I'm not sure I would have predicted nor would you or anyone else, that when we decided to leave that they'd provide safe passage for Americans to get out," the President.

In the chaos at Kabul airport, however, it is far from clear that the Taliban is cooperating. While hundreds have people have been getting through, CNN's Clarissa Ward in Kabul reported Thursday that there was no process, only mayhem of Afghans who worked for the US and are seeking exit visas because they fear for their—and their families'—lives. Some lucky people got through Taliban checkpoints but many others were turned back or beaten, Ward said.

Biden is failing to adequately explain why he so badly failed to predict the swift collapse of the Afghan state. And his credibility has been sullied because his confident downplaying of the risks of the withdrawal has been repeatedly confounded by events. Seven months into his term, Biden no longer gets credit simply for not being Donald Trump.

The President spoke to ABC News after details emerged from a high-level Pentagon briefing that appeared to confirm the US never had sufficient troops left in Afghanistan to facilitate the orderly, deliberate withdrawal Biden had promised. And the deeply awkward session in which Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin and the nation's top military officer, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark Milley, spoke to reporters also left open the grave possibility that the US military would be unable to rescue all American citizens and potential Afghan refugees before it departs for good.

Biden's defensiveness, imprecision and apparent changes of position hardly project confidence or competence during an extraordinarily sensitive crisis on hostile foreign soil. Anytime a commander in chief does not appear in control or is in denial of obvious developments is a moment that threatens to inflict political damage.

A changed presidency

The atmospherics around a White House that was on a roll have shifted in a matter of days.

Just over a week ago, Biden was taking a victory lap for his unlikely feat of passing a bipartisan infrastructure deal in the Senate and also ramming a \$3.5 trillion spending framework through the chamber. As the pandemic rebounds, his July Fourth partial declaration of independence over the virus looks like a "Mission Accomplished" moment, even if the reluctance of millions of Americans to get vaccinated has fueled its spread.

He has given Republican foes their clearest opening of a presidency in which he has been a hard political target. It may well be, if the rest of the evacuation goes smoothly, that Americans will buy Biden's argument that the chaos and collapse of Afghanistan proves the US should have left long ago.

But the GOP is seeking to bolster impressions of incompetence by hammering Biden over the pandemic, rising inflation and record southern border crossing attempts to foster a narrative of political decay. In close elections like next year's midterms, unflattering impressions that take hold among voters can be disastrous. Biden's appeal lies in his candor and competence. Both are taking a hit.

The President's image abroad is also taking a beating. His goal of reviving US relations with allies after declaring "America is back" following the Trump administration have been complicated by dismay over the possibility that interpreters and other workers who helped US troops over 20 years could be left behind to face reprisals from the Taliban.

Questions Biden must answer

Despite Biden's efforts to portray the current situation as a simple choice between staying in Afghanistan and fighting a never-ending war, the President is not being held to account for the mistakes of the three previous administrations, whose missteps turned the war into an American failure. The Trump administration especially left Biden with some tough choices in a strategy that left the US with a skeleton garrison and poisoned relations with Kabul by negotiating with the Taliban behind the government's back.

The issue is not even over the President's decision to leave a war that long ago lost public support.

Joe Biden isn't talking. At least not to the media.

Instead, he is being asked to answer for things that were in his power to influence: the poorly planned evacuation effort, the failure to speed up visa processing for thousands of Afghans and the missed opportunity to get US citizens out earlier.

As that pressure mounts, the President raised the possibility in the ABC News interview that the effort could stretch beyond August 31, his previous deadline.

"We're going to do everything in our power to get all Americans out and our allies out," Biden said.

The operation at Kabul airport is cranking up, with hundreds of people leaving on flights from the US armed forces and those of other nations. But CNN reported that some of those hoping to leave were being stopped at Taliban checkpoints, reflecting the extent to which US evacuations rely on the forbearance of an enemy force.

At the Pentagon news conference, Milley and Austin inadvertently revealed the deficiencies of the US evacuation.

They said there were insufficient forces at the airport to keep its perimeter secure and to venture behind enemy lines to collect Americans or allied Afghans as they shelter from the Taliban in Kabul and elsewhere.

"We don't have the capability to go out and collect up large numbers of people," Austin said.

Austin also said US forces would try to "deconflict" the situation with the Taliban to "create passageways for them to get to the airfield." But he also admitted he didn't have enough forces to do much more.

"I don't have the capability to go out and extend operations currently into Kabul," he said.

Milley revealed that a lack of resources was also behind the decision to shutter the vast former US base at Bagram airfield further out of Kabul, in comments that implicitly confirmed that the forces were never in place to assure Biden's vow for an orderly withdrawal.

"If we were to keep both Bagram and the embassy going, that would be a significant number of military forces that would have exceeded what we had," he said.

"So we had to collapse one or the other, and a decision was made."

Both Milley and Austin, a retired general, appeared deeply uncomfortable at the news conference.

"This is a war that I fought in and led. I know the country. I know the people. And I know those who fought alongside me," Austin said.

"We have a moral obligation to help those who helped us," he added. "I feel the urgency deeply."

With the Taliban celebrating an extraordinary victory over the United States, they may lack an incentive to orchestrate clashes with US forces confined to the airport. But the extent of the group's patience is unclear. And there are no guarantees its extremists will not hunt down Afghans it sees as US collaborators before they can escape to the airport.

This position of powerlessness, in which the US is at the whim of a ragtag militia, is hard for many Americans to accept, especially those who served in uniform.

Rep. Adam Kinzinger, an Illinois Republican, had harsh words for the position in which the United States now finds itself in Kabul.

"Now we are in a position where we are disgracefully begging the Taliban for permission to save Americans," Kinzinger told CNN's Jake Tapper.

An 'America First' moment

Events of the last few days have done more than damage Biden's reputation for competency. They have also exposed as never before the cold-eyed calculation behind a foreign policy that includes some elements of the "America First" approach of Trump.

On Tuesday, Biden's national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, said it was heart-breaking that Afghan women and girls would now face repression under the Taliban. But he indicated the President chose that option over more US blood being shed in Afghanistan.

All presidents face impossible choices. And Biden is honoring his duty to protect Americans. But his chosen course and failure to speed up processing of Afghan refugees months ago, despite warnings from veterans and members of Congress, call into question his commitment to civilians who trusted the US.

Biden's harsh criticism of the Afghan Army has been particularly poorly received abroad and may damage his ability to wield US soft power.

The President argued with reason last week that US forces should not have to fight a war that Afghan soldiers refuse to wage. But in blaming Afghans he ignored savage losses of life among armed and police forces built with US dollars, which far exceed US casualties.

His stance fueled anger in Britain's House of Commons on Wednesday, in a debate in which Prime Minister Boris Johnson faced a backlash because of his association with the US President.

Tom Tugendhat, a member who served with the British Army in Afghanistan, lambasted the US President's comments.

"To see their commander in chief call into question the courage of men I fought with, to claim they ran. It's shameful," Tugendhat said. "Those who have never fought for the colors they fly should be careful about criticizing those who have."



An article by Tara Palmeri titled "Politico Playbook: How the White House Wants to Spin the Fall of Kabul" was posted at politico.com on Aug. 15, 2021. Following are excerpts of the article.

- Talking point #1: "This is not Saigon."
- Talking point #2: The White House was prepared for this.
- Talking point #3: We couldn't wait any longer.
- Talking point #4: This is all Trump's fault.



An article by Dennis Prager titled "'This Is Manifestly Not Saigon' and Our Society of Lies" was posted at dennisprager.com on Aug. 17, 2021. Following is the article.

I wrote about the moral, diplomatic, international and American tragedy of abandoning Afghanistan a few months ago, so here I will address only the comment by Secretary of State Antony Blinken on ABC's "This Week"—and what it says about our country.

Commenting on the American helicopters picking up Americans from the roof of the U.S. embassy in Kabul, Blinken said, "This is manifestly not Saigon."

Do leftists believe their lies?

That statement sums up the state of the United States of America. We have become a Society of Lies. As I have known since I studied the Soviet Union and communism at the Russian Institute of Columbia University, truth has never been a left-wing value. There are honest and dishonest liberals; there are honest and dishonest conservatives.

But truth is both a liberal value and a conservative value. It is not a left-wing value. People on the left are committed to saying whatever furthers their agenda, true or false.

I have debated the question of whether leftists believe the lies they utter for much of my lifetime. And I have concluded that they generally do—in part because they just don't ask themselves the question: "Is what I am saying true or false?"

The fact is that Kabul 2021 is Saigon 1975—and everyone with eyes to see knows this. Yet, the secretary of state of the United States, representing a left-wing administration and party that is therefore committed to saying whatever is deemed beneficial to its interests regardless of whether it's true, shamelessly announces that Kabul "is manifestly not Saigon."

Does Blinken believe what he said? Perhaps.

Did he ask himself if that was a true statement before he made it? Not likely.

Promoting obvious falsehoods

Now you can see how this statement about Kabul is related to "men give birth."

Do people who say that believe it? Probably. Yet no rational truth-seeking individual can come up with a more obvious falsehood.

Do people who deny that the 70% out-of-wedlock birthrate among black people is a major contributor to the disproportionate rate of black male criminality know they are lying? Probably not. Their "anti-racism" agenda has compelled them to believe it.

Did all the leftist mayors and commentators who demanded that police departments be defunded believe that doing so will decrease violent crime? The idea is so manifestly absurd that it is hard to believe they believed it. But then, again, most of those mayors and commentators probably believe men give birth.

As the Wall Street Journal reported on May 12, 2020, about Rep. Adam Schiff, a man who lies often and with breathtaking ease, "Newly released documents show he (Schiff) knew all along that there was no proof of Russia-Trump collusion."

In that regard, did The New York Times and all the other mainstream media believe their two-year lie that the Trump campaign colluded with Russia? Again, it is doubtful they asked themselves if what they wrote and broadcasted was true. The only question the left asks is whether what they say is effective in furthering their goals.

Educational establishment

Virtually the entire educational establishment—from elementary school to graduate school—is a world of lies. Indeed, education in America has nothing to do with education as Americans and the rest of the West have always understood the term. The concept of objective truth—the basis of education—is now denounced as white supremacy. According to the Oregon Education Department, even the understanding that math has correct answers is a

function of white supremacy. And, of course, the assessment that Shakespeare wrote the finest plays or Beethoven the greatest symphonies is likewise dismissed as a form of white supremacy.

Virtually no major institution in the United States is committed to truth. The American Medical Association just announced that birth certificates should no longer list "sex" because we do not know the sex of a baby. We know the sex of every mammal on the planet, but not of human beings. And medical schools—yes, medical schools—are no longer to refer to those who give birth as women, but as "birthing persons"; "breastfeeding" is referred to as "chest-feeding."

Noble lies of covid

Slate, to its credit, published a piece titled, "The Noble Lies of Covid-19," citing four lies told by Dr. Anthony Fauci, whose commitment to truth is only a notch above that of Adam Schiff. One of the four Fauci lies cited is that cloth masks work.

Yet, as the article noted, a Freedom of Information Act email revealed that Fauci's original, March 2020, position that masks were unnecessary remained his position even when he later advocated that the country be masked.

Lies of tech giants

The tech giants have no commitment to truth. They label any positions with which they differ "misinformation" and take them down even when those positions are espoused by world-renowned scientists and other experts. No one is more responsible for our Society of Lies than Google, YouTube, Twitter and Facebook.

The president of the United States says whatever works for him and his leftwing party. One example rarely noted was his decision to turn the Pulse nightclub, an LGBT gathering place in Orlando, Florida, and the scene of a 2016 mass murder of 49 people, into a national memorial.

"Five years ago today in Orlando in the middle of Pride Month," Biden announced, "our nation suffered the deadliest attack affecting the LGBTQ+ community in American history, and at the time, the deadliest mass shooting by a single gunman."

The problem is the mass murder had nothing to do with Pulse being an LGBTQ club. The murder was committed by a radical Muslim, Omar Mateen, looking for any crowded place to kill a large number of Americans. As prosecutors noted during Mateen's trial, Mateen had wanted to avenge U.S. airstrikes on ISIS in Syria.

That's why Blinken's lie is like water off a duck's back. The left has made truth a non-issue in America.

It has made us a Society of Lies.

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An article by John Stossel titled "Silenced!" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 11, 2021. Following is the article.

Are they still protesting in Cuba?

I don't know.

The Cuban government has shut off the Cuban people's internet.

The big demonstrations began four weeks ago, sparked, curiously, by a rap song. The key lyric is: "Freedom! No more Doctrine!"

"Doctrine" refers to the "constant cycle of propaganda" from the government, explains Cuban emigre Alian Collazo in my newest video.

Sadly, silly TV reporters in America claimed the protests were about "hunger, pandemic restrictions and the lack of covid vaccinations," or, according to ABC's George Stephanopoulos, "food and fuel shortages."

"Nonsense!" says Collazo. The cause is clear. "The protesters were yelling, 'Down with communism!' and 'Libertad! Liberty!"

Democratic socialist Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez claimed, "They are protesting the lack of materials during the pandemic, particularly the lack of medical supplies."

Collazo is bewildered. "She speaks Spanish! Can she not listen to what the Cuban people are saying? 'Libertad' means 'freedom'!" It's true that Cubans want food, "but if you don't have liberty, you don't have food."

Some people say Cubans lack food because of what Ocasio-Cortez calls America's "absurdly cruel" embargo.

The embargo is absurd and counterproductive.

But that misses the point.

"Do research on what the embargo is! Medicine, food, and all of that can be traded," says Collazo.

Yes, they can. America exempts food and medicine from its embargo.

Also, at least 80 other countries do trade with Cuba.

The real reason for shortages and suffering in Cuba is communism. "When the government controls your business," says Collazo, "people don't have food. All resources end up in the hands of the state."

Other American "useful idiots," like Michael Moore, praise Cuba's "free" services.

In his documentary "Sicko," Moore took a group of Americans to a Cuban hospital and celebrated how they were given free health care.

But Collazo points out that "free" is misleading. "Go to a hospital in Cuba—they don't even have aspirin! Yeah, (health care's) free. (But) it's horrible."

When the recent protests began, a reporter asked President Joe Biden's press secretary, Jen Psaki, "Do you think that people are leaving Cuba because they don't like communism." She responded, "They are opposed to the oppression (and) mismanagement of the government."

She wouldn't condemn communism by name.

Fortunately, a few days later, her boss did. "Communism is a failed system, a universally failed system," said Biden. "I don't see socialism as a very useful substitute."

Good for Biden for saying that.

Collazo wishes he would do more.

"The Cuban people are not asking for military intervention," he says. Instead, "Get the president of the United States to deliver internet."

The current protests "happened spontaneously," says Collazo, "because of social media. That's why the regime didn't even know about it . . . they were surprised by the enormous amount of individuals that went out at the same time."

Because of that, Cuba's government has now shut down the island's only internet provider. Future protests will be hidden from the rest of the world.

The United States could beam internet into Cuba.

I don't know if it would make a difference.

But Collazo thinks it would. "This is historic. In Cuba, we have never seen this."



An article by John Stossel titled "Coronavirus Censorship" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 18, 2021. Following is the article.

YouTube just froze Sen. Rand Paul's YouTube channel.

That's just wrong. Small-minded. Counterproductive.

YouTube says Paul violated their covid-19 misinformation policy when he told an interviewer, "Most of the masks you get over the counter don't work . . . virus particles are too small and go right through."

Paul didn't make that up.

Properly worn N95 masks are effective, but two peer-reviewed studies suggest that simple masks might not work at all.

But the studies aren't perfect, so Paul shouldn't use phrases like "no value." But give him a break; that's how people talk! It's good if he tells people not to trust cloth masks.

Unfortunately, YouTube bans any video that contradicts pronouncements of the World Health Organization. The rule makes it impossible to criticize WHO policy, even though one WHO video says "wear a mask regardless of the distance from others."

WHO bureaucrats aren't perfect. They made many mistakes during covid-19. Other health "experts" once rejected germ theory and told people with ulcers to drink milk.

Such mistakes got corrected through criticism and debate. But YouTube now forbids that!

Last month, Paul got into a heated debate with Dr. Anthony Fauci over money the National Institutes of Health gave to Chinese scientists. Paul asked if it was used to do "gain-of-function" research (science that makes diseases deadlier—to learn more about them).

Paul didn't suggest that the experiment the U.S. government funded *created* covid-19. It didn't. We know that because of covid-19's molecular structure.

But gain-of-function is still risky science that deserves public discussion. The NIH did fund pre-pandemic experiments at Wuhan that combined coronaviruses to see if they could infect humans.

"Does Fauci respond and explain to us in a reasonable fashion, why he thinks it's not gain of function? No! He calls me a liar," says Paul in my new video.

Fauci did once write that even if a pandemic did occur from such research, "benefits . . . outweigh the risks."

"Sounds like incredibly bad judgement," says Paul.

Yet the media attacked Paul's judgment instead, smirking at what they called his "conspiracy theories." Social media companies even *banned* suggesting that covid-19 was man-made!

"Never before could a couple of companies just shut conversation off," I say to Paul.

"That's a real danger to scientific and journalistic inquiry," he replies. "The advancement of knowledge requires skepticism . . . debate on both sides. (But) these monolithic social media companies are determining what the truth is."

Well, what they say truth is.

Maybe they banned the Chinese lab-leak idea because former President Donald Trump expressed it. But Trump lying a lot doesn't make everything he says false.

There was actual evidence of a lab leak. American diplomats warned of risky experiments at the Wuhan lab before the pandemic. Three workers there got covid-19 symptoms before the disease appeared elsewhere.

Only when that became public did Fauci say, "It could have been a lab leak." Then President Joe Biden ordered an investigation.

Suddenly, Facebook unbanned the theory. Its previous censorship relied on its sloppy and biased "fact-check" group, "Science Feedback," which has smeared me twice in the past.

What other important truths does censorship conceal? We'll never know when Facebook/Twitter/YouTube only allow us to hear one side.

Paul says he's eager to "tell everybody how much they suck."

Unlike some in Congress, he doesn't want to regulate social media. He wants competition.

They "will ultimately destroy their platform," says Paul. "Somebody . . . is going to make a billion dollars when they develop the new Facebook."

Paul helped create a site called Liberty Tree, where libertarian-leaning politicians share ideas. He and I are both on YouTube competitor Rumble.

Those sites are good. The problem with them is that most participants are already knowledgeable about liberty.

"We lose something by not talking to the other side," I tell him.

Paul says he worries less about that because his Twitter feed is full of "idiots (and) imbeciles."

My newsfeeds aren't as crazy. At YouTube, Twitter and Facebook, I often learn things. There's some thoughtful discussion.

I'll stay on YouTube, Facebook, etc.

I hate the bias and censorship.

But more debate—is the only way we learn.

* * * * *

An article by Shoshana Wodinsky titled "Amazon's Expansion Into Department Stores Is All About Surveillance" was posted at gizmodo.com on Aug. 19, 2021. Following is the article.

Now that it's officially swallowed the lion's share of online retail sales, Amazon is reportedly eyeing ways to corner our offline shopping, too. The Wall Street Journal reported on Thursday that the e-commerce giant is drumming up plans to open "several" department-style stores in a handful of cities across the U.S. People familiar with the matter told the paper that these stores would help Amazon "extend its reach in sales of clothing, household items, electronics, and other areas." It's a smart move from Amazon, but also one that would end up being a privacy nightmare for a company that's seen its fair share of scandals in the space.

Per the Journal, the first states where these department stores are expected to open include Ohio and California. They're planned to be mid-size, at around 30,000 square feet—smaller than your average Costco or Walmart, but way larger than the Amazon 4-star stores that generally clock in at around 4,000 square feet. Like those 4-star locations, sources told the Journal that Amazon's private-label products would be featured front and center in these bigger locations, alongside wares from other "top consumer brands."

The alleged department store spaces are just Amazon's latest foray into the brick-and-mortar world. In 2015, the company began experimenting with small bookstores: first on its Seattle home turf, before trickling out to a few other cities across the U.S. But for all sorts of reasons, sales in these bookstores have pretty much flatlined in the years since their debut. By 2019, the company decided to fold together these stores and the company's then-struggling "pop-up" shops—essentially mall bodegas that sell Amazon-branded tablets and e-readers. Eighty-seven of those pop-ups closed essentially overnight. Other real-world retail efforts like Amazon Go Grocery met similar ends, either collapsing into larger big-box projects from the company or indefinitely closing

for unspecified "renovations." Even then, Amazon's retail efforts have translated into millions of dollars taken from countless competitors that were already struggling to pitch themselves against the e-commerce juggernaut.

But if the multiple ongoing federal probes into Amazon's antitrust-y behavior have shown us anything, it's that the company won't be satisfied until it dominates *every* sale, not just most of them. Right now, the bulk of Amazon's real-world retail dollars are coming from its myriad grocery chains, including Whole Foods. But the company still lags behind its brick and mortar brethren when it comes to selling high-end fashion, or basic cosmetics and health goods—think toothpaste or bottles of shampoo. In June, reports emerged that the company was mulling plans to open its own Amazon-branded physical retail pharmacies, which would help the company crater competitors like Walmart or CVS that currently rule the world of retail-ized healthcare.

Amazon's department store push would also help the company compete with two of its tech giant pals: Facebook and Google, which together dominate more than half of the multibillion-dollar digital ad ecosystem. Amazon ranks in a distant third place by earning 10% of that spend, but that number's skyrocketing fast—and a lot of that boom boils down to data.

Amazon's always collected data on its shoppers and sellers, but the past few years have seen the company make a serious push to woo advertisers away from platforms like Instagram and YouTube. And that woo worked because Amazon could offer what those platforms couldn't: data about every purchase, every search, and every wishlist from every Amazon customer.

But that still left the company with a pretty large blind spot: data from real-world, in-store purchases. Meanwhile, those real-world retailers—including names like Target, Walmart, and CVS—have started launching ad networks of their own, offering data from the real-world purchases happening outside of Amazon's sight.

An Amazon-branded department store would potentially bring those dollars back into Amazon's pockets, and then some. Amazon's past brick-and-mortar efforts have shown that the company isn't afraid to collect as much data as possible from people who walk through its doors—even if that person doesn't end up buying anything at all. Amazon knows the aisles you're browsing, the items you're picking up from a shelf, and whether your buys were influenced by an ad you saw on Amazon's site. It knows how often you shop for groceries, whether you're a vegetarian, and if you might be running low on eggs this week—which is great for Amazon and its advertiser partners, but a privacy nightmare for consumers that already have ample reason to be weirded out over Amazon's data collecting practices.

Right now, Amazon's future plans in the real-world retail space are mostly confined to rumor—but they still paint a damning picture. A world where Amazon department stores and Amazon pharmacies are the norm is one where Amazon knows every prescription you take, not to mention all the purchases we might want to keep quiet from everyone—our pregnancy tests, bottles of hair dye, trashy magazines. If Amazon really wants to know how often I'm buying a box of "feminine hygiene" products or something equally classy, they're welcome to try finding out. But I'd really rather keep those details to myself.

We've reached out to Amazon about the Journal's report and will update this post when we hear back.

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An article by David Harsanyi titled "Biden Admits Green New Deal Is a Dream" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 13, 2021. Following is the article.

On Monday, the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, or the IPCC, ordered a "code red," releasing a "landmark" report warning that global warming was an existential threat to humanity, "unequivocally" blaming humans for the problem, and demanding rapid action to cut greenhouse-gas emissions. "What the IPCC told us is what President Biden has believed all along," White House press secretary Jen Psaki noted on Tuesday. "Climate change is an urgent threat that requires bold action."

The very next day, the Biden administration released a statement imploring the OPEC cartel to increase production of oil to help lower worldwide gas prices. "Higher gasoline costs," the White House said, "if left unchecked, risk harming the ongoing global recovery." The White House wants OPEC to go above the 400,000-barrels-per-day increase it already promised to implement, which doesn't seem to jibe with the notion that we are on the precipice of the apocalypse.

As an economic matter, of course, the request makes total sense: By pressuring exporters to pump more oil, a fungible commodity, we lower costs worldwide. Even though technology continues to create efficiencies that lower emissions, modernity relies heavily on affordable and reliable energy. Economies would collapse without it. And for emerging nations, affordable fossil fuel remains a prerequisite for lifting billions of people out of poverty.

As a political matter, it might seem odd, to say the least, that President Joe Biden is imploring foreign nations to increase supply. Firstly, such a position runs contrary to virtually every "green" plan in existence—almost all of which intentionally, through mandates or bans or taxes or contrived "markets," exist to make fossil fuels more expensive and reduce use. Clean-energy advocates, including the president, argue that, in the aggregate, going green would be an economic plus. But if slightly higher prices threaten the world's economic health, what would complete weaning from fossil fuels do to the economy? Biden has promised a "100% clean-energy economy" with "net-zero emissions" in only a few decades. Without some technological miracle, this is a fantastical, not to mention suicidal, goal.

The reality is that Biden couldn't go a year in office without pleading with oilocracies to hike production. In his defense, one assumes, people will point out that covid-19 presents a historically unique situation. As far as the economics of recovery go, not really. In fact, this manmade downturn should be easier to mend than most. And this is certainly not the last recession or downturn or pandemic or world event that is going to affect the energy market.

Though it's probably an unpopular position, I'd be content importing cheap oil, or allowing others to flood the market, while saving our own supply for a time when new drilling becomes more economically feasible. But the hypocrisy of all this is that Biden works to restrict energy trade only in North America.

Earlier this year, the president rescinded oil- and gas-lease sales from most of the nation's massive state-owned lands and waters, citing climate change as the reason. He then shut down the Keystone XL pipeline, revoking a permit that was needed to build a 1,200-mile project that would have carried around 830,000 barrels per day of Alberta oil-sands crude into the United States—probably more than enough to avoid begging OPEC for oil—again citing climate change as the reason.

At the same time, Biden lifted United States sanctions that would have blocked completion of the Nord Stream 2 natural gas pipeline that will transport fuel from Russia to Germany, which, like us, is a signee of the Paris agreement. Most European nations aren't abiding by that agreement (well, without the help of an economy-paralyzing pandemic). Which is a reminder that to merely keep pace with the IPCC recommendations on carbon emissions, Americans, who use around 20 million barrels of petroleum every day, would be compelled to induce a pandemic-level shutdown of the economy every year for 30 years.

Americans, despite what they tell pollsters about climate change, demand affordable gas. You might recall that, despite his best efforts to undermine U.S. energy production, former President Barack Obama took credit for the domestic oil-and-gas boom. "That was me, people," he told a crowd in 2018. Political pressure is also why the White House made sure its OPEC statement on gas prices was for public consumption, rather than simply making those requests of OPEC through diplomatic channels.

The Green New Deal, whatever iteration of the plan you care to support, is unfeasible. Biden's request is just another reminder.



An article by Lucas Nolan titled "Bill Gates Pledges \$1.5 Billion for Climate Change Initiatives—As He Prepares to Mine Greenland" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 13, 2021. Following is the article.

Microsoft founder Bill Gates has reportedly pledged \$1.5 billion towards climate change initiatives as part of the Democrat's infrastructure bill. The announcement comes just days after Gates and his billionaire friends announced a plan to tear apart Greenland in search of pricey minerals.

The Hill reports that Microsoft founder Bill Gates has pledged \$1.5 billion from his climate investment fund, Breakthrough Energy, to finance climate change and renewable energy initiatives if a recently proposed White House-supported infrastructure package is made law. The bill passed the Senate 69-30 this week and includes \$25 billion for the Energy Department.

The bill includes over \$100 billion towards improving the resilience of power grids and further incentives for the electrification of transportation. Speaking to the Wall Street Journal, Gates said that all clean-energy initiatives must "get the costs down and to be able to scale them up to a pretty gigantic level."

Gates added: "You'll never get that scale up unless the government's coming in with the right policies, and the right policy is exactly what's in that infra-

structure bill." Gates told the WSJ that his fund would aim to redirect most of the pledged \$1.5 billion to fund climate efforts in Asia and Europe if the infrastructure bill is not made into law.

Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm said in a statement Thursday: "Breakthrough Energy Catalyst's commitment shows that the private sector is ready to lead the fight to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve a net-zero economy by 2050. Paired with the historic investments in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal and President Biden's Build Back Better Agenda, these investments will unlock new technologies to position the U.S. as a global leader of the clean energy economy—creating good-paying jobs for all kinds of workers in all pockets of the country."

While Gates has long been a proponent of green energy and climate change initiatives, it was reported recently that a mineral exploration company backed by Gates, Jeff Bezos, and Michael Bloomberg has entered into a joint venture with the London-based mining firm Bluejay to mine for raw materials in Greenland that could be used in electric vehicles.

KoBold Metals, a mineral exploration firm backed by the billionaires, plans to use artificial intelligence and machine learning to decide where to purchase land in Greenland likely to contain ore deposits.



"Eye on the World" comment: The following headlines are about articles that involve the United States. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

Comments about "Infrastructure" bill

- An article by Chris Talgo titled "The 'Infrastructure' Bill Is a Bipartisan Baitand-Switch" was posted at americanthinker.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article by Kay Coles James titled "Bloated Bipartisan \$1.1 Trillion Infrastructure Bill Is Neither Reasonable Nor Centrist" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 14, 2021.

Inflation

- An article by Editorial Board titled "Inflation Keeps Growing, but Dems Won't Stop Spending" was posted at nypost.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article by Jonathan Garber titled "Biden's Inflation Swamps Wage Gains, Leaving Working Families Behind" was posted at foxnews.com on Aug. 14, 2021.

Comments about abortion

■ An article by Jordan Davidson titled "MSNBC Columnist [Dean Obeidallah] Says Pro-Life Republicans Are 'Extremists' Like the Taliban" was posted at thefederalist.com on Aug. 18, 2021.

Comments about government snooping

- A Reuters article by Joseph Menn and Julia Love titled "Apple's Child Protection Features Spark Concern Within Its Own Ranks—Source" was posted at reuters.com on Aug. 12, 2021.
- An article by Tiffany C. Li titled "Apple's CSAM Prevention Features Are a Privacy Disaster in the Making" was posted at msnbc.com on Aug. 12, 2021.
- An article by Lucas Nolan titled "Report: Apple Employees Are Concerned Over Intrusive Device Scanning Tech" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Rachel Scully titled "Groups Call on Apple to Drop Plans to Scan Children's Messages" was posted at thehill.com on Aug. 19, 2021.

Comments about corporate censorship

- An article by Brad Slager titled "CNN Scrambles After Rand Paul Is Suspended for Saying What Was Spoken on Their Network" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Dean Sterling Jones titled "The Co-Founder of Snopes [David Mikkelson] Wrote Dozens of Plagiarized Articles for the Fact-Checking Site" was posted at buzzfeednews.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Autumn Johnson titled "Google Rewrote News Algorithm to Target Trump" was posted at newsbusters.org on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article by Kipp Jones titled "One of Google's Top Engineers [Zach Vorhies] Abandons the Company, Reveals Big Tech Rewrote Algorithms for an Insidious Goal [of Promoting Negative Stories About Donald Trump to Be Seen When Using the Highest-Trafficked Website on the Internet]" was posted at westernjournal.com on Aug. 17, 2021.

Kamala Harris and illegal immigration

- Looking back to June, an article by John Daniel Davidson titled "Biden Throws Open the Borders, and Harris Scrambles to Avoid Blame" was posted at nypost.com on June 2, 2021.
- An article by Hank Berrien titled "Mexican President: I Discussed 'Complete Opening' of Border With Kamala" was posted at dailywire.com on Aug. 10, 2021.
- An article by Pat Droney titled "Mexican President Claims He and Kamala Harris Discussed 'Complete Opening' of U.S.-Mexico Border" was posted at lawenforcementtoday.com on Aug. 12, 2021.

Illegal immigration

- An article titled "U.S. Warns 9/11 Anniversary Could Inspire Extremist Attacks" was posted at apnews.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Anna Giaritelli titled "Suspected Terrorists Crossing Border 'at a Level We Have Never Seen Before'—Outgoing Border Patrol Chief [Rodney Scott] Says" was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on Aug. 16, 2021.

- Looking back to March, an article by Kelly Sadler titled "Biden Wants You to Pay for His Self-Inflicted Border Crisis" was posted at washingtontimes.com on March 10, 2021.
- Looking back to March, an article by John Kass titled "Biden Called for the Border Surge, and Now He Owns It" was posted at chicagotribune.com on March 26, 2021.
- Looking back to April, an article by Laureen Lipsky titled "The Biden Administration Doesn't Want to End the Border Crisis" was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on April 8, 2021.
- Looking back to April, an article by M.K. Sprinkle titled "Liberals Trying to Blame Trump, but Biden Created Inhumane Border Crisis" was posted at baltimoresun.com on April 10, 2021.
- Looking back to July, a letter by Ted Cruz titled "President Biden Chooses Politics Over Texas Border Communities—Again" was posted at cruz.senate.gov on July 16, 2021.
- An article by Tim Murtaugh titled "Border Crisis Is No Accident; It's Biden Making Good on Campaign Promises" was posted at heritage.org on July 30, 2021.
- An article by Jason L. Riley titled "If Biden Is Serious About Covid, He'll Protect the Border" was posted at wsj.com on Aug. 3, 2021.
- An article by Guy Benson titled "Officials: 40 Percent of Illegal Immigrants Bussed to Texas Town [Laredo, Texas] Are Covid Positive" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 12, 2021.
- An article by Neil Munroe titled "Zuckerberg's Data Says Amnesty Gives Economic Windfall to Wealthy States" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Anna Giaritelli titled "Biden Re-Creating Worst Conditions for Thousands of Migrant Children Separated at Border" was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on Aug. 16, 2021.

Truth about immigration and voting

- An article by Julio Rosas titled "There It Is: NYT Op-Ed [by Alossa Araxia Abrahamian] Gives the Game Away by Wanting to Let Non-Citizens to Vote in U.S. Elections" was posted at townhall.com on July 29, 2021.
- An article by Rebecca Downs titled "NYT Guest Essay Opinion Piece [Alossa Araxia Abrahamian] Claims 'There Is No Good Reason You Should Have to Be a Citizen to Vote' "was posted at townhall.com on July 31, 2021.

Comments about voter ID

■ An article by Libby Emmons titled "Photo ID and Vaccine Passport Re-quired by Mayor De Blasio to Move Freely in New York City" was posted at thepostmillennial.com on Aug. 17, 2021.

Comments about voter election laws

■ An article by Scott McClallen titled "Michigan House Passes Modest Election Reform Legislation" was posted at justthenews.com on Aug. 17, 2021.

- An article by Ken Blackwell titled "Election Integrity Reform Is Key to Preventing a Socialist Takeover of America" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 18, 2021.
- An article by Katie Rodgers titled "HR4 [John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act] Isn't Voting Progress; It's a Power Grab" was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 19, 2021.

News about truant Texas state Democrats

■ An article by Marisa Schultz titled "Texas [State] Dem Gene Wu Temporarily Avoids Arrest After Fleeing to DC, Says '[Heck] No' to Returning" was posted at foxnews.com on Aug. 12, 2021.

Comments about defunding the police

- An article by Jarrett Stepman titled "Defund the Police Means Law and Order for Only America's Elites" was posted at nationalinterest.org on Aug. 8, 2021.
- An article by Daniel Chaitin titled "Two Sheriff's Deputies Fired After Working Private Security for 'Defund the Police' Advocate Cori Bush" was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Brittany Bernstein titled "Minneapolis Police to End Traffic Stops for 'Lesser Violations' to Conserve Resources" was posted at national review.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article titled "Chicago Speed Cameras Now Ticket Drivers Going 6 MPH Over; the New Rules Resulted in About 300,000 Citations and \$11 Million in Fines in the First Two Months" was posted at chicagotribune.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- A Reuters article by James Oliphant and Nathan Layne titled "As Murders Surge, Democrats Find a New Message: Fund the Police" was posted at reuters.com on Aug. 17, 2021.

Business dealings with China

■ An article by Natalie Winters titled "Gates Foundation Partnered With 'Socialist' Internet Group Running China's Covid-19 Propaganda Operation" was posted at thenationalpulse.com on Aug. 17, 2021.

Government taxation

- An article by Dave Jamieson titled "Democrats Might Create a Tax Break for Union Membership in Budget Bill" was posted at huffpost.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Zachary Halaschak titled "Silence From Congressional Liberals as Democrats Move Toward SALT [State and Local Tax Deduction] Tax Cut for Wealthy" was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Robert Frank titled "61% of Americans Paid No Federal Income Taxes in 2020, Tax Policy Center Says" was posted at cnbc.com on Aug. 18, 2021.

Rich people are getting richer

- Looking back to June 2020, an article by Tyler Clifford titled "Jim Cramer: The Pandemic Led to 'One of the Greatest Wealth Transfers in History' " was posted at cnbc.com on June 4, 2020.
- An article by Michael Sheetz titled "Richard Branson Dumps Another Huge Virgin Galactic Stake; This One Worth \$300 Million" was posted at cnbc.com on Aug. 13, 2021.

Canceling student debt

■ An article by Jillian Berman titled "Biden Administration to Cancel \$5.8 Billion in Student Loans for Disabled Borrowers" was posted at marketwatch. com on Aug. 19, 2021.

Eviction moratorium

■ An article by Morgan Keith titled "Supreme Court Sides With Landlords, Striking Down Part of New York's Eviction Ban" was posted at businessinsider. com on Aug. 14, 2021.

Finances

- An article by Marcy Nicholson and Alex Tanzi titled "Half of Lumber Dealers Now Sit on Excess Inventory in the U.S." was posted at bloomberg.com on Aug. 12, 2021.
- An article by Katherine Wiles titled "The Housing Market Is So Hot, a Burnt-Out Bay Area Home Is Drawing Cash Bids Above \$850,000" was posted at marketwatch.com on Aug. 12, 2021.
- An article by Ben Zeisloft titled "Disney Parks Are Profitable for the First Time Since Covid Began" was posted at dailywire.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Grant Schulte and David Pitt titled "Rural Population Losses Add to Farm and Ranch Labor Shortage" was posted at apnews.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Ashraf Khalil and Josh Boak titled "USDA to Permanently Boost Food Stamp Benefits by 25 Percent" was posted at apnews.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Tristan Justice titled "Biden Begs Middle East for Oil While Halting Oil Production in Alaska" was posted at thefederalist.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article titled "California Congestion [at Docking Harbors] Nears New High, East Coast Gridlock [of Ships of All Types] Worsens" was posted at yahoo.com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- An article by Kyle Sammin titled "After Killing U.S. Oil Production and Jobs, Biden Tells Middle East, 'Drill, Baby, Drill' " was posted at thefederalist.com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- An article by Tom Ozimek titled "Strong Demand for Gas Vehicles Drives Detroit Production Plans, Clouds Biden's 2030 Goal for EVs" was posted at theepochtimes.com on Aug. 16, 2021.

Unemployment benefits

■ An article by Tom Ozimek titled "Over 7 Million Americans Set to Lose Unemployment Benefits" was posted at theepochtimes.com on Aug. 17, 2021.

Stimulus checks

■ An article by Yelena Dzhanova titled "Hundreds of Thousands of Americans Have Signed a Petition Calling for \$2,000 Monthly Stimulus Checks in the Wake of the Delta Variant" was posted at businessinsider.com on Aug. 15, 2021.

Green New Deal

- Looking back to July 2019, an article by Adam Shaw titled "AOC's Top Aide Admits Green New Deal About the Economy, Not Climate" was posted at foxnews.com on July 12, 2019.
- An article by Ronn Blitzer titled "Majority of Democratic Registered Voters Now Prefer Socialism to Capitalism, Fox News Poll Finds" was posted at foxbusiness.com on Aug. 12, 2021.
- An article by Michael E. Mann titled "We Can't Solve the Climate Crisis Without Getting Out of Our Cars and Onto Buses and Trains" was posted at marketwatch.com on Aug. 10, 2021.
- An article by Emily Crane titled "Biden Demands OPEC Boost Oil Production Amid Rising Gas Prices" was posted at nypost.com on Aug. 11, 2021.
- An article by David Harsanyi titled "Joe Biden Just Reminded the Nation Why the Green New Deal Is Just Not Feasible" was posted at nypost.com on Aug. 13, 2021.

Comments about educating our youth

- An article by Barnini Chakraborty titled "Chicago Spends Billions on Hiring Teachers Despite Falling Enrollment Rates" was posted at washingtonexaminer. com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Valerie Honeycutt Spears titled "Ky. Superintendent Closes Schools Due to Covid-19: 'This Will Be a Tough Year' "was posted at herald-leader.com on Aug. 16, 2021.

Comments about teacher unions

■ An article by Corey DeAngelis titled "Teachers Unions' Mask Demands Have Gotten Them Into a Catch-22 Dilemma [They Want Mask Mandates, but They Also Want to Keep Students Enrolled in Schools They Control]" was posted at nypost.com on Aug. 9, 2021.

Comments about racism and white supremacy

■ An article by Christopher F. Rufo titled "Lie of Credit—American Express Tells Its Workers Capitalism Is Racist" was posted at nypost.com on Aug. 11, 2021.

Comments about critical race theory

■ An article by John Carney titled "Woke Capitalism: Steve Forbes Rebukes American Express Over Critical Race Theory Training" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 13, 2021.

■ An article by Realclearwire titled "Conservative College Hillsdale Releases 1776 Curriculum to Fight Back Against Critical Race Theory" was posted at the political insider.com on Aug. 16, 2021.

Media comments about Tucker Carlson

- Looking back to March, an article by Carly Ortiz-Lytle titled "[CNN Host] Brian Stelter Says Tucker Carlson is the 'New Donald Trump': He's Taken His Place 'As an Outrage Generator' "was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on March 14, 2021.
- Looking back to May, an article by Frank Bruni titled "The New Trump? Easy, It's Tucker [Carlson]" was posted at nytimes.com on May 1, 2021.
- An article by Jeff Poor titled "[Tucker] Carlson: 'We Would Definitely Have a Higher Vaccination Rate If They Just Treated Us Like Adults—But They Can't' " was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Paul Duke titled "Tucker [Carlson] Set to Drop Most Astonishing UFO Footage Yet" was posted at steadfastdaily.com on Aug. 17, 2021.

Media comments about Chris Cuomo

■ An article by Alice Hutton titled "Chris Cuomo's Ethical Troubles at CNN Highlight Rise of 'Info-tainment' " was posted at the quardian.com on Aug. 15, 2021.

Other news about the media

- An article by Margot Cleveland titled "CNN Caught Lying About Biden Administration's Illegal Immigration Fiasco" was posted at thefederalist.com on Aug. 11, 2021.
- An article by John Hanson titled "MSNBC's Nicolle Wallace Says Trump 'Inciting Violent Extremism' by Meeting With Ashli Babbitt's Family" was posted at the political insider.com on Aug. 12, 2021.
- An article by Pam Key titled "MSNBC's [Nicolle] Wallace: 'I'm Really Rooting' for Dems, Only Party Not 'Fostering Domestic Violent Extremism' "was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Connie Lin titled "Yale Researchers Say Social Media's Outrage Machine Has the Biggest Influence on Moderate Groups" was posted at fastcompany.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by T.K. Sanders titled "The 'Field of Dreams' [Major League Baseball] Game [Played in an Iowa Cornfield on Aug. 12] Is Most-Watched Game in 16 Years" was posted at outkick.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Rebecca Downs titled "Critics Deceptively Claim Laura Ingraham [of Fox News] Wants People to Starve" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article by Rebecca Downs titled "'Cautionary Tale': MSNBC's Joy Reid Likens Taliban's Mistreatment of Women to Religious Right in U.S." was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article by Rudy Takala titled "Twitter Says Taliban Spokesman Will Be Allowed to Remain if He Doesn't Get Too Violent" was posted at mediate.com on Aug. 17, 2021.

Pandemic origin

- An article by Trent Baker titled "W.H.O. Member [Jamie] Metzl: 'We Need a Full Investigation' Into China Lab Leak Theory" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Simon Kent titled "Case Closed: Beijing Rejects W.H.O. Call for Further Coronavirus Origins Probe" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 13, 2021.

Fallout of hypocritical Obama bash

- An article by Leah Barkoukis titled "Fauci Criticizes Mass Outdoor Gathering in South Dakota While Staying Silent on Obama's Birthday Bash" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 9, 2021.
- An article by Wendell Husebo titled "NYT Reporter [Annie Karni]: Obama's Party Is Low Coronavirus Risk for 'Sophisticated, Vaccinated Crowd' "was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 9, 2021.
- An article by Daniel Chaitin titled "Singer [Erykah Badu] Begs Obamas for Forgiveness After Posting Video From Martha's Vineyard Birthday Party" was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Charlie Spiering titled "Obama Variant: Martha's Vineyard Hit With Coronavirus Spike After Superspreader Birthday Party" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Shawn Cohen titled "At Least 74 People on Martha's Vineyard Have Tested Positive for Covid-19 Since Barack Obama's Maskless 60th Birthday Bash—the Most Cases on the Island Since April" was posted at dailymail.co.uk on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Maureen Dowd titled "Behold Barack Antoinette" was posted at nytimes.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article by Joel B. Pollak titled "Obama's Law School Professor [Harvard Law School Professor Emeritus Laurence Tribe, Who Taught Barack Obama] Trashes Birthday Bash: 'Nauseating' " was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 15, 2021.

Vaccines—more contagious variants

- Looking back to February, an article by David Spiegelhalter and Anthony Masters titled "Is Covid More Deadly and Contagious Than Seasonal Flu?" was posted at theguardian.com on Feb. 14, 2021.
- An article by Paul Bois titled "Texas Tribune Corrects Claim Coronavirus Hospitalized 5,800 Children in a Week [but the Correct Number Was 783 Over the Course of a Month Between July 1 and August 9]" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 12, 2021.
- An article by Sara Chodosh titled "The Covid-19 Delta Variant Is Almost as Contagious as Chickenpox" was posted at popsci.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Susan Jones titled "Fauci: 'There's No Doubt That There Are More Children Getting Infected'; But They Account for Less Than 1% of Covid Deaths" was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 13, 2021.

■ An article by Tom Tapp titled "In Los Angeles, Breakthrough Infections Are Now 30% of All New Covid Cases Amid Delta Surge" was posted at deadline. com on Aug. 19, 2021.

Vaccines—promoting "booster" shots

- An article by Cassidy Morrrison titled "FDA Authorizes Extra Dose ofCovid-19 Vaccine for Immuno-Compromised People" was posted at washingtonexaminer. com on Aug. 12, 2021.
- An article by Morgan Keith titled "Biden Administration Will Advise Most Americans to Receive Coronavirus Booster 8 Months After Vaccination: Report" was posted at businessinsider.com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- An article by Hilary Brueck titled "3 Leading Covid-19 Experts Say There Isn't Clear Evidence That Healthy, Vaccinated People Will Need Booster Shots 8 Months Out" was posted at businessinsider.com on Aug. 18, 2021.
- An article by Cassidy Morrison titled "Booster Shot Elicits Strong Immune Response to Delta Variant, Pfizer Tells FDA" was posted at washingtonexaminer. com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- A Reuters article by Rami Ayyub and Maayan Lubell titled "Third Pfizer Dose 86% Effective in Over 60s, Israeli HMO Says" was posted at reuters. com on Aug. 18, 2021.
- An article by Josh Nathan-Kazis titled "Pfizer Vaccine's Efficacy Against Delta Variant Drops After Three Months: Study" was posted at barrons.com on Aug. 19, 2021.

Vaccines—famous skeptics who got covid

- An article titled "A Conservative Cardinal Who Criticized the Vaccine Caught Covid; Days Later, He Was Put on a Ventilator" was posted at washingtonpost.com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- An article by Justin Rohrlich titled "GOP [Wisconsin State] Senator [Andre Jacque] Railed Against Vax, Caught Covid; Then, Hid It From Dem Colleagues" was posted at thedailybeast.com on Aug. 17, 2021.
- An article by Ed Mazza titled "GOP [South Carolina State] Leader [Pressley Stutts] Who Fought Against Vaccine Dies After Weeks-Long Battle With Coronavirus" was posted at huffpost.com on Aug. 20, 2021.

Vaccines—fake vaccination cards

■ A video and an article by Amy Furr titled "Video: Father and Son Arrested for Allegedly Using Fake Vaccine Cards to Vacation in Hawaii" were posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 13, 2021.

Do you remember what Fauci said about vaccine mandates?

■ An article by Lawrence Richard titled "Last Year, Fauci Said 'You Cannot Force Someone' to Get Covid-19 Vaccine" was posted at washingtonexaminer. com on Aug. 13, 2021.

- Looking back to August 2020, an article by Amanda Watts titled "Fauci Does Not Foresee a Covid-19 Vaccine Mandate in the United States" was posted at cnn.com on Aug. 18, 2020.
- An article by Hannah Bleau titled "Anthony Fauci 'in Favor' of Vaccine Mandates Despite Admitting People Cannot Be Forced" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 14, 2021.

Vaccines—enticing the unvaccinated

- An article by Anil Oza titled "Cash for Shots? Studies Suggest Payouts Improve Vaccination Rates" was posted at sciencemag.org on Aug. 4, 2021.
- An article by Aria Bendix titled "How One Woman Overcame Her Vaccine Hesitancy: 'You Call Them Anti-Vaxxers—I Believe a Lot of Them Are Just Afraid' "was posted at businessinsider.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Pam Key titled "Fauci: Unvaccinated Need to 'Put Aside' Concerns of Personal Liberty" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Hannah Sparks titled "Pope Francis Hypes Covid-19 Vaccine as 'An Act of Love' in New PSA [Public Service Announcement]" was posted at nypost.com on Aug. 18, 2021.

Vaccines—pressuring the unvaccinated

- An article by David Robb titled "Wearing Visible Proof of Covid Vaccination Status Might Be Coming Soon to Film & TV Productions" was posted at deadline.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Tom Ozimek titled "Sharp Rise in Job Postings Stipulating Vaccine Requirements: Report" was posted at theepochtimes.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An information sheet titled "Vaccination Proof for Indoor Activities (Key to NYC)" was posted at 1.nyc.gov on Aug. 17, 2021.
- An article by Oli Coleman and Ian Mohr titled "Broadway Star Laura Osnes Explains Why She Quit a Show Rather Than Get Vaccinated" Was Erroneously Reported]" was posted at pagesix.com on Aug. 17, 2021.
- A twitter post by Scott Feinberg titled "It Saddens Me to See One of Our Most Talented and Beautiful Broadway Performers [Laura Osnes] Double-Down on Career Suicide [by Refusing Covid Vaccination]" was posted at twitter.com on Aug. 17, 2021.

Vaccines—penalizing the unvaccinated

- An article by Craig Cheatham titled "Hamilton [Ohio] County Judge Orders Man to Get Covid-19 Shot as Condition of Probation" was posted at wcpo.com on Aug. 5, 2021.
- An article by Randy Clark titled "Recruits Kicked From Academy [the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center] After Refusing Covid Vaccinations, Says Border Patrol Union" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 12, 2021.

- An article by John Nolte titled "New York's Jim Crow Vaccine Passport Will Deny Service to 72% of Young Black Residents [Since Only 28% of Young Black New Yorkers Are Vaccinated]" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Kenneth Garger titled "Quinnipiac University [in Connecticut] to Fine, Cut Internet Access to Unvaccinated Students" was posted at nypost.com on Aug. 17, 2021.
- An article by Lydia Moynihan titled "Morgan Stanley to Require Proof of Vaccination for Returning Employees" was posted at nypost.com on Aug. 17, 2021.
- An article by Hannah Bleau titled "NYC to Impose Up to \$2,000 Fines on Businesses Serving the Unvaccinated" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 17, 2021.
- An article by Katie Balevic titled "An Alabama Doctor Is Reportedly Refusing to Treat Unvaccinated Patients, Tells Them to Get Covid Shot Because He 'Can't Watch Them Die' " was posted at businessinsider.com on Aug. 18, 2021.
- An article by Ashley Collman titled "Doctors in North Texas Considered Taking Covid-19 Patients' Vaccination Status Into Account When Determining Who Gets ICU Beds" was posted at businessinsider.com on Aug. 20, 2021.

Back to mask mandates?

- An article by Patrick Reilly titled "Biden Offers Cash to Florida Schools That Defy Gov. Ron DeSantis' Mask Ban" was posted at nypost.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article by David Cohen titled "Texas Supreme Court Backs Governor [Abbott] on Mask Mandates" was posted at politico.com on Aug. 15, 2021.

Comments about mask mandates and children

- An article by Alejandro Avila titled "[Former NFL Quarterback] Jay Cutler Dropped From Uber Promo Over His Stance Against Masking Children" was posted at outkick.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Jesse Stiller titled "Country Singer Carrie Underwood Under Fire for Liking Anti-Mask Mandate [for Children in School] Tweet" was posted at dailycaller.com on Aug. 17, 2021.

Do you remember what Kamala Harris said about masks?

■ Looking back to December 2020, an article by Zack Budryk titled "Kamala Harris Says There Will Be No 'Punishment' for Not Wearing Masks Under Biden" was posted at thehill.com on Dec. 16, 2020.

Coronavirus testing

■ An article by John Anderer titled "Simple Mouthwash Test for Covid Just as Accurate as Nasal Swabs" was posted at studyfinds.org on July 30, 2021.

Coronavirus and leadership hypocrisy

■ An article by Robert Busek titled "If They Want Compliance, Officials Should Follow Their Own Rules" was posted at thefederalist.com on Aug. 6, 2021.

Coronavirus and religion

■ An article by Christian Wade titled "[Governor Chris] Sununu Signs Law Shielding New Hampshire Churches From Covid-19 Restrictions" was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on Aug. 15, 2021.

Comments about Marxist BLM corporation

■ An article by Ryan Grenoble titled "Oregon School District Votes to Ban Clothing, Flags Supporting Pride and Black Lives Matter" was posted at huffpost.com on Aug. 13, 2021.

Comments about U.S. riots

■ An article by Ian Miles Cheong titled "One Stabbed as Antifa Militants Clash With 'Choose Freedom' Protesters in Front of LA City Hall" was posted at thepostmillennial.com on Aug. 15, 2021.

Minimum wage

■ An article by Kerry Breen titled "Florida Deli [Jason's Deli in Melbourne, Florida] Sparks Backlash for [Wording on] Hiring Sign: 'Min Wage = Mediocre Person' " was posted at today.com on Aug. 17, 2021.

Comments about Andrew Cuomo investigation

- An article by Nolan Hicks and Carl Campanile titled "[Andrew] Cuomo Impeachment Probe Suspended After Governor Resigns Despite 'Credible' Evidence of Wrongdoing" was posted at nypost.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by John Podhoretz titled "Did [Andrew] Cuomo Really Resign? There's Been No Letter, and He Continues to Make Huge Decisions" was posted at nypost.com on Aug. 16, 2021.
- An article titled "New NY Poll: Voters Support Criminal Charges Against Andrew Cuomo" was posted at dataforprogress.org on Aug. 16, 2021.

Comments about Gavin Newsom recall

- An article by Joe Little titled "46 Candidates Vie to Replace Governor Gavin Newsom" was posted at nbcsandiego.com on Aug. 12, 2021.
- An article by Joel B. Pollak titled "Joe Biden Says Don't Recall Gavin Newsom: 'Keep California Moving Forward' " was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 12, 2021.
- An article by Gabe Kaminsky titled "California Dishing Out Condoms to Female Inmates After Newsom Forces Them to Live With Men" was posted at thefederalist.com on Aug. 12, 2021.

- An article by Ted Johnson titled "Gavin Newsom Says Joe Biden and Kamala Harris Will Visit State to Boost Anti-Recall Efforts" was posted at deadline.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article titled "Embattled California Gov. Newsom, Facing Recall Election, Says It's Time for Democrats to Wake Up" was posted at washingtonpost.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article by James Conrad titled "Clint Eastwood Defies Hollywood to Support Gov. Newsom's Opposition [Larry Elder]" was posted at themix.net on Aug. 12, 2021.
- An article by Emma Colton titled "Newsom Ramps Up Attacks in California Recall, Slams [Larry] Elder as Further Right Than Trump" was posted at foxnews.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article by Morgan Keith titled "Larry Elder Says He Will Implement Ben Carson and Eric Garcetti's Homelessness Plan If Elected California Governor" was posted at businessinsider.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article by Ari Levy titled "This 29-Year-Old YouTube Millionaire [Kevin Paffrath] Has a Good Chance to Be the Next Governor of California" was posted at cnbc.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Jeremy B. White and Debra Kahn titled "Federal Lawsuit Challenges California Recall as Unconstitutional" was posted at politico.com on Aug. 16, 2021.

Biden and Harris supporters and detractors

- An article by Charlie Spiering titled "'We Are Powerless': Joe Biden Official Deletes Social Media Post Admitting Failure in Afghanistan" was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 13, 2021.
- An article by Jaweek Kaleem and Kurtis Lee titled "For Many U.S. Veterans, Fall of Afghanistan to Taliban Stirs Confusion, Disappointment and Anger" was posted at latimes.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- A video and an article by Paul Bois titled "Watch: Hundreds Protest Outside White House as Afghanistan Falls to Taliban" were posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Michael R. Gordon titled "Biden's Afghanistan Exit Raises Questions About His Foreign-Policy Record" was posted at wsj.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Jacob Bliss titled "Vulnerable Democrats Blast Biden for Failed Afghanistan Withdrawal: 'There's No Way to Hide It' " was posted at breitbart.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Dom Calicchio titled "Ashli Babbitt's Mom Rips Pelosi, Feinstein, Claims Questions About Daughter's Death Going Unanswered" was posted at foxnews.com on Aug. 15, 2021.

Trump supporters and detractors

- An article by Craig Bannister titled "Mark Levin: A Leader Would Tell Taliban 'You're Going to Give Us Our People or We're Going to Crush You' "was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 18, 2021.
- An article by Paul Bedard titled "Regrets: Trump Would Beat Biden Today, More Women and Blacks Support" was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on Aug. 18, 2021.

General interest

- An article by Samuel Chamberlain titled "[Six-Time Olympic Gold Medalist Swimmer] Ryan Lochte Undergoes Meniscus Surgery After Apparent Water Slide Accident" was posted at foxnews.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article by Lindsay Huth and Taylor Umlauf titled "Severe Drought Could Threaten Power Supply in West for Years to Come" was posted at wsj.com on Aug. 14, 2021.
- An article by Stef W. Kight and Connor Rothschild titled "More Than 400 U.S. Counties [of the Nation's 3,100+ Counties] Are Now Minority White" was posted at axios.com on Aug. 15, 2021.
- An article by Tessa Petak titled "Roaching [Like Cockroaches Behind Walls, Having Many Hidden Sexual Partners] Is the New Dating Trend That's As Gross As It Sounds" was posted at yahoo.com on Aug. 16, 2021.

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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 you 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."