

Eye on the World

Feb. 16, 2019

This compilation of material for "Eye on the World" is presented as a service to the Churches of God. The views stated in the material are those of the writers or sources quoted by the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the members of the Church of God Big Sandy. The following articles were posted at churchofgodbigandy.com for the weekend of Feb. 16, 2019.

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 George Soros titled "Europe May Be on the Cusp of a Nightmare, But It's Not Too Late to Wake Up" was posted at marketwatch.com on Feb. 11, 2019. Following is the article.

Europe is sleepwalking into oblivion, and the people of Europe need to wake up before it is too late.

If they don't, the European Union will go the way of the Soviet Union in 1991. Neither our leaders nor ordinary citizens seem to understand that we are experiencing a revolutionary moment, that the range of possibilities is very broad, and that the eventual outcome is thus highly uncertain.

Most of us assume that the future will more or less resemble the present, but this is not necessarily so. In a long and eventful life, I have witnessed many periods of what I call radical disequilibrium. We are living in such a period today.

The next inflection point will be the elections for the European Parliament in May 2019. Unfortunately, anti-European forces will enjoy a competitive advantage in the balloting. There are several reasons for this, including the outdated party system that prevails in most European countries, the practical impossibility of treaty change, and the lack of legal tools for disciplining member states that violate the principles on which the European Union was founded.

The EU can impose the *acquis communautaire* (the body of European Union law) on applicant countries, but lacks sufficient capacity to enforce member states' compliance.

The antiquated party system hampers those who want to preserve the values on which the EU was founded, but helps those who want to replace those values with something radically different. This is true in individual countries and even more so in trans-European alliances.

The party system of individual states reflects the divisions that mattered in the 19th and 20th centuries, such as the conflict between capital and labor. But the cleavage that matters most today is between pro- and anti-European forces.

Germany

The EU's dominant country is Germany, and the dominant political alliance in Germany—between the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and the Bavaria-based Christian Social Union (CSU)—has become unsustainable.

The alliance worked as long as there was no significant party in Bavaria to the right of the CSU. That changed with the rise of the extremist Alternative für Deutschland (AfD). In last September's *länder* elections, the CSU's result was its worst in over six decades, and the AfD entered the Bavarian Parliament for the first time.

The AfD's rise removed the *raison d'être* of the CDU-CSU alliance. But that alliance cannot be broken up without triggering new elections that neither Germany nor Europe can afford. As it is, the current ruling coalition cannot be as robustly pro-European as it would be without the AfD threatening its right flank.

The situation is far from hopeless.

The German Greens have emerged as the only consistently pro-European party in the country, and they continue rising in opinion polls, whereas the AfD seems to have reached its highpoint (except in the former East Germany). But now CDU/CSU voters are represented by a party whose commitment to European values is ambivalent.

U.K and Brexit

In the United Kingdom, too, an antiquated party structure prevents the popular will from finding proper expression. Both Labour and the Conservatives are internally divided, but their leaders, Jeremy Corbyn for Labour and Theresa May for the Tories, are so determined to deliver Brexit that they have agreed to cooperate to attain it.

The situation is so complicated that most Britons just want to get it over with, although it will be the defining event for the country for decades to come.

But the collusion between Corbyn and May has aroused opposition in both parties, which in the case of Labour is bordering on rebellion. The day after Corbyn and May met, May announced a program to aid impoverished pro-Brexit Labour constituencies in the north of England. Corbyn is now accused

of betraying the pledge he made at Labour's September 2018 party conference to back a second Brexit referendum if holding an election is not possible.

The public is also becoming aware of the dire consequences of Brexit. The chances that May's deal will be rejected on Feb. 14 are growing by the day. That could set in motion a groundswell of support for a referendum or, even better, for revoking Britain's Article 50 notification.

Italy's predicament

Italy finds itself in a similar predicament.

The EU made a fatal mistake in 2017 by strictly enforcing the Dublin Agreement, which unfairly burdens countries like Italy where migrants first enter the EU. This drove Italy's predominantly pro-European and pro-immigration electorate into the arms of the anti-European League party and Five Star Movement in 2018. The previously dominant Democratic Party is in disarray.

As a result, the significant portion of the electorate that remains pro-European has no party to vote for. There is, however, an attempt underway to organize a united pro-European list. A similar reordering of party systems is happening in France, Poland, Sweden, and probably elsewhere.

When it comes to trans-European alliances, the situation is even worse.

National parties at least have some roots in the past, but the trans-European alliances are entirely dictated by party leaders' self-interest. The European People's Party (EPP) is the worst offender. The EPP is almost entirely devoid of principles, as demonstrated by its willingness to permit the continued membership of Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán's Fidesz in order to preserve its majority and control the allocation of top jobs in the EU.

Anti-European forces may look good in comparison: at least they have some principles, even if they are odious.

Europe's interests

It is difficult to see how the pro-European parties can emerge victorious from the election in May unless they put Europe's interests ahead of their own.

One can still make a case for preserving the EU in order radically to reinvent it. But that would require a change of heart in the EU. The current leadership is reminiscent of the politburo when the Soviet Union collapsed—continuing to issue ukazes as if they were still relevant.

The first step to defending Europe from its enemies, both internal and external, is to recognize the magnitude of the threat they present. The second is to awaken the sleeping pro-European majority and mobilize it to defend the values on which the EU was founded.

Otherwise, the dream of a united Europe could become the nightmare of the 21st century.



A Reuters article titled "Iran Warns It Would 'Raze Tel Aviv to the Ground' If Attacked by U.S." was posted at [reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com) on Feb. 11, 2019. Following is the article.

A senior Revolutionary Guards commander said on Monday that Iran would demolish cities in Israel to the ground if the United States attacked the Islamic Republic.

"The United States does not have the courage to shoot a single bullet at us despite all its defensive and military assets. But if they attack us, we will raze Tel Aviv and Haifa to the ground," Yadollah Javani, the Guards' deputy head for political affairs was quoted as saying by state news agency IRNA.

He was speaking at a rally celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Islamic revolution.



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

■ An article by F. Brinley Bruton, Lawahez Jabari and Paul Goldman titled "Israel Fights Boycott Movement As Pro-Palestinian Campaign Gains Global Support" was posted at [nbcnews.com](https://www.nbcnews.com) on Feb. 10, 2019.

■ A Reuters article titled "Two Tales of a City: Jerusalem Tour Guided by a Palestinian and an Israeli" was posted at [reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com) on Feb. 12, 2019.

■ An article by Amir Vahdat and Jon Gambrell titled "Suicide Bomber Targeting Iran's Revolutionary Guard Kills 27" was posted at [apnews.com](https://www.apnews.com) on Feb. 13, 2019.

■ An article by Bianca Britton and Murat Baykara titled "Turkey Orders Detention of More Than 1,100 People Linked to Failed 2016 Coup" was posted at [cnn.com](https://www.cnn.com) on Feb. 12, 2019.

■ An article titled "Thousands Rally in Madrid, Demand Socialist Prime Minister Resign" was posted at [washingtontimes.com](https://www.washingtontimes.com) on Feb. 10, 2019.

■ A Reuters article by Joseph Nasr titled "Contradicting Trump, Merkel Says Islamic State Not Defeated" was posted at [reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com) on Feb. 8, 2019.

■ A Reuters article titled "Germany's New Conservative Leader [Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer] Distances Herself From Merkel's Migration Legacy" was posted at [reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com) on Feb. 11, 2019.

- An article by Sophie Laubie titled "Berlin Filmfest Spotlights Angry Youth Seduced by Violence" was posted at yahoo.com on Feb. 13, 2019.
- An article by Thomas Adamson titled "French Yellow Vest Anti-Govt. Protests Turn Violent in Paris" was posted at apnews.com on Feb. 9, 2019.
- An article by Andrew Gilligan titled "Prisons to Get Transgender Wings [in U.K.]" was posted at thetimes.co.uk on Feb. 10, 2019.
- An article by Saim Saeed titled "All Flights To Or From Belgium Canceled During Wednesday Strike" was posted at politico.com on Feb. 12, 2019.
- An article by Jason G. Goldman titled "Black Leopard Spotted in Africa for First Time in 100 Years" was posted at nationalgeographic.com on Feb. 12, 2019.
- An article by Oscar Medina titled "Pocketing 1,000% Markup, Venezuelans Smuggle Out Precious Food" was posted at bloomberg.com on Feb. 12, 2019.
- A Reuters article by Corina Pons and Marianna Parraga titled "Venezuela Shifts Oil Ventures' Accounts to Russian Bank" was posted at reuters.com on Feb. 9, 2019.
- A Reuters article by Vladimir Soldatkin and Alex Lawler titled "Exclusive: Venezuela's Maduro Seeks OPEC Help Against U.S. Sanctions" was posted at reuters.com on Feb. 11, 2019.
- An article titled "U.S. Sanctions Spark Venezuela Oil Surge Half the World Away [China]" was posted at bloomberg.com on Feb. 13, 2019.
- A Reuters article titled "China Condemns Indian PM Modi's Visit to Disputed Region [Northeastern Border State of Arunachal Pradesh]" was posted at reuters.com on Feb. 9, 2019.
- An article by David Tweed and Lucille Liu titled "U.S. Warships Patrolling Beijing-Claimed Waters Prompt Chinese Protest" was posted at bloomberg.com on Feb. 11, 2019.



An article by Ben Shapiro titled "The Republican Pouncing Problem" was posted at dailywire.com on Feb. 13, 2019. Following is the article.

In the past few weeks, prominent Democrats have endorsed infanticide; admitted to dressing in blackface; called for an end to fossil fuels, airplanes and farting cows; and trafficked in open anti-Semitism. None of this is a serious problem for many in the media.

For members of the media, the real story is that Republicans keep pouncing.

- Two weeks ago, Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam stated in an interview that he favors legislation that would allow a woman to abort a baby at the point of

dilation and then added that in certain cases in which a baby would be born alive, the baby would be kept “comfortable” while parents and doctors decide what to do with it. This seems rather radical.

Here was *The Washington Post’s* take, as said in a headline: “Republicans seize on liberal positions to paint Democrats as radical.” The positions, you see, are actually mainstream. It’s just that Republicans seized on them and painted them as radical.

■ Last week, Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., released a Green New Deal backgrounder and FAQ on her website—and her staff sent the six-page document to a variety of media outlets.

The document happens to be fully insane. It calls for America to be carbon emissions-free within 10 years without use of nuclear power. It suggests that every building in the country be either replaced or retrofitted. It calls for universal health care, free college education, replacement of airplanes with high-speed trains, replacement of “every combustion-engine vehicle,” government-provided jobs, abolition of “farting cows” and, best of all, total “economic security” for anyone “unwilling to work.”

The proposal is so farcical that even Democrats ran from it screaming. AOC took it down from her website and then deployed campaign aides to state that the document was “accidentally” released as an “early draft.” Unsurprisingly, no revised draft has been posted.

Here is *The New York Times’* headline: “Ocasio-Cortez Team Flubs a Green New Deal Summary, and Republicans Pounce.”

■ This week, Rep. Ilhan Omar, D-Minn., engaged in open anti-Semitism, suggesting that American support for Israel is “all about the Benjamins” and then doubling down on that comment by blaming the American Israel Public Affairs Committee for America’s pro-Zionist attitude. This follows years of overtly anti-Semitic content from Omar, as well as from Rep. Rashida Tlaib, D-Mich., who suggested back in January that Americans who like Israel suffer from dual loyalty and “forgot which country they represent.”

Politico tweeted: “The Republican Party has a new trio of Democratic villains: Rashida Tlaib, Ilhan Omar, and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.”

Now, pouncing is never a story. Ever. It is a simple fact of politics that when people screw up, their political opponents react with alacrity.

Highlighting that response rather than the underlying screw-up is the equivalent of a headline that reads “Sun Rises in Morning.” Yet that’s what the media do . . . whenever Democrats screw up.

■ Republican gaffes are a story in and of themselves. Democratic gaffes aren’t a story; Republican nastiness is.

All of which demonstrates that a huge swath of the media is inseparable from the Democratic Party. If your first response to Democratic nut-jobbery is to

get defensive about Republican blowback, you're no longer a journalist. You're merely a hack. You are, as President Trump would put it, "fake news"—an activist masquerading as a journalist.

I suppose this means I'm pouncing on the media, though.



An article by Connor Veenstra titled "The Democratic Controversies Are a Smoke-screen" was posted at townhall.com on Feb. 11, 2019. Following is the article.

This past week has been non-stop entertainment if you happen to be on the right side of the political horseshoe.

- In the wake of outrage over the unpopular New York late-term abortion bill, the Democratic Party was hit with a sweeping tirade of controversies.
- Virginia governor Ralph Northam faced hostility when a racist yearbook photo of him in blackface was unearthed.
- Lieutenant Governor Justin Fairfax was charged with sexual assault in the exact same state.
- Minnesota Rep. Ilhan Omar was just recently accused of anti-Semitism on Twitter.

Yes, Christmas has come ten months early for us conservatives and even leftist news outlets have been lapping up the story like a cancer cure.

However, have you noticed something missing in the midst of all of this Democratic hatred hype?

A certain controversial decision that's been left in the dust in favor of stringing up the leftist politicians like a piñata? Well, if you've been religiously following the Northam/Fairfax/Omar barbecue then you probably haven't. And that's the problem.

After the abortion bill in New York received national backlash, the Democrats were in a serious bind.

How do you get the people back on your side when you're being attacked from all angles?

You give the people what they want: a scapegoat. And *The Virginia Pilot* was kind enough to give them one. The media changed the beat and conservatives willingly marched along with it.

I understand why these controversies are so enticing to people on the right. It's entertaining to watch Democrats get boiled in the controversy pot instead of Republicans for once. After years of leftists painting right-wingers as racist, this photo reveal is poetic justice on an immensely satisfying level.

But the fact is that in terms of news, these stories are Tootsie Pops distracting us from the five-course meal of the abortion law and the bills that are emerging in its wake.

Think about it for a second: what is the actual story here? A few politicians did some things that are landing them in hot water. That's pretty much it; there's no public opinion angle because everybody can agree that what these people did was wrong.

There's no development that can be had other than "Will they resign or not?" And there's no point asking the question "What impact does this have on the country at large?" because the sins of one person behind closed doors don't affect the lives of millions.

Bills and policies do. These stories are sometimes being used as shallow misdirections, to train our eye away from whatever we were angry about two weeks ago.

It's not unimportant to cover stories like these; people should know the moral fiber of who they're voting into power.

- However, if we let these stories become the center of attention, then we've done exactly what the media wants us to do.

- If we continue to let the news control what we're angry about, then we give them the power to distract us from the actual issues in our country.

Let's take control of the narrative for once; tell the media what we're angry about instead of them telling us what to hate.

Let's stop allowing the newest scandal to control the direction of our efforts. And let's stop blindly following stories that pander to our own political biases.

I know that the bait smells good; that's why it's sitting on a mousetrap.



An article by Brenna Houck titled "Panera's Utopic Pay-What-You-Want Restaurant Dream Is Dead" was posted at eater.com on Feb. 5, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

Nine years after introducing pay-what-you-can restaurants to several U.S. cities, Panera Bread is admitting defeat and closing down its last remaining non-profit Panera Cares location. The Massachusetts restaurant will shutter on February 15, according to Eater Boston.

The chain opened its first donation-based community cafe in St. Louis, Missouri, in 2010. Under the model championed by the company's founder Ron Shaich, the restaurant operated like a typical Panera, but offered meals at a suggested donation price, with the goal of raising awareness about food insecurity.

"In many ways, this whole experiment is ultimately a test of humanity," Shaich said.

“Would people pay for it? Would people come in and value it?”

It appears the answer is a resounding no.

At its peak, Panera Cares operated five locations, including ones in St. Louis; Dearborn, Michigan; Portland, Oregon; Chicago and Boston.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled “Life As a Widower” was posted at patriot-post.us on Feb. 9, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

First, let me say that I was overwhelmed that so many of you sent along your condolences when I wrote about the passing of my wife Yvonne. Unfortunately, with all the things that suddenly called for my undivided attention, I barely had time to acknowledge my gratitude.

Furthermore, I fear that some of you didn’t even receive an acknowledgment because one night, I believe my computer began malfunctioning because it suddenly struck me that I hadn’t been hearing the customary whoosh when my email does out. So, if some of you didn’t hear from me, now you know why.

One of my subscribers, Charles Boley, was curious as to how Yvonne had viewed my columns and opinions. Thinking others might also be curious, I stalled for time, telling Mr. Boley I would reply in a column.

For the most part, Charles, being a conservative, she was usually in sync with my take on events, issues and personalities.

However, she didn’t like it when I commented negatively on someone’s looks, as when I’d point out that with his two extremely prominent nostrils, former congressman Henry Waxman looked a lot like Porky Pig. It’s not that she disagreed, but thought it was beneath me to point it out. I explained that, one, he didn’t read my stuff and, two, it was beneath her, but not beneath me. She was a much nicer person than I am.

She also didn’t care for it when I would occasionally take President Trump to task. Yvonne felt the Never-Trumpers didn’t need my assistance. But I would argue that my job wasn’t to be a cheerleader, it was to be as honest as I could possibly be.

If I didn’t let people know that I thought some of his tweets were juvenile, and a lot of his boasts, such as bragging that the turnout for his inauguration was the largest in history when it hadn’t even been the largest in a decade, I’d be just as useless as those jerks at MSNBC and CNN who can never bring themselves to say something positive about the man.

After all, I would point out, I had already come a long way. I had confessed more than once that I wasn’t particularly impressed with candidate Trump. After all, I was only too aware of his close ties to the Clintons. I knew all about his campaign contributions to hordes of Democrats, including Sen. Clinton and

Senate Majority leader Harry Reid. Scariest of all, he had announced that his sister, a rabid New York liberal, would make a terrific Supreme Court justice.

I figured, at best, he would be a president in the tradition of the Bushes.

I voted for Donald Trump for the same reason I'd voted for George H.W. Bush, Bob Dole, John McCain and Mitt Romney, and that was because the alternatives were so bloody awful.

But once he assumed office, the transformation was mind-boggling; it was like he entered the telephone booth as Clark Kent and emerged as Superman.

So, if I occasionally upset Yvonne by sniping at Trump's boasts and his tweets, I couldn't help myself. I figured I could safely leave the cheerleading in the very capable hands of Sean Hannity and Judge Jeanine Pirro. I had my own integrity to worry about.

One of the things about Yvonne's critiques that I came to appreciate is that she found what I wrote funnier than the jokes I often include.

She could often recognize my fingerprints on some of the jokes, recognizing that I often had to rework the ones people sent me, shortening them or re-wording them for comedic emphasis, but she wasn't a big fan of jokes; she preferred wit.

She also enjoyed it when I took a break from politics and wrote about old movies, old movie actors and film scores; and especially appreciated it when I'd share anecdotal accounts of my life pre-Yvonne.

Of course I miss Yvonne. We were married for 33 years. But it's the small things that catch me up short. For instance, I now refer to Angel as "my dog," no longer "our dog;" "my house," not "our house." I also remind myself that I only occasionally have to lower the toilet seat.

But the most striking thing that drove my loss home was when I went to the supermarket the other day and realized that for the first time since 1985, I was shopping only for myself.

■ Entertaining primary season

Getting back to politics, I must admit I can't wait for the primary season to get started. As a conservative, I'm sitting on the edge of my seat, anticipating the blood-letting once the likes of Cory Booker, Michael Bloomberg, Kirsten Gillibrand, Kamala Harris, Gavin Newsom, Bill DeBlasio, Joe Biden and the other 30 or 40 schmucks go after each other with switchblades and pickaxes.

Rumor has it that Robert Francis "Beto" O'Rourke is the frontrunner, even though I suspect the source of that rumor is none other than O'Rourke.

Some people (O'Rourke's campaign manager) insist that the string bean is good-looking. And I suppose he is, if the new yardstick is Ichabod Crane.

At 47, O'Rourke has 18 years on Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, but he is no brighter than she is. They have an equal number of over-sized teeth. His one real advantage over the other ditz is that he's actually old enough to be president.

It is a close call, though, when O'Rourke insists that the Constitution is simply outdated and that other constitutional scholar, Ocasio-Cortez, insists that if owning a gun were constitutional, it would say so in the Constitution.

Only in politics or show business could a guy be so narcissistic as to post a video of himself having his teeth cleaned. And only in politics could a middle-aged guy seeking the presidency enter a stage to give a speech riding a skateboard just in case anyone was thinking about supporting one of those old, non-skateboard riding geezers like Joe Biden or Bernie Sanders.

On second thought, I suppose skateboarding ability is as good a reason as any to nominate one bumpkin over another.

After all, how else could you decide between a crowd that includes such pathetic examples of homo sapiens as the dozens who have already committed to running or on the verge of doing so? I'm serious. On what basis is someone supposed to choose between Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren or Andrew Cuomo and Angelina Jolie? Arm wrestling? A coin toss? Eeny, meeny, miny, moe?

A skateboard competition is as good a way as any to separate the chaff from the, well, chaff.

■ Bigots and racists

Say what you will about Democrats, they are perfectly shameless when it comes to labeling Republicans as bigots and racists. And considering what some of them have said about us, it takes a special kind of courage to throw stones while huddling in a glass outhouse. For instance, when Barack Obama sprang upon the scene, Joe Biden, who would become his vice-president, announced that, apparently to Joe's great surprise, Obama "was clean." What's more, Harry Reid assured everyone that Obama didn't even "sound colored."

Everyone knows that Obama, himself, dismissed us as those people who "cling to their religion and their guns." Hillary Clinton said we were "a basket of deplorables."

Lebron James re-tweeted an anti-Semitic tweet; Jim Carrey compared Trump supporters to "apes;" and Rep. Hank Johnson, the pea brain who voiced concern that if too many people showed up on Guam, it might flip over, parroted Louis Farrakhan's comparing Israel's Jews to termites.

■ Stifling conservative voices

Instead of running around with their hair on fire over Russian meddling in the 2016 election, the oafs in Congress should be more concerned with what Google and the other tech companies are doing to stifle conservative voices while promoting the Left's agenda.

Guys like Mark Zuckerberg, Jeff Bezos and the other Silicon Valley Socialists, refer to algorithms as if the bias of removing conservatives from their platforms are God's magical work and has nothing to do with the left-wing biases of themselves and their worker bees.

And because these billionaires have so much money at their disposal, they can buy up senators and congressmen easier than Al Capone bought up Chicago's judges and aldermen.

■ Keeping labels straight

I ridicule Liberals, but I admit I am somewhat in awe of them. They have to keep so many things straight, I sometimes wonder how they manage, especially when so many of those things are totally illogical.

For instance, because they don't really care about what's best for the society, but merely need to appear politically correct and fashionable, they are required to be pro-abortion, pro-homosexuals/transgenders, pro-black, pro-Muslim, pro-Roman Polanski, anti-Israel, pro-Palestine, anti-white, pro-illegal alien, anti-Christian, anti-Jewish, anti-2nd Amendment, anti-Free Speech for those they disagree with, pro-Violence when committed by Antifa, anti-Trump, anti-Trump supporters, pro-Socialism, anti-Capitalism, pro-marijuana, anti-climate change, anti-fossil fuels and pro-windmills.

■ Would she have approved?

I'd like to think Yvonne would be pleased. Except for the cracks about O'Rourke's resembling Ichabod Crane and the fact that he and Ms. Ocasio-Cortez have more and bigger teeth than Burt Lancaster and a school of sharks, I pretty much behaved myself.



An article by Emily Stewart titled "Biden and Sanders Lead New Poll of 2020 Democrats; But It's Still Super Early" was posted at vox.com on Feb. 12, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

Following are poll numbers of some 2020 Democrat candidates (including some names of people who have not officially announced their candidacy).

- Joe Biden—29%
- Bernie Sanders—22%
- Kamala Harris—13%
- Elizabeth Warren—8%
- Beto O'Rourke—7%
- Cory Booker—5%
- Amy Klobucher—3%
- Michael Bloomberg—2%



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "The Paralysis of the Presidency" was posted at patriotpost.us on Feb. 11, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

It seems to me that we have reached the point where the nation, and therefore Congress, is so divided that they're like two guys standing in the middle of a suspension bridge swaying high above a rocky chasm. Neither of them wants to let the other fellow pass. Neither is willing to back up, to concede even an inch.

I came to this conclusion after analyzing the last 10 years of political activity in our nation's capital. During the eight years of his administration, the only major piece of legislation that Obama could get passed, even during the two years the Democrats had a super majority, was the Affordable Care Act.

Even his other big ticket item, handing \$150 billion over to the Iranian mullahs was a dirty deed he pulled off with, as he put it, his pen and his phone. Even the nutsy Democrats didn't want their fingerprints on such a treaty.

Over the past two years, the only legislative victory scored by Trump was the tax cut bill. His other accomplishments, such as opening the oil pipelines, moving our embassy to Jerusalem and cutting regulations, were things he was able to do through executive actions.

The only reason he was able to seat two conservative justices on the Supreme Court was because he didn't have to involve the House. It only required the Senate to carry Gorsuch and Kavanaugh across the finish line.

But when it came to abolishing the Affordable Care Act or pushing to have a wall erected, he was predictably deserted by House and Senate Republicans.

That's why, unless you were a federal employee who wasn't collecting his or her paycheck, there appeared to be so little difference between the government being shut down and the government being open for business.

■ Losing as a stepping stone

It appears that a stepping stone to success in the Democratic Party is to lose an election. Stacey Abrams, who lost her gubernatorial election in Georgia last November, despite being backed by the Obamas and Oprah Winfrey, was selected to give her party's rebuttal to President Trump's State of the Union Address.

In the meantime, Robert Francis "Beto" O'Rourke, who spent \$70 million on his Senate race and still got his butt kicked by Ted Cruz, is considered running neck and neck with Kamala Harris, ahead of the 4,000 other Democrats who are also eager to take on Trump in 2020.

I don't quite get why the Democrats are so crazy about these two losers. But I have to admit I, too, have a soft spot for them. But that's because it's the Party's winning candidates I abhor.

■ Candidate Harris

Kamala Harris, whom I look upon as the feminine Barack Obama—which is to say, the slightly more effeminate Barack Obama—argues that ICE agents are no different from the night riding, cross-burning, Klan members who terrified and murdered black southerners in the bad old days.

That would be putrid enough. What makes it worse is that 20,000 Americans applauded when she said it, when anyone with even half a brain would recognize that those enforcing our federal immigration laws are in no way even slightly similar to lynch mobs.

In fact, if an equation is to be made to America in the 1860s, the closest parallel I can come up with is comparing mayors and governors of sanctuary cities and states to those promoting secession from the Union. But whereas a case can be made that the Confederacy had a constitutional basis for standing up to the federal government, no rational person can possibly justify endangering American citizens on behalf of criminals who have no business being within our borders.

It's fascinating that a black woman, such as Sen. Harris, feels entitled to demean white Americans who simply object to having their nation invaded by predominantly brown mobs—but have no problem being friends and neighbors with American citizens who happen to be Hispanic—bigots and racists.

If Democrats want to see real life bigots, they need only look in the mirror.

■ Tom Brokaw caved in

Speaking of racism, Tom Brokaw made the mistake of saying something sensible on TV; namely, that Hispanics in the U.S. should make every effort to assimilate and to be certain that they and their kids learn to speak and read English.

On the face of it, that is such an obvious statement, you wonder why he felt called upon to say it. But, of course, Brokaw spent decades at the news anchor desk for NBC, so he got used to stating the obvious in those sombre tones that all network anchors learn to master during their time at the Cronkite Academy of Clichés and Ponderous Mutterings.

As one would suspect, for breaking ranks with his former colleagues, the usual suspects trashed Brokaw as a racist, a catchall term that stupid people have learned to apply to anyone who disagrees with them. Or, in other words, dares to speak the truth.

Fortunately, Brokaw is no longer on salary at NBC. Otherwise, he would have been fired. Honesty, after all, is now reason enough for the Left to call for your head on a spike.

In fact, I was all set to spring to Brokaw's defense, but he took my legs right out from under me by apologizing as soon as the virtue-signaling attacks began.

Which is why I wish the coward had still been employed, just so he could have felt the axe hit his neck.

■ Investigate Trump, but not Hillary?

What makes the Leftists' attack on Trump ring so hollow when it comes to the fraudulent Russian collusion claims is that if they really believed them, they would want to see Hillary Clinton grilled on a spit. After all, she famously pushed the re-set button with her Russian counterpart; she and her husband accepted bribes from the Russians; she used a personal server while transmitting national security material on her electronic devices; and she handed over 25% of our uranium deposits to Russian oligarchs. And, finally, she and her cohorts in the DNC paid millions of dollars for the updated version of the fictional best seller known as the Russian dossier.

■ Raid on Roger Stone

I've never been a fan of Roger Stone, who strikes me as just another of those pilot fish who accompany political sharks, feasting off the remains that stick between their teeth. For sharks who can't brush after every meal, the little fish serve as dental floss. And so long as they do their jobs right, the sharks don't eat them.

But even I was outraged when Robert Mueller and his henchman at the FBI, Christopher Wray, conducted an early morning raid at Stone's home in Fort Lauderdale that involved 29 heavily armed agents, two armored vehicles and a helicopter, which, as Tucker Carlson pointed out, was more men and fire power than the Navy Seals employed in the Pakistan raid on Osama bin Laden's hideout.



"Eye on the World" comment: How is a citizen supposed to evaluate Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez? On one hand, she displays ignorance and illogical thinking about a variety of issues. Yet on the other hand, she has gained power through her massive social media and her positive coverage in much of the mainstream media. Following are four articles for readers to consider.



An article by Amelia Irune titled "Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez Is Setting Women Back Light Years in Politics" was posted at thefederalist.com on Jan. 18, 2019. Following is the article.

Vox dubbed her "the most buzzed-about first-term member of the House of Representatives," and *The Atlantic* credited her with an "unusually transparent approach to public relations."

She's a former Bernie Sanders campaign volunteer and a self-styled democratic socialist. Despite all the fanfare, her recent "60 Minutes" interview with Anderson Cooper shined a bright spotlight on a painful fact: Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez will make it harder for young women in politics to be taken seriously in the future.

In mere minutes, Ocasio-Cortez managed to affirm nearly every negative stereotype about the female sex, from the trope that we're no good at math to the notion that you shouldn't trust us with a credit card. If all you saw was her example, you'd think we're all just emotional dreamers who need to be reined in by reality.

Ocasio-Cortez is not a feminist hero

Ocasio-Cortez is not the feminist hero most media coverage has made her out to be. If anything, her time in the spotlight has set women in politics back.

"I think that there's a lot of people more concerned about being precisely, factually, and semantically correct than about being morally right," Ocasio-Cortez told Cooper after he asked about her careless and incorrect analysis of the defense budget.

In one sentence, Ocasio-Cortez portrayed herself as a woman who is ready to subordinate facts to her moral convictions, confirming aching anti-female stereotypes.

She may as well have driven erratically down the highway or failed to catch a gently thrown ball. Of course, she later admitted that being factually correct is "absolutely important." She just doesn't seem to care much about facts and numbers when she's tweeting.

Or, for that matter, when she's speaking. In discussing with Cooper her proposal for a "Green New Deal," which would use the full force of the government in an attempt to convert the United States to 100 percent renewable energy by 2030, she could not offer an actual answer for how such an enormous transformation would be possible.

"It's going to require a lot of rapid change that we don't even conceive as possible right now," was all she could say.

Shockingly, the reason we "don't conceive of it as possible" is because it is not possible.

Renewable sources generated just 17 percent of U.S. electricity in 2017, so it would be a herculean task to more than quintuple that share in just 12 years.

As for the cost, Stanford researchers estimated in 2015 that the machinery and infrastructure investments required to make our energy system wholly dependent on wind, water, and solar by 2050 would cost \$13.4 trillion, a sum a bit larger than the entire U.S. gross domestic product was in 2005.

And Ocasio-Cortez wants to do it even earlier than that, with little to no concern about the mind-numbing cost.

But her Green New Deal is more than just an energy policy proposal. Because fighting climate change apparently requires implementing every expansive progressive policy, Ocasio-Cortez's proposal includes a universal jobs guarantee and a commitment, seemingly unrelated to the environment, to "mitigate deeply entrenched racial, regional and gender-based inequalities in income and wealth."

It also features a mandate to create “additional measures such as basic income programs, universal health care programs and any others as the select committee may deem appropriate.”

Proponents of a federal job guarantee estimate that the program would cost \$543 billion annually, and a national single-payer health-care system would cost \$32.6 trillion in just the first 10 years of implementation.

Talk about pushing Granny over a cliff

Combining these figures, a conservative estimate of the total costs of the Green New Deal over its first 10 years would be a little over \$51 trillion.

Even without single-payer health care, a key part of the platform, the Green New Deal would cost \$18.8 trillion over 10 years, or \$1.88 trillion annually.

For reference, the federal government only collected \$1.884 trillion in total income and corporate taxes in 2017.

All the assets combined of the nation’s top 1 percent totals approximately \$23 trillion, to use a midrange estimate, so even confiscating every penny from the richest Americans would only fund five years of Ocasio-Cortez’s Green New Deal. Then what?

Ocasio-Cortez has refrained from discussing the potential costs of her proposal and therefore has never tried to walk through the numbers on how to pay for it.

Funding such expensive government programs requires increased deficit spending, raising taxes—or both. That seems to be Ocasio-Cortez’s approach, as she has suggested 70 percent marginal tax rates for the “tippy tops” of high-income households, and insists that simply increasing the national debt could pay for her proposal.

To say this unrealistic analysis is fiscally irresponsible would be a massive understatement. But Ocasio-Cortez’s refusal to engage in a difficult conversation about the numbers involved and her disregard for the truth hurts the cause for women’s equality.

Like it or not, Ocasio-Cortez has become one of the most visible women in politics—and she’s making us all look dumb.

Conservative pundit Ann Coulter once made a controversial claim that “single women look at the government as their husbands,” expecting the government to provide for their every need.

Ocasio-Cortez’s Green New Deal naivete provides unfair validation for that statement. Instead of using her massive platform to make nuanced, well-reasoned arguments for taxing the rich and expanding the national debt, her current track record indicates that she’s interested in neither.

All of the cringeworthy media interviews and high-profile errors she’s been so flippant about making will only cause more difficulty for young women to get elected to high office in the future.

Her incompetence only cements the idea that a pretty, likable woman is one who, unfortunately, lacks a brain.



An article by Bruce Haring titled “Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez Sets C-SPAN Record for Twitter Speech Video” was posted at deadline.com on Jan. 17, 2019. Following is the article.

Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez’s first speech on the House floor has set a new C-SPAN Twitter record.

“In just over 12 hours C-SPAN tweet of @RepAOC floor remarks last nite have become most-viewed twitter video by @cspan of any remarks by a member of House either party. 1.16M,” said a tweet from Howard Mortman, the broadcaster’s communications director.

The record-holder for C-SPAN Twitter video in the Senate is held by Sen. Kamala Harris. The video shows her questioning then-Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh during his confirmation hearing last fall. Her video got 7.14 million views, Mortman said.

Ocasio-Cortez now has 2,444,298 followers on Twitter and 1.8 million followers on Instagram, giving her a powerful platform for her controversial views.

In her Twitter record House speech, Ocasio-Cortez condemned the government shutdown and border wall.

“It is actually not about a wall, it is not about the border, and it is certainly not about the well-being of everyday Americans,” she said. “The truth is, this shutdown is about the erosion of American democracy and the subversion of our most basic governmental norms.”



An article by Kira Davis titled “Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez Is America’s Child” was posted at townhall.com on Feb. 8, 2019. Following is the article.

I once had my 5-year-old niece and my son of the same age out with me shopping when my son asked if we could go spend the night at “a hotel with a pool.” This was something we did from time to time when we wanted to enjoy a treat and some swim time during the long Midwestern winters.

I told them that we couldn’t do it that weekend because I didn’t have the money to pay for a room at that time. My niece looked at me quite earnestly and said, “But can’t you just take one of those card things and go get money from the machine?”

Bless her sweet little heart. At that age she naturally could not understand the concept of earning money, saving money and spending money. For her it was just something that came out of a machine whenever adults wanted some.

I am reminded about that cute encounter years ago every time I see Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez speak publicly about all of the programs she hopes to magic into existence during her tenure as a member of Congress.

Like my niece, she has no concept of where money comes from, how it is earned and how it is spent. She has an idea that when she (government) wants money, all the adults have to do is hit up a machine and get some.

America has all kinds of celebrity cultural representatives. Julia Roberts has often been described as America's Sweetheart. The Kennedys were America's Royalty. Oprah Winfrey is sometimes considered America's Favorite Auntie.

Ocasio-Cortez is America's Child.

She's been thrust onto the national stage, but hasn't lived long enough or had enough experience yet to shape her into a mature thinker. Life hasn't yet imposed its cold, brutal reality. She still has hopes and dreams.

Like every other child in the nation, she thinks history began the day she was born. She's pretty sure the grown-ups in the room are too old to know much about anything cool or worthwhile. She's like a 5-year-old when it comes to money, but like a sullen teenager when it comes to learning.

My niece and son are now teenagers, and like Ocasio-Cortez they think every adult around them is clueless and out-of-touch. We're all just sucking up air and taking up space while denying people like her the opportunity to Change the World.

Ocasio-Cortez's Green New Deal is simply the manifestation of a juvenile wish list—the same utopian fantasy that resides inside the bubble of every wide-eyed, curious, well-intentioned child.

And make no mistake, just because she's a far-left progressive doesn't mean she's not well-intentioned. Maybe she doesn't mean well for you or even for me, but (again) like a little child she means well for the people who spin around in her orbit; and like a child she thinks that is the only orbit that exists. All that exists outside of her immediate experience doesn't exist at all.

This isn't meant to dismiss Ocasio-Cortez as a formidable politician. In fact, I think Republicans and conservatives should take her a lot more seriously. She's not stupid, just uneducated about the things that matter.

This week Nancy Pelosi played scolding grandma to Ocasio-Cortez's whiny kindergartener and yanked her back in line after letting her play dress-up with the big girls for a while.

If the young representative from New York is as savvy as I think she is, she'll learn from Pelosi's leadership and experience and end up following her as a

party leader one day, but that's only if she has the ability to take her lumps. That remains to be seen.

Just as Pelosi took Ocasio-Cortez by the ear this week and pulled her back in line, so did America do what most responsible adults do with ornery kids—we laughed to ourselves and shook our heads. “Kids will be kids,” we muttered through our bemused exasperation.

Maybe Ocasio-Cortez will grow up soon enough. Maybe she'll figure out one day that she can't just have whatever she wants whenever she wants it by simply sending a rainbow unicorn with a mane made of chocolate dreams and marshmallow wishes to a mysterious machine that just spits out unlimited cash.

We'll have to wait and see. Until then it looks like America's Child is going to keep throwing her Christmas wish list at us in the hopes that the world will one day bend to her singular, childish will.



An article by Carli Pierson titled “Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez Will Be the First Female US President” was posted at aljazeera.com on Jan. 16, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

Donald Trump's shocking victory in the 2016 presidential race caused liberals across the United States to question whether the country was indeed ready for a woman president.

Since then, there has been much speculation about various female politicians and celebrities running for office, including Senator Elizabeth Warren, Senator Kamala Harris, Oprah, Michelle Obama, and others. There have even been rumours that Hillary Clinton might run again.

I, however, don't see any of these women making it to the White House. I think the first female president of the US will be New York Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (or AOC as she has come to be known).

It may take her another six years to get there, but the youngest woman elected to the US Congress will win the presidency.

Here is how and why.

Alexandria is not Hillary

Hillary Clinton lost the 2016 election because she failed to convince working-class voters that she would be able to understand and address their growing grievances.

While she started her journey as a young, educated, idealistic feminist believing in social justice and equality, over the course of her life in the political limelight, she (and her husband) made a fortune of over \$50m, including \$21m in speaking fees she was paid by Wall Street businesses and other interest groups.

She gradually became an unrelatable poster-child of corporate America's greed. This, combined with the proliferation of fake news and misinformation provided by Trump's campaign were the proverbial "nails in the coffin" for her presidential bid.

Unlike Clinton and most politicians for that matter, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez rejected donations from corporate political action committees, or PACs. She didn't take millions from Wall Street and then preach to blue-collar Americans that she understood their struggles.

- This helped her not to be perceived as a member of the Washington establishment like Clinton and her peers Senators Elizabeth Warren and Kirsten Gillibrand, for example.

Moreover, Clinton just offered middle-of-the-road policies that simply promised more of the same.

- By contrast, Ocasio-Cortez, as an out and proud democratic socialist, advocated for federally guaranteed jobs and "Medicare-For-All," called for tuition-free public colleges and the dismantling of the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

With this, AOC made it clear that she offers a different kind of politics that is unadulterated by corporate and lobbyist connections. This is, in fact, what helped her defeat a 20-year incumbent and the fourth-ranking House Democrat, Joe Crowley, in the Democratic race for New York's 14th Congressional District.

- AOC is also a master of grassroots organising and, while her actions convey that she is in touch with the challenges ordinary Americans face, her greatest asset may be her ability to connect with them in a way that feels genuine and not contrived.

Millennials, for example, find AOC more relatable than any other potential presidential candidate.

- With her 2.37 million Twitter followers and growing, she is a skilled social media user who knows how to connect and communicate with the younger generation and will certainly be able to secure their vote.

And in the coming decade, it increasingly seems that it will be the millennials who will become the most important voting bloc within the US electorate.

- And finally, AOC was also able to capture the attention of the press and has already shown much skill in fending off public attacks. Even before she was sworn into office on January 3, conservatives had already launched a smear campaign against her, which is indicative of how much she scares them.

With the election of Trump and AOC's rise to stardom, one thing has become undoubtedly clear: US voters are desperate for new politics and fresh faces who can offer real change. And with her charisma, presence and political acumen, Ocasio-Cortez is able to tap into these sentiments. To put it in Trump's words, Ocasio-Cortez is a "winner," she is "winning."

Her popularity in the press parallels Trump's during his presidential bid in 2016 when he proved true the cliché "any press is good press."

AOC will run in 2024 after eight years of Trump

Alexandria is unlikely to run in 2020 and challenge Trump because she will not meet the constitutional requirement of being 35 by then.

The Democratic Party is likely to nominate someone like former Texas Congressman Beto O'Rourke, who will stick to the traditional Democratic centre-left talking points: "compromise, compromise, compromise."

If that happens, Trump will certainly bully him into a corner on the campaign trail and during the debates and will go on to win the 2020 presidential election, to the despair and shame of millions of Americans.

Another Trump presidency will certainly drag the country into deeper political, social and economic crises and will convince disillusioned voters once and for all that the Donald was never the man who could or even wanted to "drain the swamp."

At the same time, these five years will also give AOC the time to understand how Washington works, build her political profile and prove herself as a house representative.

She will also quietly make more allies in the Democratic Party and after her two-year-term as congresswoman is over, she may choose to move up the political ladder by running for office as a senator for her home state of New York, in order to broaden her political experience before a run for president in 2024.

Perhaps the greatest challenge Ocasio-Cortez will face along the way to 2024 is remaining true to herself and her principles and withstanding the ineluctable and incessant weathering of the lobbyists who effectively run Congress behind the scenes.

In her *60 Minutes* interview with Anderson Cooper, she admitted she is worried about how Washington would change her because it inevitably changes everyone.

If she manages to "survive" Washington and emerge stronger, the 2024 Democratic nomination for president definitely has "Ocasio-Cortez" written all over it. I, for one, will definitely vote for her.



An article by Jonathan Williams titled "Americans Continue Their March to Low-Tax-States" was posted at thehill.com on Feb. 12, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

The United States Census Bureau released its annual state-by-state population estimates for 2018 in late December. It highlights migration trends across the states and sketches a picture of looming political changes that will take place after the complete census of 2020.

- Idaho, Nevada, Utah and Arizona led the way this past year in overall population growth as a percentage of population.
- Once again, Texas and Florida were the big winners in overall population gains, with the Lone Star State gaining more than 379,000 residents from 2017-18 and the Sunshine State posting a gain of more than 322,000.
- The big net losers from the report were New York, which lost a total of 48,510 residents, and Illinois, which lost 45,116.

Of the nine states with no personal income tax, seven experienced positive domestic migration in the past year, totaling more than 339,000 on net. On the other side of the equation, a majority of states with the highest personal income tax rates experienced net domestic out-migration last year.

Americans continue to vote with their feet, and they are voting strongly in favor of those states creating an environment conducive to economic growth and opportunity.



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

Deficit

- An article by Michael Collins titled “National Debt Tops \$22 Trillion for the First Time As Experts Warn of Ripple Effect” was posted at usatoday.com on Feb. 12, 2019.
- An article by Molly Prince titled “The House Is Set to Vote on Trillion Dollar Spending Bill; No One Has Read It” was posted at dailycaller.com on Feb. 13, 2019.

Finances

- An article by Sergio Chapa titled “Report: Texas Crude Oil Production Breaks 1970s Record” was posted at chron.com (Houston) on Feb. 11, 2019.
- An article by Catey Hill titled “West Coast Real Estate Is Now So Expensive That Married Couples Are Moving In With Multiple Roommates” was posted at marketwatch.com on Feb. 12, 2019.
- An article by Heather Long titled “Record 7 Million Americans Are 3 Months Behind on Car Payments [Reported the Federal Reserve Bank of New York], A Red Flag for Economy” was posted at washingtonpost.com on Feb. 12, 2019.
- A Reuters article titled “Retail Sales Drop the Most Since September 2009” was posted at reuters.com on Feb. 14, 2019.

■ An article by Ryan Bourne titled "Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's Green New Deal Is a Radical Front for Nationalizing Our Economy" was posted at usatoday.com on Feb. 11, 2019.

■ An article by Sumantra Maitra titled "The Green New Deal Is Simply a Delusional Excuse to Seize Power" was posted at thefederalist.com on Feb. 12, 2019.

Green New Deal

■ An article by Naomi Lim titled "Howard Schultz Rips the 'Green New Deal': It's Not Realistic" was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on Feb. 12, 2019.

■ An article by Shawn Langlois titled "Bill Gates: Tax Plans Like Ocasio-Cortez's Are 'Extreme' and 'Missing the Picture' " was posted at marketwatch.com on Feb. 12, 2019.

■ An article by David French titled "Democrats Con Their Base With Green Deal" was posted at nationalreview.com on Feb. 11, 2019.

■ An article by Ian Schwartz titled "Prager on Green New Deal: The Problem With Leftists Is They Need a Crusade to Have Purpose" was posted at realclearpolitics.com on Feb. 8, 2019.

■ An article by Cortney O'Brien titled "Cory Booker Just Compared the Green New Deal to the Moon Landing" was posted at townhall.com on Feb. 8, 2019.

■ An article by Ethel C. Fenig titled "Al Gore Comes Out in Favor of Ocasio-Cortez's Green New Deal" was posted at americanthinker.com on Feb. 9, 2019.

■ An article by Nicolas Loris titled "Even If U.S. Cuts CO2 Emissions 100%, World Would Only Be 0.137 Degree Celsius Cooler by 2100" was posted at cnsnews.com on Feb. 8, 2019.

■ An article by Beth Baumann titled "CA Gov. Newsom Just Delivered a Huge Blow to AOC's 'Green New Deal' [Stopping \$77 Billion High Speed Train Between LA and San Francisco]" was posted at townhall.com on Feb. 12, 2019.

■ An article titled "California Governor Abandons \$77 Billion High-Speed Train Between LA and San Francisco" was posted at usatoday.com on Feb. 13, 2019.

■ An article by Gabrielle Debinski titled "AOC, I Love You; Jeremy Corbyn [British Labour Leader With a History Involving Anti-Semites] Is No Ally" was posted at forward.com on Feb. 5, 2019.

■ A video and an article by Cabot Phillips titled "Video: Students All About Ocasio-Cortez's Green New Deal—Then Find Out What's In It" were posted at campusreform.org on Feb. 11, 2019.

■ An article by Ben Shapiro titled "AOC's Green New Deal Proposal Is One of the Stupidest Documents Ever Written" was posted at dailywire.com on Feb. 7, 2019.

■ An article by Joseph Curl titled “The Laughable, Pathetic, Infantile Green New Deal Sets a New Low for Democrats” was posted at washingtontimes.com on Feb. 8, 2019.

Illegal immigration

■ A Reuters article titled “Border Patrol Overwhelmed by Large Groups of Migrant Families” was posted at reuters.com on Feb. 8, 2019.

■ An article titled “Ted Cruz Says Billions [\$14 Billion] in Assets Tied to ‘El Chapo’ Should Fund the Border Wall” was posted at usatoday.com on Feb. 13, 2019.

Comments about weapons

■ An article by Ryan J. Foley titled “Gun-Seizure Laws Grow in Popularity Since Parkland Shooting” was posted at apnews.com on Feb. 10, 2019.

■ An article by Nicholas K. Geranios titled “Some Washington Sheriffs Refuse to Enforce New Gun Laws” was posted at abcnews.com on Feb. 10, 2019.

■ An article by Beth Baumann titled “WA State AG to Sheriffs: Put Your Political Views Aside and Enforce Our Gun Control Law—Or Else” was posted at townhall.com on Feb. 13, 2019.

Comments about Trump support

■ An article by Michael Gryboski titled “Ralph Northam ‘More Interested in Wearing Blackface Than Saving Black Babies’: Black Pastor [E.W. Jackson] Says” was posted at christianpost.com on Feb. 8, 2019.

■ An article by Paul Steinhauser titled “2020 Dems Embrace Green New Deal, As GOP Sees Campaign Gold” was posted at foxnews.com on Feb. 8, 2019.

■ An article by Pat Buchanan titled “Are the Democrats Bent on Suicide?” was posted at townhall.com on Feb. 12, 2019.

Comments about Trump opposition

■ An article by Katie Pavlich titled “Fired Deputy FBI Director Andrew McCabe Says There Were Multiple DOJ Meetings About How to Remove President Trump From Office” was posted at townhall.com on Feb. 14, 2019.

■ An article by Kerri Toloczko titled “Democrats Trip Over the Kavanaugh [Sexual Assault] Standard They Created” was posted at townhall.com on Feb. 12, 2019.

■ An article titled “Mayoral Task Force Recommends Paying Struggling Chicagoans \$1,000 a Month” was posted at abc7chicago.com on Feb. 8, 2019.

■ A Reuters article by Lawrence Hurley titled “Chief Justice Roberts Emerges As U.S. Supreme Court’s Swing Vote” was posted at reuters.com on Feb. 6, 2019.

- An article by Jennifer Bendery titled "Democrats Come for Susan Collins [Who Voted for Kavanaugh] After Brett Kavanaugh Backs Anti-Abortion Law" was posted at huffpost.com on Feb. 10, 2019.
- An article by Laretta Brown titled "Abortion Group Goes After Sinema for Supporting Trump Judicial Nominee" was posted at townhall.com on Feb. 13, 2019.
- An article by Daniel Sanderson titled "Harrison Ford Delivers Apocalyptic Climate Change Warning [Ahead of Dubai's World Government Summit]" was posted at theinternational.ae on Feb. 9, 2019.
- An article by Claude Brodesser-Akner titled "Cory Booker Thinks His Message of Love Can Win Back the White House; Will Angry Dems Listen?" was posted at nj.com on Feb. 3, 2019.
- An article by Reid J. Epstein titled "Cory Booker Stumps in Iowa Seeking Position As Obama's Heir" was posted at wsj.com on Feb. 9, 2019.
- An article by Katelyn Caralle titled "Elizabeth Warren Identified Herself As American Indian on 1986 Document [Registering for the State Bar of Texas]" was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on Feb. 5, 2019.
- An article by Jennifer Bendery titled "Elizabeth Warren Makes Surprise Appearance at Native American Conference" was posted at huffpost.com on Feb. 12, 2019.
- An article by Marc Caputo titled "Michael Bloomberg's \$500 Million Anti-Trump Moonshot [Minimum Spending Projection]" was posted at politico.com on Feb. 13, 2019.
- An article by Beth Baumann titled "Report: Schumer Has a Handpicked Candidate Who May Challenge McConnell Next Year" was posted at townhall.com on Feb. 12, 2019.
- An article by Randy Hall titled "Geraldo Rivera Fawns Over AOC's 'Idealistic,' 'Aspirational' Socialism" was posted at newsbusters.org on Feb. 8, 2019.
- An article by Shawn Langlois titled "Ocasio-Cortez Says the System Is Broken, And the Internet Goes Wild" was posted at marketwatch.com on Feb. 11, 2019.

Irishman Robert Francis (Beto) O'Rourke

- An article by John Daniel Davidson titled "In El Paso, Beto O'Rourke Makes It Easy for Trump to Target 'Extreme' Democrats" was posted at thefederalist.com on Feb. 12, 2019.
- An article by Lindsey Bever titled "BBC Cameraman Was 'Violently Pushed and Shoved' by Man in MAGA Hat at Trump Rally" was posted at washingtonpost.com on Feb. 12, 2019.

■ An article by Jim Holt titled "Beto Supporters Beat Trump Pinata in the Head During Bobby O'Rourke Rally in El Paso" was posted at thegateway-pundit.com on Feb. 12, 2019.

Howard Schultz

■ An article by Lisa Donovan titled "Ex-Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz in Chicago: Vows Not to Be 'Spoiler' for President Trump's Re-Election" was posted at chicagotribune.com on Feb. 13, 2019.

News about the media

■ An article by David Harsanyi titled "'Impartial' Fact-Checkers Are Revealing Their Partisanship Against Trump" was posted at nypost.com on Feb. 9, 2019.

■ An article by Gabriel Hays titled "Video Venom: 33 TV Shows in January Slam 'Terrorist' Trump, Praise Abortion" was posted at newsbusters.org on Feb. 11, 2019.

■ An article by Katie Pavlich titled "Independent Investigation Shows Covington Boys Told the Truth, Confirms Nathan Phillips Is a Liar Amplified by the Media" was posted at townhall.com on Feb. 13, 2019.

■ An article by Paul Farhi titled "When It Comes to Calling Out the News Media, Ocasio-Cortez Has Some Things in Common With Trump" was posted at washingtonpost.com on Feb. 13, 2019.

General interest

■ An article by Chris Riotta titled "US Step Closer to Developing Hypersonic Missile That Travels at Five Times the Speed of Sound" was posted at independent.co.uk on Feb. 8, 2019.

■ An article by Laura Donnelly titled "Children Spend Twice As Long on Smartphones As Talking to Parents" was posted at telegraph.co.uk on Feb. 7, 2019.

■ An article by Lauren Victory titled "Thousands of Chicagoans Wake Up to Missing Cars" was posted at cbschicago.com on Feb. 8, 2019.

■ An article titled "Boston Has Worst Traffic in Nation, According to New Rankings" was posted at cbsboston.com on Feb. 12, 2019.

■ An article titled "Yellowstone's Steamboat Geyser Is Gushing at a Record Pace [Erupting a Record 32 Times Last Year to Heights of 300 to 400 Feet Which Is Higher Than Old Faithful's Top Height of 185 Feet]" was posted at yahoo.com on Feb. 8, 2019.

■ An article by Kristin Lam titled "Hawaii Storm Brings 60-Foot Waves, Damaging Winds, Power Outages" was posted at usatoday.com on Feb. 11, 2019.

■ An article by Jennifer McCaffery titled "[Chick-Fil-A] Could Become the Third-Largest Fast Food Chain in the U.S. [With the Current Top Three Being McDonald's, Starbucks and Subway]" was posted at yahoo.com on Feb. 8, 2019.



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