

# Eye on the World

## July 4, 2020

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 July 4, 2020.

**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).



A Reuters article by Meg Shen and Yew Lun Tian titled "China Passes Sweeping Hong Kong Security Law, Heralding Authoritarian Era" was posted at reuters.com on July 1, 2020. Following is the article.

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Beijing on Tuesday unveiled new national security laws for Hong Kong that will punish crimes of secession, subversion, terrorism and collusion with foreign forces with up to life in prison, heralding a more authoritarian era for China's freest city.

As the law came into force, authorities were set to throw a security blanket across the heart of the city's financial center on Wednesday after activists vowed to defy a police ban and rally against the measures.

Local media said up to 4,000 officers would be deployed to stamp out any protests.

China's parliament passed the detailed legislation earlier on Tuesday, giving Beijing sweeping powers and setting the stage for radical changes to the global financial hub's way of life.

Beijing had kept full details shrouded in secrecy, giving Hong Kong's 7.5 million people no time to digest the complex legislation before it entered into force at 11 p.m. (1500 GMT) on June 30.

The timing was seen as a symbolic humiliation for Britain, coming just an hour before the 23rd anniversary of when Hong Kong's last colonial governor, Chris Patten, a staunch critic of the law, tearfully handed back Hong Kong to Chinese rule.

Amid fears the law will crush the city's freedoms, prominent activist Joshua Wong's Demosisto and other pro-democracy groups said they would dissolve.

"The punitive elements of the law are stupefying," Simon Young, a law professor at the University of Hong Kong's law school and a barrister, told Reuters.

"Let us hope no one tries to test this law, for the consequences to the individual and the legal system will be irreparable."

The legislation pushes Beijing further along a collision course with the United States, Britain and other Western governments, which have said it erodes the high degree of autonomy the city was granted at its July 1, 1997, handover.

Britain and some two dozen Western countries urged China to reconsider the law, saying Beijing must preserve the right to assembly and free press.

"The United States will not stand idly by while China swallows Hong Kong into its authoritarian maw," U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said in a statement.

He said the United States would stand with the people of Hong Kong and "respond to Beijing's attacks on freedoms of speech, the press, and assembly, as well as the rule of law."

Washington, already in dispute with China over trade, the South China Sea and the coronavirus, began eliminating Hong Kong's special status under U.S. law on Monday, halting defense exports and restricting technology access.

China, which has rejected criticism of the law by Britain, the European Union, Japan, Taiwan and others, said it would retaliate.

Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam, in a video message to the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, urged the international community to "respect our country's right to safeguard national security."

She said the law would not undermine the city's autonomy or its independent judiciary.

Authorities in Beijing and Hong Kong have repeatedly said the legislation is aimed at a few "troublemakers" and will not affect rights and freedoms, nor investor interests.

As the law was passed in Beijing, the Chinese People's Liberation Army garrison in Hong Kong held a drill which included exercises to stop suspicious vessels and arrest fugitives, according to the Weibo social media account of state-run CCTV's military channel.

## **Overpowering**

In their most severe form, crimes will be punishable with life in prison. Punishments otherwise largely go up to 10 years. Properties related to crimes could be frozen or confiscated.

The security legislation will supersede existing Hong Kong laws where there is a conflict and mainland Chinese authorities could exercise jurisdiction over some major cases.

Interpretation powers belong to the Chinese parliament's top decision-making body.

Judges for security cases will be appointed by the city's chief executive.

According to the law, a new national security agency will be set up for the first time in Hong Kong and will not be under the jurisdiction of the local government. Authorities can carry out surveillance and wire-tap people suspected of endangering national security, it said.

Those asking foreign countries to sanction, blockade or take other hostile action against Hong Kong or China could be guilty of colluding with foreign forces.

Authorities shall take necessary measures to strengthen the management and servicing of foreign countries' and international organizations' branches in Hong Kong, as well as foreign media and NGOs in the city, the law says.

"We can all start again," pro-Beijing heavyweight Maria Tam, a member of China's National People's Congress, told reporters.

Activists and pro-democracy politicians said they would defy a police ban on a rally on the handover anniversary on Wednesday.

"We will never accept the passing of the law, even though it is so overpowering," said Democratic Party chairman Wu Chi-wai.

A majority in Hong Kong opposes the legislation, a poll conducted for Reuters in June showed, but support for the protests has fallen to only a slim majority.

Dozens of supporters of Beijing popped champagne corks and waved Chinese flags in celebration in front of government headquarters.

"I'm very happy," said one elderly man, surnamed Lee.

"This will leave anti-China spies and people who brought chaos to Hong Kong with nowhere to go."



An article by Michael Shellenberger titled "On Behalf of Environmentalists, I Apologize for the Climate Scare" was posted at [environmentalprogress.org](http://environmentalprogress.org) on June 29, 2020. Following are excerpts of the article.

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On behalf of environmentalists everywhere, I would like to formally apologize for the climate scare we created over the last 30 years.

Climate change is happening. It's just not the end of the world. It's not even our most serious environmental problem.

### **Climate activist**

I may seem like a strange person to be saying all of this. I have been a climate activist for 20 years and an environmentalist for 30.

But as an energy expert asked by Congress to provide objective expert testimony, and invited by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to serve as Expert Reviewer of its next Assessment Report, I feel an obligation to apologize for how badly we environmentalists have misled the public.

Here are some facts few people know.

- Humans are not causing a “sixth mass extinction.”
- The Amazon is not “the lungs of the world.”
- Climate change is not making natural disasters worse.
- Fires have declined 25% around the world since 2003.
- The amount of land we use for meat—humankind’s biggest use of land—has declined by an area nearly as large as Alaska.
- The build-up of wood fuel and more houses near forests, not climate change, explain why there are more, and more dangerous, fires in Australia and California.
- Carbon emissions are declining in most rich nations and have been declining in Britain, Germany, and France since the mid-1970s.
- Netherlands became rich not poor while adapting to life below sea level.
- We produce 25% more food than we need and food surpluses will continue to rise as the world gets hotter.
- Habitat loss and the direct killing of wild animals are bigger threats to species than climate change.
- Wood fuel is far worse for people and wildlife than fossil fuels.
- Preventing future pandemics requires more not less “industrial” agriculture.

### **Power of climate alarmism**

I know that the above facts will sound like “climate denialism” to many people. But that just shows the power of climate alarmism.

In reality, the above facts come from the best-available scientific studies, including those conducted by or accepted by the IPCC, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and other leading scientific bodies.

### **Environmentalist background**

Some people will, when they read this imagine that I’m some right-wing anti-environmentalist. I’m not.

At 17, I lived in Nicaragua to show solidarity with the Sandinista socialist revolution. At 23 I raised money for Guatemalan women’s cooperatives. In my early 20s I lived in the semi-Amazon doing research with small farmers fighting land invasions. At 26 I helped expose poor conditions at Nike factories in Asia.

I became an environmentalist at 16 when I threw a fundraiser for Rainforest Action Network. At 27 I helped save the last unprotected ancient redwoods in California. In my 30s I advocated renewables and successfully helped persuade the Obama administration to invest \$90 billion into them. Over the last few years I helped save enough nuclear plants from being replaced by fossil fuels to prevent a sharp increase in emissions.

### **Was guilty of alarmism**

But until last year, I mostly avoided speaking out against the climate scare. Partly that's because I was embarrassed.

After all, I am as guilty of alarmism as any other environmentalist. For years, I referred to climate change as an "existential" threat to human civilization, and called it a "crisis."

### **Afraid of losing friends and funding**

But mostly I was scared. I remained quiet about the climate disinformation campaign because I was afraid of losing friends and funding. The few times I summoned the courage to defend climate science from those who misrepresent it I suffered harsh consequences.

And so I mostly stood by and did next to nothing as my fellow environmentalists terrified the public.

### **Saw others attacked, stayed quiet**

I even stood by as people in the White House and many in the news media tried to destroy the reputation and career of an outstanding scientist, good man, and friend of mine, Roger Pielke, Jr., a lifelong progressive Democrat and environmentalist who testified in favor of carbon regulations.

Why did they do that? Because his research proves natural disasters aren't getting worse.

### **Rhetoric spiraled out of control**

But then, last year, things spiraled out of control.

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez said "The world is going to end in twelve years if we don't address climate change." Britain's most high-profile environmental group claimed "Climate Change Kills Children."

The world's most influential green journalist, Bill McKibben, called climate change the "greatest challenge humans have ever faced" and said it would "wipe out civilizations."

Mainstream journalists reported, repeatedly, that the Amazon was "the lungs of the world," and that deforestation was like a nuclear bomb going off.

### **Nightmares from alarmism**

As a result, half of the people surveyed around the world last year said they thought climate change would make humanity extinct. And in January, one out of five British children told pollsters they were having nightmares about climate change.

Whether or not you have children you must see how wrong this is. I admit I may be sensitive because I have a teenage daughter.

After we talked about the science she was reassured. But her friends are deeply misinformed and thus, understandably, frightened.

I thus decided I had to speak out. I knew that writing a few articles wouldn't be enough. I needed a book to properly lay out all of the evidence.

### **Apology in form of a book**

And so my formal apology for our fear-mongering comes in the form of my new book, *Apocalypse Never: Why Environmental Alarmism Hurts Us All*.

It is based on two decades of research and three decades of environmental activism. At 400 pages, with 100 of them endnotes, *Apocalypse Never* covers climate change, deforestation, plastic waste, species extinction, industrialization, meat, nuclear energy, and renewables.

Some highlights from the book.

- Factories and modern farming are the keys to human liberation and environmental progress.
- The most important thing for saving the environment is producing more food, particularly meat, on less land.
- The most important thing for reducing air pollution and carbon emissions is moving from wood to coal to petroleum to natural gas to uranium.
- 100% renewables would require increasing the land used for energy from today's 0.5% to 50%.
- We should want cities, farms, and power plants to have higher, not lower, power densities.
- Vegetarianism reduces one's emissions by less than 4%.
- Greenpeace didn't save the whales, switching from whale oil to petroleum and palm oil did.
- "Free-range" beef would require 20 times more land and produce 300% more emissions.
- Greenpeace dogmatism worsened forest fragmentation of the Amazon.
- The colonialist approach to gorilla conservation in the Congo produced a backlash that may have resulted in the killing of 250 elephants.

### **Malthusianism is powerful**

Why were we all so misled?

In the final three chapters of *Apocalypse Never* I expose the financial, political, and ideological motivations.

Environmental groups have accepted hundreds of millions of dollars from fossil fuel interests. Groups motivated by anti-humanist beliefs forced the World Bank to stop trying to end poverty and instead make poverty “sustainable.” And status anxiety, depression, and hostility to modern civilization are behind much of the alarmism.

Once you realize just how badly misinformed we have been, often by people with plainly unsavory or unhealthy motivations, it is hard not to feel duped.

Will Apocalypse Never make any difference? There are certainly reasons to doubt it.

The news media have been making apocalyptic pronouncements about climate change since the late 1980s, and do not seem disposed to stop.

The ideology behind environmental alarmism—Malthusianism—has been repeatedly debunked for 200 years and yet is more powerful than ever.

### **Diminishing “crisis” perspective**

But there are also reasons to believe that environmental alarmism will, if not come to an end, have diminishing cultural power.

The coronavirus pandemic is an actual crisis that puts the climate “crisis” into perspective. Even if you think we have overreacted, Covid-19 has killed nearly 500,000 people and shattered economies around the globe.

Scientific institutions including WHO and IPCC have undermined their credibility through the repeated politicization of science. Their future existence and relevance depends on new leadership and serious reform.

Facts still matter, and social media is allowing for a wider range of new and independent voices to outcompete alarmist environmental journalists at legacy publications.

Nations are reverting openly to self-interest and away from Malthusianism and neoliberalism, which is good for nuclear and bad for renewables.

The evidence is overwhelming that our high-energy civilization is better for people and nature than the low-energy civilization that climate alarmists would return us to.

### **Glimmer of new thinking**

The invitations from IPCC and Congress are signs of a growing openness to new thinking about climate change and the environment.

Another one has been to the response to my book from climate scientists, conservationists, and environmental scholars.

“We environmentalists condemn those with antithetical views of being ignorant of science and susceptible to confirmation bias,” wrote the former head of The Nature Conservancy, Steve McCormick. “But too often we are guilty of the same. Shellenberger offers ‘tough love:’ a challenge to entrenched orthodoxies and rigid, self-defeating mindsets.”



## Please accept my apology

If you've made it this far, I hope you'll agree that it's perhaps not as strange as it seems that a lifelong environmentalist, progressive, and climate activist felt the need to speak out against the alarmism.

I further hope that you'll accept my apology.



"Eye on the World" comment: With so much happening in the world (coronavirus, peaceful protesting against racism and criminal rioting), a person could logically ask why post the following two articles about Russia and President Trump. The answer—Many conservatives believe that this scandal (involving high-ranking government officials and a complicit media) was a hoax that ranks as one of the worst scandals in recent history.



An article by Mollie Hemingway titled "Media Are Playing Games Yet Again With Anonymous Russia Leaks" was posted at [thefederalist.com](https://thefederalist.com) on June 30, 2020. Following is the article.

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Much of the case for the Iraq War was based on the Bush administration's claim that Saddam Hussein possessed weapons of mass destruction. When the United States declared an end to the war late in 2011, more than 4,400 American military members had been killed and nearly 32,000 wounded. No weapons of mass destruction had been found.

It's one of the most significant and catastrophic intelligence errors in U.S. history. A bipartisan commission found that U.S. intelligence "seriously misjudged" Iraq's weapons program because of their "heavy reliance on a human source (code-named 'Curveball') whose information later proved to be unreliable."

The commission wrote, "Even more misleading was the river of intelligence that flowed from the CIA to top policy makers over long periods of time—in the President's Daily Brief (PDB)" and other reports that were "more alarmist" and "less nuanced."

Curveball was Germany's codename for Rafid Ahmed Alwan al-Janabi, an Iraqi defector who claimed to have built mobile weapons laboratories. President George W. Bush highlighted the claims in his 2003 State of the Union address.

Secretary of State Colin Powell's speech to the United Nations on February 5, 2003, relied heavily on Curveball's claims. "My colleagues, every statement I make today is backed up by sources, solid sources. These are not assertions. What we're giving you are facts and conclusions based on solid intelligence. I will cite some examples, and these are from human sources."



Powell went on to describe Janabi's claims at length, concluding, "This defector is currently hiding in another country with the certain knowledge that Saddam Hussein will kill him if he finds him. His eyewitness account of these mobile production facilities has been corroborated by other sources."

Years later, Curveball admitted he had completely fabricated his claims out of a desire to oust Saddam Hussein from power.

The intelligence failure became a widespread media failure when reporters uncritically regurgitated the weapons of mass destruction claims from their intelligence community sources.

Academics, pundits, and journalists themselves have decried the media's performance in the lead-up to the 2003 invasion of Iraq. The *New York Times* and *Washington Post* even published their regrets about their own coverage, which frequently took the intelligence community's claims at face value.

It's important history to remember as you watch nearly the entire corporate media establishment run wild with claims from completely anonymous sources in the intelligence community this week.

By comparison, the reporters back in 2002 and 2003 seem to have been downright judicious in their handling of the intelligence community claims.

### **Our latest intel drama on Russia**

On Friday, three *New York Times* reporters wrote that "American intelligence officials have concluded that a Russian military intelligence unit secretly offered bounties to Taliban-linked militants for killing coalition forces in Afghanistan—including targeting American troops—amid the peace talks to end the long-running war there, according to officials briefed on the matter."

This allegedly airtight intelligence was "briefed to President Trump," and "officials" came up with ideas for potential responses, including a diplomatic complaint and sanctions, but the White House had yet to authorize anything. The intelligence, the reporters claimed, had been shared with the British government.

The anonymous leakers of the information, the reporters claimed, are totally certain that "Russian operatives" offered and paid bounties, but they have "greater uncertainty" about who authorized the plan.

The reporters included some speculation about why such a bounty operation would be done. There was no speculation about the motivation of the leaking "officials."

### **Reaction to the anonymous report**

It is worth noting that the three *New York Times* reporters—Charlie Savage, Eric Schmitt, and Michael Schwartz—also played key roles in disseminating the Russia collusion hoax, in which anonymous intelligence officials worked with co-conspirators in the media for years to put out a false and defamatory narrative that President Donald Trump had colluded with Russia to steal the 2016 election or was otherwise compromised.

*The New York Times* was one of the biggest outlets engaged in the Russia hoax. The reporters even include some of their previous Russia collusion hoax spin, and omit key facts about Trump's actions against Russia, in their bounty story.

Literally nothing about the political media's use of anonymous sources to spread republic-damaging disinformation in recent years should lead anyone to treat further anonymously sourced reports with any deference.

Yet the entire corporate media establishment immediately ran wild with the story and used it to suggest it was further evidence that Trump was an agent of Russian President Vladimir Putin. The story dominated cable news over the weekend and into the following week.

Republicans who support continuing the war in Afghanistan indefinitely, even though it has been going on for 19 years, expressed grave concern about the report. Republican Rep. Liz Cheney, whose father had authoritatively claimed in August 2002 there was "no doubt" Iraq had weapons of mass destruction, reflexively accepted the anonymously sourced reports and demanded answers and action.

It turned out that key details of the story were disputed by on-the-record sources. When the White House press secretary said neither Trump nor Vice President Mike Pence had even been briefed on this intelligence, reporters tried a new line of attack.

Director of National Intelligence John Ratcliffe added, "I have confirmed that neither the President nor the Vice President were ever briefed on any intelligence alleged by the New York Times in its reporting yesterday. The White House statement addressing this issue earlier today, which denied such a briefing occurred, was accurate. The New York Times reporting, and all other subsequent news reports about such an alleged briefing, are inaccurate."

White House Director of Strategic Communications Alyssa Farah disputed that the intelligence was as airtight as the New York Times reporters had claimed, based on their anonymous and unaccountable sources: "POTUS wasn't briefed on the reports related to Afghanistan because there is no consensus within the intelligence community on the allegations at this point. The veracity of the underlying allegations continues to be evaluated."

Yet the frenzy from the media continued, almost as if coordinated as part of an operation.

### **Anonymous sources can't 'confirm' anything**

A quick note on anonymous sourcing. Following the New York Times report, other media outlets ran with stories on the matter also based on anonymous sources. Frequently, this was described as "independent confirmation."

However, anonymous sources can't "confirm" anything for a reader, on account of being anonymous. And because they're anonymous, there is no way to tell if one media outlets' sources are independent from another's.

While this should be obvious, perhaps an example from the Russia collusion hoax will help. On Dec. 8, 2017, CNN's Manu Raju and Jeremy Herb reported that multiple anonymous sources had confirmed an email was sent to Donald Trump, Jr., with advance information about a WikiLeaks document release.

The story was a train wreck, in that it didn't include any evidence that the random guy who emailed Trump, Jr., was correct in his emailed claims, that the email had been opened, or that the emailer was connected to Russia.

But even more than that, it turned out that the multiple anonymous sources had somehow gotten the date of the email wrong. Rather than the email giving advance notice of a WikiLeaks document release, it was an email about a document release that had already happened to great public fanfare.

Before that embarrassing ending for CNN, though, other media outlets claimed to have independently confirmed CNN's story. CBS claimed to have "confirmed" the story. Russia collusion hoaxer "Fusion" Ken Dilanian claimed "two sources" had confirmed CNN's report to him.

So what happened? Well, probably two buddies working on a congressional committee both sold the false story to all three outlets. Two buddies working together on a committee that leak the same false information to multiple outlets aren't independent of each other, much less independent confirmation for each network. They're just two leakers who somehow aren't bright enough to know how to properly read dates on emails.

### **What's the criminal leakers' motivation?**

DNI Ratcliffe notes that leaks of information such as what the leakers are spreading throughout the media can be quite damaging.

Intelligence collection and intelligence analysis are more art than science. If the Curveball information was presented as airtight and used to launch a protracted war, this intelligence seems to be in only the earliest stages of analysis and heavily in dispute.

So why is it being leaked (when such leaks are a criminal offense)? And why are the media so anxious to use this sketchy information?

Perhaps their goal is to fight the Trump administration's efforts to end the 19-year-war in Afghanistan, damage international relations, distract from the Russia collusion hoax currently under investigation, or any number of other things. Sometimes leaks are about internal bureaucratic wars involving people who don't care about the damage caused by their leaking.

One goal seems to be to paint Trump as someone who does not care about American soldiers. This talking point is odd. Iran reportedly offered the Taliban \$1,000 bounties in 2010 for American soldiers' deaths in Afghanistan. Not only was no action taken by President Obama at the time, six years later, he authorized the payment of \$1.7 billion to the regime.

By contrast, President Trump authorized the killing of Iran's Qasem Soleimani, responsible for the deaths of more than 600 U.S. service members. When that happened, based on what the Trump administration said was responsibility for those deaths and intelligence that further attacks were planned, many in the media questioned the strength of that intelligence analysis.

## **The story keeps changing**

The story also seems to keep changing. At first it was about how Trump had been given airtight intelligence and refused to do anything about it. Then the goalposts shifted to how "White House officials" knew something or other.

An Associated Press story now asserts without evidence that John Bolton, who is on a book tour right now, "told colleagues he briefed Trump on the intelligence assessment in March 2019."

But in a softball interview Sunday by Jake Tapper, a reporter who played a key role in initiating the false Russia collusion hoax at CNN, Bolton repeatedly stressed his lack of knowledge about the story and his suspicion it might not be true.

"First we have to stress there is much we don't know about this," he said. "With all due respect to the highly esteemed news services you mention, they get stuff wrong time to time," he added. "My only caution is before we go too far down the track, just because there are press reports doesn't mean its accurate." After a record-breaking use of the word "if" from Tapper, Bolton said, "Well again, underlining the word 'if' on whether it's true . . . "

It is of course entirely possible that Bolton is leaking to the Associated Press and lying about his views now, or that he was lying then, or that Bolton's colleagues are leakers and they are lying.

But it seems the media aren't caring about the facts so much as the overarching plan to believe this intelligence is airtight no matter what, that the intelligence was definitely briefed to Trump and Vice President Mike Pence, no matter what, and that this story must continue to be pushed on airwaves no matter its deficiencies or the obvious coordination of its rollout.

## **Democrats, media using story to perpetuate Russia hoax**

Most exasperating, the media and other partisans seem eager to run back into the comforting arms of the Russia collusion hoax they perpetrated against the country for years.

Tapper, for example, asked Bolton, "Do you think it's possible that Putin has information on President Trump?" The New York Times reporters also dredged up the debunked Russia collusion theories.

And not coincidentally, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi spent several minutes pushing the debunked Russiagate conspiracy theory in an interview with ABC News' George Stephanopoulos.

"With him, all roads lead to Putin. I don't know what the Russians have on the president politically, personally, financially, or whatever it is. But he wants to ignore, he wants to bring [Russia] back into the G8 despite the annexation of Crimea and the invasion of Ukraine . . . despite what they yielded to him in Syria, despite his intervention into our elections which is well documented by our intelligence community and despite possibly this allegation which we should have been briefed on," Pelosi said.

Pelosi's pushing of the conspiracy theory met virtually no pushback from the former press secretary to President Bill Clinton. In fact, there has been no accountability for any of the actors who spread the false and damaging conspiracy theory about Russia.

None of the criminal leakers have been held accountable. Neither have the reporters who conspired with them to harm the republic, damage the Trump administration, hurt foreign relations, and destroy the lives of conservatives who allied themselves with Trump.

In fact, they're free to continue their operation with the latest round of Russia stories, seemingly designed to undermine the Trump administration, hamper foreign policy changes that might lead away from the interventionist foreign policy of recent administrations, and otherwise hurt the country.

It is as if our political and media establishments refuse to learn anything from the weapons of mass destruction and Russia collusion hoax intelligence failures of recent years. Or worse, they learned just how easy it is to use unverified intelligence for political aims.



Looking back to October, an article by Kimberley Strassel titled "Inside the Media's Relentless Crusade to Destroy President Trump" was posted at nypost.com on Oct. 13, 2019. (The author wrote a book titled "Resistance at All Costs: How Trump Haters are Breaking America" last October examining how far the press will go in its relentless crusade.) Following are excerpts of the article.

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The president regularly blasts the media for reporting "fake news" but when you see the evidence, it's hard to argue with him.

Since Donald Trump's election in 2016, the mainstream media has shed its once-noble mission—the pursuit of the truth—and instead adopted a new purpose: to take down the president.

### **Democracy dies in bias**

Last week, *The Washington Post* revealed the alarming news that House Democrats were considering having their anonymous "whistleblower" testify from a remote location, and in disguise. Just as shocking as the details of this plan was the justification the *Post* ladled on this Democratic effort to hide impeachment information from the public.

This, from a newspaper with a tagline of "Democracy Dies in Darkness."

Maybe the better journalistic epitaph is: Democracy dies in bias. How did journalism get here?

### **Embracing the bias**

I've never engaged much in media criticism, because it's almost too obvious.

- Yes, the mainstream media is liberal and biased.

■ But at least in the past, that bias was largely a function of insularity. Most reporters weren't even fully aware they were prejudiced politically; everyone they worked and socialized with held the same left-of-center views.

■ That's changed in the age of Trump. The press has embraced its bias, joined the Resistance and declared its allegiance to one side of a partisan war.

It now openly declares those who offer any fair defense of this administration as Trump "enablers." It writes off those who question the FBI or Department of Justice actions in 2016 as "conspiracy" theorists.

■ It acts as willing scribes for Democrats and former Obama officials;.

■ It peddles evidence-free accusations.

■ It sources stories from people with clear political axes to grind;.

■ It closes its eyes to clear evidence of government abuse.

This media war is extraordinary, overt and increasingly damaging to the country.

### **They ran with it**

The latest installment of this Democratic-media tie-up is the Ukraine story.

Just a few weeks ago, House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff explained that the intelligence community inspector general wanted to transmit an anonymous "whistleblower" complaint to him but had been stopped by the Trump administration.

Schiff has for 10 months been obsessing over how to impeach Trump, so his claim merited great skepticism. Instead, the media ran with it.

### **Postulating about a cover-up**

Even as it acknowledged that it did not know the subject of the complaint, or the background of the accuser, it began running stories postulating that the Trump administration had engaged in a cover-up.

It later accepted whole-cloth the whistleblower's hearsay accusation that Trump had demanded a Ukrainian investigation into former Vice President Joe Biden as a condition of military aid—before even seeing a transcript of the Trump call.

*The New York Times* was so eager to push the impeachment narrative forward (and give it credibility) that it divulged the sensitive detail that the whistleblower was a CIA officer detailed to the White House.

### **Advocates for government actors**

Sadly, the press behavior of the past few weeks is nothing new.

The election of Donald Trump has led to the greatest disintegration of press standards in modern history. For those wondering if they are getting the "real story" in the Ukraine impeachment drama, it's worth taking a walk back through the past few years of what we now know was the Russia-collusion hoax.



One particularly bad decision helped drive all the rest of that false narrative: The press became willing advocates for government actors (at least the ones they liked). This is the reverse of the role the press is supposed to play. The media exists to be a government watchdog.

### **Double standard**

Sure, when it comes to the Trump administration, the press rides herd on every issue. But when it has come to former Obama officials (Jim Comey, Andrew McCabe, John Brennan), the media has swallowed everything it is told.

It's hard to explain just how big a dereliction of duty this is. The FBI's Trump-Russia investigation fell clearly into a government-abuse-of-power story, of the kind the press exists to expose. It came laden with red flags—opposition research from the rival campaign, backdoor channels to the IRS, surveillance of American citizens.

And yet anything the former people of power told the press to write, the press wrote.

### **Origin of FBI probe**

The best example is that infamous *New York Times* story about the “origin” of the FBI probe. In late 2017, when former House Intelligence Chairman Devin Nunes finally came close to winning his battle with the DOJ to see documents about the infamous Steele dossier, FBI protectors panicked.

They knew how terrible it would look that they had used opposition research from a rival campaign to get surveillance warrants on at least one Trump campaign official. So someone called *The New York Times* for help in getting ahead of the story.

On Dec. 30, 2017, it published: “How the Russia Inquiry Began: A Campaign Aide, Drinks and Talk of Political Dirt.”

The story was, of course, all about how George Papadopoulos had inspired the FBI's probe, and it flat-out narrated what would become the FBI line about its origins.

It also flatly dismissed the dossier.

The Papadopoulos take answers one of the lingering mysteries of the past year—What so alarmed American officials to provoke the FBI to open a counterintelligence investigation into the Trump campaign months before the presidential election?

In May 2018, the paper ran another “blockbuster” story about the FBI's Trump investigation, which was code-named Crossfire Hurricane.

### **False stories about dossier**

*The Times* reported that “Only in mid-September, congressional investigators say, did [the dossier] reach the Crossfire Hurricane team.” This is false.

Justice Department official Bruce Ohr has testified under oath that he briefed a lot of people about the dossier (and its political provenance) not long after it was handed to him in late July. As of the writing of this book, the *Times* has never updated or corrected that piece.



## CNN bloopers

The willingness to be spoon-fed is what drove so many big press bloopers. Were there a Collusion Press-Error Hall of Fame, CNN would be the first inductee.

- There was CNN's decision in 2017 to run a story, based on one unnamed source, claiming a presidential adviser, Anthony Scaramucci, was under investigation for his ties to a Russian investment fund. CNN had to retract the story, and three of its journalists resigned.

- In December 2017, CNN announced a scoop for the ages. It claimed it had evidence that Donald Trump Jr. had been offered by advance access to hacked Democratic emails. MSNBC and CBS also claimed to have "confirmed" this evidence that the Trump campaign and WikiLeaks had been colluding.

It later came out that the outlets had gotten the date on their evidence wrong. Donald Trump Jr. had been sent an email directing him to look at the WikiLeaks dump—after WikiLeaks had made it public.

- Also don't forget BuzzFeed's epic "news" in January 2019 that President Trump personally directed his longtime attorney Michael Cohen to lie to Congress about the Trump Tower project in Moscow.

Politicians seized on the news, and Schiff promised to do what was "necessary" to find out if the president had committed "perjury." Democratic Rep. Joaquin Castro said that if the allegations were true, Trump "must resign."

The problem? They weren't. This one was such an invention that special counsel Bob Mueller's team made a rare statement, denying the BuzzFeed report.

## Other publications

There are plenty more.

- The *Washington Post* claimed Russians had accessed the US electrical grid through a Vermont utility. Not true.

- Slate claimed a Trump server had been communicating with Russia. Not true.

- The *Guardian* claimed that Paul Manafort had visited Julian Assange in his hide-out at the Ecuadorian Embassy in London—three times. If so, Mueller missed it.

The press gets furious when Trump talks about "fake news." But what else would you call this?

## Fact-free accusations

Another low of the past few years (which we are seeing again now) has been the media's willingness to run fact-free accusations.

Case in point—claims from the Steele dossier.

- The specific charges in that document have never been proven.

- Opposition-research firm Fusion GPS was incredibly clever in its decision to feed that document to the FBI to give it more credibility.

■ But the fact that the FBI had it or, that Schiff was irresponsible to quote from it during a hearing, didn't release the press from a basic obligation—to either verify the truth or treat the document for what it was—slander.

### **Repeating theories; embracing hypothetics**

Instead, the media repeated the dossier's claims ad nauseum, rarely bothering to note the partisan motivations behind its creation.

This willingness to cast aside facts in favor of theory is what has fed years of hysterical collusion conspiracy theories. By embracing hypothetics (rather than tracking down facts), the press indulged in endless "connect the dots" exercises.

### **Citing "sources"**

In April 2018, two reporters from McClatchy cited "sources" who said, "Mueller has evidence [Michael] Cohen was in Prague in 2016, confirming part of the dossier."

The story claimed Cohen had secretly snuck into the Czech Republic, through Germany, presumably for a clandestine meeting with Kremlin officials. It again quoted only "sources familiar with the matter."

Yet Cohen had vehemently insisted that he'd never been there. And the Mueller report would later flatly say he had not. McClatchy, as of the writing of this book, still hasn't retracted the story.

Why? It claims that what it was reporting was that Mueller had "received evidence," and it noted that Mueller never said he didn't receive evidence. See?

### **Opinion writers**

Liberal opinion writers were even worse.

One of the standout headlines from 2018 came from Jonathan Chait, writing in *New York Magazine*. It read: "Prump-Tutin: Will Trump Be Meeting with His Counterpart—Or His Handler?"

Chait asked: "What if Trump has been a Russian asset from 1987?"

Then followed thousands of words that purported to tie together Trump, obscure Russians, Stormy Daniels, Assange and so much more. The story, suffice it to say, did not age well.

### **Narrative, rather than reality**

- All reporters sometimes bend a rule, or go out on a limb or get something wrong.
- But the important thing is that they usually do this in aid of getting truth to the public.
- What has defined the media breakdown that started in 2016 was the press abandonment of standards in aid of peddling a narrative—rather than reality.
- This abandonment has had terrible consequences for the industry and for the country.

## Media is feeding division

A Monmouth University poll in early 2018 found that a whopping 77 percent of Americans believe traditional TV and newspaper outlets report “fake news.”

And 42 percent of respondents said they believed outlets did this specifically to promote a political agenda. These kinds of numbers are alarming for civil society.

The more Americans are turned off from traditional news, the more they turn to dubious sources and read and listen only to things with which they agree.

For those worried about our increasingly polarized society, the media is feeding that divide.



“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.

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- A Reuters article by Rinat Harash titled “Israel Campaigners Want Jewish Ruins Included in West Bank Annexations” was posted at reuters.com on June 29, 2020.
  - A Reuters article by Marwa Rashad titled “Saudi, U.S. Officials Call for Extending UN Arms Embargo on Iran” was posted at reuters.com on June 29, 2020.
  - An article titled “Hong Kong Democracy Party Disbands Over Security Law Fears” was posted at afp.com on June 30, 2020.
  - An article by Jonah Gottschalk titled “Freedom Fighters Flee As Hong Kong’s New ‘Security’ Law Hands the City to the Communist Party” was posted at thefederalist.com on July 1, 2020.
  - An article titled “China Forces Birth Control on Uighurs to Suppress Population” was posted at apnews.com on June 28, 2020.
  - An article by Patrick Goodenough titled “Religious Freedom Panel to Pompeo: Do Forced Sterilizations of China’s Muslims Constitute Genocide?” was posted at cnsnews.com on July 1, 2020.
  - An article titled “China Puts Half a Million People in Lockdown As Beijing Fights New Cluster” was posted at afp.com on June 28, 2020.
  - An article by Julian Ryall titled “Japan and China Jostle Over Disputed Islands in East China Sea in ‘Alarming’ Escalation” was posted at telegraph.co.uk on June 26, 2020.
  - An article titled “US Carriers [Conduct] Drill [in the Philippine Sea] After South-east Asian Nations Rebuke China” was posted at apnews.com on June 29, 2020.
  - A Reuters article by Yoshifumi Takemoto titled “U.S. Tells Japan It Hopes for In-Person G7 Summit in Late August, Japanese Sources Say” was posted at reuters.com on July 1, 2020.

- An article titled "Australia Seeks Long-Range Missiles in Indo-Pacific Defense Shift" was posted at [bbc.com](http://bbc.com) on July 1, 2020.
- A Reuters article by Jiraporn Kuhakan titled "Schools Reopen Across Thailand With Temperature Checks, Masks" was posted at [reuters.com](http://reuters.com) on July 1, 2020.
- An article by Samy Magdy titled "Egypt Executes Libyan Militant for Plotting Deadly Attack" was posted at [apnews.com](http://apnews.com) on June 27, 2020.
- An article by Abbie Cheeseman titled "Egyptian Belly Dancer Sentenced to Prison for 'Sexually Suggestive' Posts Amid Social Media Crackdown" was posted at [telegraph.co.uk](http://telegraph.co.uk) on June 28, 2020.
- An article by Anna Smolchenko titled "Russia's Opposition Flounders As Putin Changes Constitution" was posted at [afp.com](http://afp.com) on June 28, 2020.
- An article by Patrick Goodenough titled "New Sanctions Targeting Russia-Germany Gas Pipeline Included in Defense Policy Bill" was posted at [cnsnews.com](http://cnsnews.com) on July 1, 2020.
- An article by Faycal Benhssain titled "France Accuses Turkey's Erdogan of Importing 'Jihadists' Into Libya Conflict" was posted at [cnsnews.com](http://cnsnews.com) on June 30, 2020.
- An article by James Carstensen titled "EU Opens Borders Selectively From Wednesday; US Not Included" was posted at [cnsnews.com](http://cnsnews.com) on June 30, 2020.
- An article by Ashna Hurynag titled "Black Father and Son Tackled by Police and Threatened With Tasers During Charity Bike Ride [in North London]" was posted at [skynews.com](http://skynews.com) on June 29, 2020.
- An article by Isobel Frodsham titled "Fiji Tries to Attract Billionaires As Nation's PM Says 'Escape the Pandemic in Paradise' " was posted at [skynews.com](http://skynews.com) on June 29, 2020.



An article by Allen West titled "Liberty or Tyranny? We Have a Choice to Make, America" was posted at [cnsnews.com](http://cnsnews.com) on June 29, 2020. Following is the article.

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Last week former President Barack Obama appeared with his former Vice President "Basement" Joe Biden in a video conference. I was truly taken aback when Obama referred to what is happening in America as an "awakening," a "movement."

It was at that moment that I reflected upon how Obama and his administration responded to a real awakening—a movement that occurred during his presidency.

In 2009, in response to the increased government spending stimulus programs and the Patient Protection Affordable Care Act, aka "Obamacare," a constitutional conservative grassroots organization was born.

The organization focused on one issue, the fiscal responsibility of the federal government. The organization called itself the TEA Party, which stood for "Taxed Enough Already."

This movement was about restoring our constitutional Republic to its foundations, its fundamentals. Based on principle and policy, it did not agree with the Obama vision of "fundamentally transforming" these United States of America.

The reaction to the TEA Party movement was incredibly dismissive and disrespectful. "We call it AstroTurf," Rep. Nancy Pelosi said at the time, meaning a fake grassroots movement to keep the focus on "tax cuts for the rich."

Then came the 2010 midterm elections, Obama's first, and it was historic. The Democrats lost their majority in the U.S. House of Representatives when 63 congressional seats shifted. I came into the political arena during this period, and I was part of that shift, based upon constitutional principle.

The progressive socialist left had experienced something they were not used to—a conservative grassroots movement—local, principled, community organizing by the right.

This got the attention of the left in America and Obama. And the vitriol, the incessant attacks, increased, aimed at simple, everyday Americans who were exercising their First Amendment right to petition their government for redress of grievances.

- They stood up.
- They spoke up.
- They held rallies.
- They voted.
- They cleaned up after their rallies.
- They never enacted any form of violence.
- They never destroyed property.
- They never took over major portions of cities.
- They never said they were going to burn down the system.
- They just voted.

Yet, the ire and angst of the Obama administration was aimed at them, as well as the collective power of the progressive socialist left, including their media accomplices.

The TEA Party now found itself assailed on all fronts. They were demonized as racists, just because they disagreed with the policies of a president who just happened to be biracial but was promoted as Black.

And how confounding it was when Black conservatives were embraced by the TEA Party—they were sellouts, Uncle Toms, oreos, and other disparaging monikers.

The TEA Party was denigrated as an extremist group for daring to want fiscal responsibility and discipline from their federal government. It was as if the left was declaring that our very Constitution was extreme. We all know that to not be true, but what the left was saying was that anyone disagreeing with them was an extremist. It went so far that some leftists and Democrats denounced the TEA Party as terrorists, with no proof of any violent actions.

President Obama, the Democrats, and the progressive socialist left knew one thing—they had to crush, destroy, the TEA Party before Obama's reelection bid in 2012. And they did just that by employing the power of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Today, we turn on the news and we see the anarchist organization, Antifa, which has been designated as a domestic terrorist organization. We have watched them enact violence in our streets, destroy property, attack those with whom they disagree.

An avowed Marxist organization that cleverly named itself Black Lives Matter is now calling for violence against our law enforcement officers, and most recently, its leader in New York City declared that if their demands were not met, they would "burn down the system."

Those are the words of insurrection, the actions of an insurgency, yet the lips of the Democrat elected officials are sealed.

And Barack Obama refers to this wanton violence, the destruction of memorials, monuments, and our history as "an awakening."

In other words, Obama and his ilk are embracing the radicalism, the despotism, the tyranny we are seeing on our streets.

The media that once disparaged the TEA Party as extremists, terrorists, racists, turn a blind eye to leftist intimidation, fear, coercion, and violence.

Sadly, few are talking about this comparative analysis of how the left, the Democrat Party, unleashed the full weight of the federal government against a constitutional conservative grassroots movement. And how, in the face of abject sedition, they are all silent.

Let us not forget the Clinton administration and how it used the power of the federal government in Waco, Texas against the Branch Davidians. Or how little Elian Gonzalez was ripped from his family at the hands of armed federal government agents.

And why is it that we allow the left to always own the narrative and refer to conservatives as violent and extremists?

Here is what we had best learn—real fast.

- Socialism, communism, statism, fascism, Marxism are philosophies of governance, ideologies, that cannot advance on their own merit.
- Advancement can happen only by what we see happening in the streets of America—fear, threats, intimidation, coercion, and violence.

That is the nature of leftism.

- That is why Hitler had the Brown Shirts.
- That is why Nicolas Maduro has the "Colectivos."
- And that is why the Democrat Party has Antifa and Black Lives Matter.



The TEA Party was a grassroots movement, an awakening. What Obama will not condemn is a blatant insurrection, an insurgency—and of course he will not, because he embraces the maxim of “by any means necessary” for his fundamental transformation to come to fruition.

We have a choice to make, America.

■ We can surrender to the “woke” mob of tyranny—or we can become “awoke” as true Patriots to our commitment to individual liberty.

■ Just know, you cannot compromise, appease, negotiate, or acquiesce with the mob, evil, it only emboldens them. The left is fully committed to crushing all political opposition, and Obama once asserted such.

It’s liberty or tyranny. This week, 244 years ago, we made that decision. Time to make it again.



An article by Jordan Davidson titled “Bill Barr: DOJ Has Over 500 Investigations Into Violent Rioters” was posted at [thefederalist.com](https://thefederalist.com) on June 26, 2020. Following is the article.

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United States Attorney General William Barr announced that the Department of Justice is leading over 500 investigations into the destruction caused by riots across the country. Barr explained the reason for the investigations on Sen. Ted Cruz’s podcast “The Verdict.”

“We’ve had scores of indictments so far for such things as arson, destruction of federal property,” Barr said. “We have right now about 500 investigations underway, so it’s picking up pace. We are committed to holding accountable the people who engaged in this.”

Barr explained the reason for the increase in investigations is heavily associated with the lack of response by other levels of government.

“That’s where the burden is right now, on state and local, and in many places, they’re not stepping up to the plate, they’re not doing their job,” said Barr.

Barr also suggested that many of these riots were protests that were infiltrated by “provocateurs and agitators” with some even having associations to Antifa.

“We are seeing strong evidence of coordination in many of these violent episodes,” he explained.

According to Barr, many of the investigations will begin with prosecutions based on the videos of rioters defacing and attempting to tear down the President Andrew Jackson statue in Lafayette Park in Washington, D.C. Barr, however, also clarified that prevention is a big focus in the DOJ’s handling of these investigations.

“We have to do a better job of trying to stop these groups before they are able to do damage to these monuments and statues,” he said.



Protests have erupted around the nation since the death of George Floyd at the end of May. Many of these protests, however, quickly escalated into riots by people who defaced, attacked, and even burned different establishments, businesses, and statues all around the country.

In a statement released in May, Barr expressed his concern with the riots and vowed to address them.

“It is time to stop watching the violence and to confront and stop it,” he said. “The continued violence and destruction of property endangers the lives and livelihoods of others, and interferes with the rights of peaceful protesters, as well as all other citizens.”



An article by Melanie Arter titled “WH: Over 100 Anarchists Arrested; Over 200 Domestic Terrorism Probes Opened” was posted at [cnsnews.com](https://www.cnsnews.com) on June 29, 2020. Following is the article.

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The DOJ has arrested over 100 people for rioting and destroying property, and the FBI has over 200 domestic terrorism investigations underway, White House Press Secretary Kayleigh McEnany said Monday.

“Law and order are the building blocks to the American Dream, but if anarchy prevails, this dream comes crumbling down. Anarchy in our streets is unacceptable, and anger is not enough. You have a president committed to action. The DOJ has arrested over 100 anarchists for rioting and destruction of federal property,” she said at Monday’s White House press briefing.

“The DOJ has also charged four men in federal court for attempting to tear down the statue of Andrew Jackson in Lafayette Square. The FBI has over 200 open domestic terrorism investigations ongoing. AG Barr has created a task force on violent anti-government extremists led by the U.S. Attorney’s Office in New Jersey and the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Northern Texas,” McEnany said.

“With 200 Trump-appointed judges confirmed, the rule of law will be upheld. Democrats at all levels—federal, state, and local—have done nothing. Senate Democrats blocked bipartisan police reform. Minnesota’s Democrat governor failed to urgently deploy the National Guard. It took President Trump for that to eventually happen—his suggestion—and the ultimate descent into chaos there in Minneapolis,” she said.

As CNSNews.com reported, the press secretary pointed out that three Minneapolis City council members who voted to abolish the police department have private security paid for by the taxpayers.

“Three Democrat Minneapolis council members voted to abolish the police, while they themselves were getting a private security detail. That’s quite rich,” McEnany said.

“Democrat mayor of Seattle called the CHOP zone—the autonomous zone – ‘the summer of love.’ It is anything but that with one dead, multiple shootings, and desperate pleas for help unanswered by business owners and others,” the press secretary said.

“Eleven people were shot in 12 hours this weekend in the Democrat-run New York City, and 61 people were shot in Democrat-run Chicago, and 15 fatally killed—a Democrat state, a Democrat city. President Trump stands against defunding our brave police officers, caving to mob rule, and cancel culture which seeks to erase our history,” she said.

McEnany accused blamed the destruction of statues on Democratic leadership.

“Let’s be clear: The rampant destruction of statues is not a part of any ideology, but this anarchy is aided by failed Democrat leadership, and as President Trump has tweeted, these statues, ‘are great works of art, but all represent our History and Heritage, both the good and the bad. It is important for us to understand and remember, even in turbulent and difficult times, and to learn from them,” she said.

“So let’s stand for law and order, for peace in our streets, and against anarchy. This is President Trump’s vision for the future,” the press secretary said.



An article by Emily Jashinsky and Madeline Osburn titled “7 Ways White Women Have Used Their Privilege to Fuel Riots and Mayhem” was posted at thefederalist.com on June 25, 2020. Following are excerpts of the article.

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Social media is awash with curious images of woke white women creating mayhem at Black Lives Matter demonstrations. They’ve burned down a Wendy’s, set fire to cop cars, screamed obscenities in the faces of police officers, and assaulted a Wisconsin lawmaker.

It raises a question as to why members of the fairer sex are on the frontlines of riotous efforts to support a movement that insists they’re racist, capitalism is racist, and the whole system is racist.

### **Seven examples**

Here’s a round-up of some of the most noteworthy examples from recent weeks.

#### 1. Assaulted Wisconsin Democrat State Sen. Tim Carpenter

Wisconsin State Sen. Tim Carpenter, who is a Democrat and openly gay, was assaulted in Madison Tuesday night by what appears to be two white women protesters charging toward him. It was reported that Carpenter collapsed walking to the state house building and paramedics were called.

#### 2. Set Fire to an Atlanta Wendy’s

Natalie White, 29, faces first-degree arson charges for starting a fire at an Atlanta Wendy's restaurant as retribution for the police killing of Rayshard Brooks. White turned herself in after a warrant was issued for her arrest.

### 3. Supplied Instructions for the Destruction of Statues

CUNY Professor Erin L. Thompson describes herself as "America's only full-time professor of art crime," who studies "damage done to humanity's shared heritage through looting, theft, and the deliberate destruction of art."

Naturally, as protesters have continued tearing down statues across the country regardless of the statue's significance or history, Thompson gave her two cents on the best methods for the senseless destruction.

"Use chain instead of rope and it'll go faster," Thompson tweeted.

### 4. Justified 'The Destruction of Property'

R.H. Lossin, a white woman, wrote an article for *The Nation* titled, "In Defense of Destroying Property" in which she explores the question: What if property destruction "is not a frustrated, emotional reaction but a reasonable and articulate expression in itself?"

Lossin argues, "property destruction is not synonymous with the violence that is being protested" and that we must not conflate people and objects. She addresses the "more complicated matter" of the destruction of small businesses, which are often minority-owned, by writing them off as "instrumentalized in the service" of capitalism.

Additionally, we shouldn't let the image of "mom and pop" shops conflate property and people, she notes.

### 5. Set Fire to Police Cars

A 25-year-old Antifa member Margaret Channon was arrested on five federal counts of arson for setting fire to five Seattle police vehicles in downtown Seattle on May 30.

Police arrested and charged Lore-Elisabeth Blumenthal, 33, for allegedly setting two police cars on fire at protests in Philadelphia on May 30. Police were able to identify and track Blumenthal down from a photo that showed her tattoo and a unique shirt she bought on Etsy.

### 6. Screamed Obscenities at Cops

### 7. Taunted Black Police Officers

## Highest form of white privilege

Journalist Kara Voght writes in a Mother Jones report on the suburban white women voting bloc that "The Trump era has seen the emergence of the 'resistance' woman, a small, progressive-leaning subset of educated white women radicalized by Trump's win."

Just last year, “the share of college-educated women in the U.S. workforce passed the share of college-educated men,” *The Washington Post* reported.

The irony of these radicalized, educated women announcing their privilege and “white guilt” as if it’s something to brag about is that doing so loudly and violently as they have in recent weeks is perhaps the highest form of white privilege.



An article by John Kass titled “What Frightens the American Left: [Black Conservative] Larry Elder’s New Documentary [Called] ‘Uncle Tom’ ” was posted at [chicagotribune.com](http://chicagotribune.com) on July 1, 2020. Following are excerpts of the article.

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Is there anything more frightening to the American political left and their high media priests of the woke world than Black Americans who think for themselves and refuse to kneel?

No. Black people who become conservatives and dare question Democratic Party policies, from social programs to public education, are a threat to control. And so, they are demeaned by Democratic politicians and either ignored outright or marginalized as race traitors, sellouts and “Uncle Toms.”

It’s a way to humiliate them, shut them up, and cancel them. And the party’s handmaidens of the media play along.

But that’s one reason why Larry Elder’s stunning new film, “Uncle Tom: An Oral History of the American Black Conservative,” is so important, especially now.

Elder, the prominent conservative radio talk show host, discussed his new movie on “The Chicago Way” podcast that I co-host with WGN radio producer Jeff Carlin.

Elder is one of the producers and writers of the film, which was directed by Justin Malone.

“The ‘Uncle Tom’ movie simply asks a very simple question: Why can’t we have an intelligent, healthy discussion within the Black community without a whole cadre of well-educated, bright, thoughtful Black people being maligned and discarded as sellouts?” said Elder. “What’s prompting this?”

It is an inspiring and optimistic film, a series of interviews with well-known and not so well-known Americans who think for themselves and refuse to see a victim when they look in the mirror. You’ll see the courageous American economist and philosopher Thomas Sowell, a personal hero of mine.

But those who are less well known are perhaps even more compelling. You’ll also witness the dignity of small businessman Chad O. Jackson. He’s a contractor, not famous, but he wrestles with the big questions of politics and policy. After realizing he’s a conservative, he gets grief from his family of Democrats.

Jackson refuses to be herded out of fear. And that makes him heroic.

Right now, at this time, "Uncle Tom" just might be the most important film out there. The woke world priests won't clamor to have it out on streaming services such as Netflix, because the left doesn't want to acknowledge that Black conservatives exist.

But you can rent it on UncleTom.com, as I did. That's what we did at home the other evening.

"The so-called war on poverty was launched in the 1960s," Elder tells us on "The Chicago Way."

"And what the welfare state has done, in my opinion, is incentivize Black women to marry the government, and allow men to abandon their financial and moral responsibilities to their families. We've gone from 25% of Black kids born outside wedlock in 1965, to nearly 70% now. You cannot attribute that to Jim Crow and racism. It has to do with bad government policy."

Black voters are overwhelmingly Democrats, and without them there would be no Democratic Party.

So when Black conservatives publicly consider the damage that the liberal welfare state has done to the Black family, or when they question big-city public school systems that trap minorities and resist providing educational freedom, there is a problem.

And they're called "Uncle Toms."

■ "I have long since gotten over the idea that I should react emotionally when someone calls me a name," Elder said.

■ "I now feel sorry that you have been so corrupted, by Hollywood, media, (and) academia, that I, Larry Elder, am your villain?"

■ "Not the welfare state? Not bad economic policies? Not porous borders putting downward pressure on wages for Black and brown people, but I'm the bad guy?"

■ "What's wrong with you, what's wrong with your thinking? Who has indoctrinated you like that?"

"Uncle Tom" doesn't ignore American racism or tell us that bigotry vanished when Barack Obama was twice elected president. But it does deconstruct the insult of the title—Elder contends that the Uncle Tom character from the famous novel was a hero—and demonstrates how those who think independently are demeaned.

Dr. Ben Carson, a leading Black neurosurgeon who should be a cultural icon, is mocked by late-night talk show host Trevor Noah for not being able to "pass the Black test." Carson's precise manner of speaking is ridiculed. And Noah gets his audience to howl with glee.

Carson's sin? He's a member of the Trump administration, and so he can't possibly serve as a role model for American children.

Noah is a comic, not a famous brain surgeon. And the mocking laughter from the mouths of the audience demeans them all.

Carson also sinned against the left, while making a speech and drawing a comparison between immigrants and African slaves. Carson was ridiculed, mercilessly, by media. But another prominent Black political figure made the same point about immigrants and slaves, yet was not mocked by the left.

His name?

Barack Obama.

"I don't expect people to love me," Elder said. "I feel the way (conservative activist) Candace Owens does in the film where she says, 'I'm like an alarm clock.' It may tick you off in the morning, but you know you have to get up and do what you have to do. I'm not here to be popular. I would love to be loved. But I know that's not going to happen, because I'm telling people stuff that they don't want to hear."



An article by Madison Moore titled "Joe Biden Might Be Sleepy, But Conservatives Are Comatose" was posted at townhall.com on June 22, 2020. Following are excerpts of the article.

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Joe Biden didn't just give me 15 minutes of fame; he gave me a rude political awakening. Conservatives have long been lulled into a sleepy comfortability over the upcoming election, but it's time to wake up.

### **Bizarre insult**

Yes, I'm the woman Biden dubbed "a lying dog-faced pony soldier."

The bizarre insult snowballed into more than I could have expected, making international news and helping facilitate the most precipitous, continuous decline of any candidate in the race thus far: 8.2 points in the national polls over the course of a week to be exact. However, his campaign struggled for survival long before—and after—my question.

### **How did Biden become nominee?**

I am truly befuddled at the how, but he is, nonetheless, the presumptive Democratic nominee.

From his overt cognitive decline and his credible sexual assault allegation, to his most recent and charming foot-in-mouth assertion, "You ain't black," folks on the right fall harder and faster into the certitude that Trump has 2020 locked up. Maybe they're right. But what comes after 2020?

If we learn anything from this election, let it be that we are losing the culture war for the hearts and minds of the youth: my generation, and undoubtedly, there are many more elections to come in which they will not only be active but predominant voters.

## **Far-left policies**

Both the 2016 and 2020 elections have demonstrated the rising popularity of far-left policies among young voters. Millennials and Gen Z overwhelmingly support self-identified democratic socialist Senator Bernie Sanders in his bid for the presidency.

- The Michigan exit polls said 83 percent of voters age 18-24 preferred Sanders to Biden.
- The Michigan exit polls said 81 percent of voters age 25-29 also preferred Sanders.

These voters are likely to be present and active for roughly the next 15 or so presidential elections. We need a better long-term strategy.

Young voters are seriously concerned about the direction of our country and rightfully so.

However, the policies they endorse can never produce the results they desire. Gen Z demands answers for growing income inequality, climate change, social justice, and more.

## **More government**

Their solution? More government.

In 2018 the Pew Research Center found some 70 percent of Gen Z favor greater government intervention to solve problems. More government, fewer problems, right?

This is not just misguided; it's alarming.

America thrives when the government subsists on the minimum force necessary to keep society intact, to keep us safe. After all, perhaps the most critical function of the federal government is to maintain national security, but Millennial and Gen Z voters don't see it that way.

They view government mandate, not personal responsibility, as the right path to effect positive change.

## **Conformity for acceptance**

I spent the better portion of two years immersed in perhaps the most concentrated leftist circles in America—college debate.

Conservative at heart but pressured to play the chameleon, I did more listening than talking for a long time.

It wasn't until I enrolled in the "Moral Defense of Capitalism" course on campus that I felt empowered to defend my views. I suspect I am not alone in this struggle against political conformity in exchange for social acceptance.

Many young voters like myself want the best for America, but feel scared to ask questions and unsure how to navigate political conversations. We can change that.



## Never exposed to conservative ideas

As Charlie Kirk, founder and CEO of Turning Point USA, noted, “Young people are not opposed to conservative ideas, they are never exposed to them.”

It’s time for us to wake up. No more “owning the lib-tards” or “drinking snowflake tears.” I can hardly think of a less productive way to reach this generation than by mocking and being condescending.

If we don’t rise to the challenge of reaching this generation, we stand to lose a lot more than an election, but then again, what do I know? I’m just a lying dog-faced pony soldier.



An article by Michelle Malkin titled “What’s the Matter With Kansas State University?” was posted at creators.com on July 1, 2020. Following is the article.

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Kansas hasn’t voted for a Democrat in presidential elections since 1964. From 1995 to 2002 and from 2011 to 2017, Republicans in Topeka held the iron trifecta of the governor’s mansion, the state House and the state Senate. In 2016, Donald Trump walloped Hillary Clinton in this quintessential red state by a 57-36 margin.

So why is it that, in 2020, a mainstream conservative Christian college student under fire by a violence-inciting campus mob can’t find a single prominent Republican in the Sunflower State to uphold and defend his free speech rights?

Jaden McNeil is a 21-year-old Kansas State University undergrad, former Turning Point USA chapter leader, and founder of America First Students. Since quitting TPUSA last year over its shocking embrace of drag queens, open borders and a “culture of censorship,” McNeil has been attacked by left-wing journalists and tarred through guilt by association.

Local reporters such as Judy Thomas at the Kansas City Star have regurgitated baseless lies that McNeil (who I’ve known since last year and consider a friend and rising conservative star) is connected to “white nationalism” for advocating traditional social conservatism and an end to mass migration.

McNeil also refuses to bend his knee to Black Lives Matter, unlike so many swamp conservatives folding like cheap origami these days. On June 25, the young KSU student tweeted an edgy joke about BLM hero George Floyd:

“Congratulations to George Floyd on being drug free for an entire month!”

The snarky line is a variation on a common internet commemoration of the deaths of drug-addicted celebrities. You may think it’s bad humor or brilliant humor but newsflash: It’s humor. No matter. In end-stage America, where we are now governed by the wokest of the insane and indignant, there is no bigger human rights violation than a George Floyd joke.

A manufactured outrage backlash by KSU College Democrats, athletes and bloodthirsty Black Lives Matter extremists ensued.

K-State freshman quarterback Jaren Lewis fulminated: "We are demanding that Kansas State University put a policy in place that allows a student to be dismissed for displaying openly racist, threatening or disrespectful action toward a student or groups of students. We have resolved that we cannot play, practice, or meet until these demands are heard and actions taken."

K-State Democrats will hold a march this weekend calling for McNeil's head.

In response, KSU president Richard Myers proclaimed that "Black Lives Matter" and immediately pledged "to fast-track action plans to combat racism and bigotry and other forms of social injustice."

KSU vice president for student life Thomas Lane attacked McNeil for lacking "basic decency." The school has launched an "immediate review" of its "options." The adults in charge poured virtue-signaling fuel on a riotous fire, resulting in an avalanche of violent death threats and doxxing of McNeil's family:

"KICK JADEN MCNEIL OUT OR WE WILL HANDLE HIM OURSELVES. This is not a threat, it's a promise!!" a Twitter user exclaimed. "I swear to God you better never show your face in public in the state of Kansas. F—kin dead man."

Another user named Billy threatened: "I don't know who you are but I hope your (gets) face stomped in. If no one has, I'll do it."

An Instagram user messaged McNeil: "White cracker n—-a ur gonna die."

A "parody" Twitter account masquerading as McNeil's mother posted a family photo and his father's employer has been harassed.

"People are more upset about this tweet than they are about George Floyd robbing a pregnant woman at gunpoint," McNeil bluntly noted. Twitter, the supposedly neutral platform, forced McNeil to delete both his original joke and his observation about the selective outrage because the company claimed, the tweets were "glorifying violence."

In the meantime, not a single Kansas Republican has risen to condemn the threats against McNeil, nor defended his rights to free speech and free association. The academic liberty champions of FIRE, however, sent off a letter to KSU President Myers on Monday firmly reminding the school that "the First Amendment bars KSU from punishing or investigating McNeil for his tweets."

Robert Shibley, FIRE's executive director, told me: "Kansas State may say that it is reviewing its 'options' in response to a demand that a student be kicked out for an unpopular tweet, but it knows those options don't include meeting that demand—at least not legally. The free speech guarantees that some students demand be denied to others are the only thing that protects them from being the next casualty of shifting political winds."

Shibley added: "The many attempts to silence dissenting voices in the past few weeks point to a profound failure among universities nationwide to maintain the

climate of free inquiry that gives them purpose. Censorship does nothing to persuade its targets that their views are ‘wrong’—only that they must lie about them, or stay silent. While this may result in a temporary political benefit, driving views underground is a ticking time bomb for a democratic society.”

Unapologetic nationalist conservative students like Jaden McNeil are under siege at publicly funded universities—not just at blue state Ivy League schools or crazy California Marxist echo chambers but smack dab in the middle of red state America.

Conservatism Inc.’s multimillion-dollar decades-old culture war is an abysmal failure. The kids deserve better.



An article by Robert Robb titled “Supreme Court Was Supposed to Protect the Separation of Powers; Instead, It Killed Them” was posted at [usatoday.com](http://usatoday.com) on June 27, 2020. Following is the article.

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In our national government, the separation of powers is a dead letter.

That’s the doctrine underpinning the United States Constitution holding that the powers of the three branches of our government are distinct and the powers of one are not to be exercised by the others.

The Founders believed that the separation of powers, and the system of checks and balances it produces, were a bulwark of individual liberty, a way of keeping government within the constraints the founders intended.

So, if the separation of powers is a dead letter, what does that mean? For our system of government? For the constraints that protect individual liberty?

These questions are sparked by two recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions.

- One gave a stay of execution for the Obama administration’s legalization program for “dreamers,” those brought to this country illegally as children.
- The other expanding protected classes for employment discrimination to include sexual orientation and gender identity.

### **Immigration is Congress’ responsibility**

The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals decision, dealing with legal status for those brought here illegally as children, offers the fullest illustration.

The Constitution clearly give authority over immigration to Congress. And, over the years, Congress has passed highly detailed and prescriptive laws about who can legally be in this country.

But Congress has stalled out regarding what to do with millions of people who are residing in the country illegally but otherwise are law-abiding and pro-

ductive. I favor giving them amnesty, in conjunction with reforms, principally making electronic verification of work eligibility mandatory, that would sharply reduce the incidence of future illegal immigration.

The Obama administration issued a memorandum establishing an amnesty program for the dreamers. They would be deemed legally present and could legally work, based upon two-year, renewable permits.

The Trump administration believed, correctly in my judgment, that the executive branch had no constitutional authority to create what amounted to a new category of legal immigration.

It chose to wind down the program the very same way the Obama administration created it, by issuing a memorandum.

The Supreme Court, in another sophistic opinion written by Chief Justice John Roberts, held that the Trump administration had no authority to act on its own understanding of the limits of executive branch authority, or to undo what the Obama administration did in precisely the same way the Obama administration did it.

Instead, the Trump administration had to go through the hoops of the Administrative Procedure Act and come up with other reasons that would satisfy the justices.

### **We now have a power free-for-all**

Consider this spectacle from the perspective of the separation of powers. President A establishes a new category of legal immigration. President B abolishes it.

The U.S. Supreme Court arbitrates and prevents President B from undoing President A's new legal immigration category without going through some legal hoops and coming up with different reasons for doing so.

So, we have the executive branch and the judicial branch determining immigration policy for the United States, a responsibility the U.S. Constitution gives unambiguously to the legislative branch.

George Floyd protests: My students rioted in 1992 Los Angeles. Together, we learned the right way to protest.

The employment discrimination decision was, as Justice Samuel Alito described it in dissent, a transparent act of legislating.

Federal law prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, which was understood at the time to mean biological sex, for being a man or a woman. Congress has debated adding bans on discrimination because of sexual orientation or gender identity, but hasn't yet done so.

No need. The Supreme Court did it for them in a remarkably pettifogging opinion by Justice Neil Gorsuch, masquerading as an originalist and textualist.

The problem is deeper than the Supreme Court usurping legislative authority from Congress, which is nothing new. Or the court protecting executive branch usurpation of the immigration policy making authority of Congress.

Congress itself has violated the separation of powers doctrine massively by setting up regulatory agencies that exercise both legislative and judicial functions. And Congress has invited usurpations by being so dysfunctional.

One of the responsibilities the founders did assign to, and expect of, the Supreme Court was to protect and police the separation of powers. As these two cases confirm, that ain't gonna happen.

So, we are in the process of learning what it means to have a national government in which the allocation of power and authority is a free-for-all. I doubt that it will be an improvement on what the founders intended and thought they had crafted.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Juggling Chainsaws" was posted at patriotpост.us on June 27, 2020. Following are excerpts of the article.

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These days, trying to keep up with the news is nearly as difficult as those juggling acts where the guy, having decided that keeping three or four balls in the air is no big deal, adds knives, bowling balls and activated chainsaws.

Wherever you look, there is more bad news. I mean, after suffering through a lockdown that threw millions of people out of work, padlocked small businesses, mugged the nation's economy and sent suicide and domestic violence stats soaring, did we really need to have the bums in the Black Lives Matter mob given carte blanche by scores of governors and mayors to burn and loot to their hearts' content?

In the midst of all this choreographed madness, we hear that Iran is on the verge of possessing a nuclear bomb and China, not content to unleash a virus on the world, is still hacking into our computers and financing major espionage activity in our universities and various research facilities.

#### ■ China and 54 scientists

Just recently, it was announced that 54 scientists have been fired as a result of the National Institute of Health (NIH) discovering they had neglected to mention on their grant proposals that they were being paid by a foreign government. In nearly all the cases, that government was China, and the recipients of their largesse were Chinese men in their 50s who were not only spying on China's behalf but were recruiting young and susceptible college students to serve their masters back in Beijing.

#### ■ Dump Mitch McConnell

Now that the NIH has begun winnowing out those in academia whose allegiance is to Communist China, the voters of Kentucky might consider dumping Mitch McConnell.

Thanks to being married to Elaine Chao, who is the Secretary of Transportation and the daughter of James Si-Cheng Chao, who happens to be a

Chinese shipping magnate who has profited enormously from his close ties to Xi Jinping, the McConnells are wallowing in Chinese cash.

I'm sure that Mr. Chao loves his daughter and likes his son-in-law, but I'm also willing to wager that it doesn't hurt those relationships that Mitch is the majority leader of the Senate and that his daughter, in her Cabinet position, has been a great help when it comes to granting shipping licenses and cutting through bureaucratic red tape.

#### ■ Women piggybacked

I didn't think it was fair in the 1960s when women piggybacked on the Civil Rights Act that was specifically passed to correct past offenses to black people, pretending that they, too, were an oppressed minority, in spite of the fact they'd had the vote for nearly half a century and happened to constitute the majority in America.

#### ■ Transgenders piggyback

These days, I take exception to transgenders being lumped with homosexuals and lesbians in the latest decision by the Supreme Court.

Although I don't think that it's right to deny jobs to gays because of their sexual proclivities alone, I would not hire a transgender. Who the heck wants to be waited on by someone who looks like a man and sounds like a man but insists he's a woman and can sue me if I refer to him as a "him" and not as a "her"?

#### ■ Not impressed with polls

The only comfort I could take from the Rasmussen poll that showed that 63% of Americans have a favorable impression of Black Live Matter is that other polls have shown Joe Biden leading Donald Trump by anywhere between 7 and 12 points. It makes it so much easier to ignore all polls when one of them is that wacky.

#### ■ Fort Worth chose thugs over police

In Fort Worth, Texas, one of the few large cities with a Republican mayor, the BLM hoodlums bombarded the cops with rocks and bottles of bleach, sending three to the hospital, before getting on with their burning and looting.

A few days later, Police Chief Ed Kraus announced that he was dropping all charges against the black thugs. He insisted that the real criminals weren't the members of the marauding mob, but his own police officers.

Frankly, I had no idea that in Fort Worth or anywhere else, such decisions were left to the whim of a police chief. I actually thought that district attorneys made those calls. But perhaps in Fort Worth, the D.A. owes his job, as do so many others, to the financial support of George Soros, and is therefore in sync with Chief Kraus, who would be well-advised to seek vocational guidance.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Lying One's Way Onto the Best Seller List" was posted at patriotpost.us on June 29, 2020. Following are excerpts of the article.



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John Bolton, author of "The Room Where it Happened," believes that Vladimir Putin is tough and smart. He also believes that Donald Trump is weak and stupid. I'll let you make the call.

But let me point out that Putin only had to beat out other Russian politicians, who are generally dealing with hangovers, to become the dictator of a nation with an economy the size of Italy's. Italy, by the way, is a nation with less than half Russia's population, which has been diminished now that they can no longer include Hungarians, Poles, Lithuanians and East Germans, in its census.

Trump, on the other hand, has had to spend his adult life dealing with unions run by the mob; politicians with their hands out; TV network executives; the Democrats in Congress; party traitors like Mitt Romney and Lisa Murkowski; a corrupt media; and government agencies such as the CIA, the NSA and the FBI, riddled with Deep Staters. For a guy like Trump, dealing with a bunch of vodka-soaked Russkies would be a walk in the park.

#### ■ Even Democrats criticize Bolton

Bolton assumed that his former enemies in the other party would be praising him to the sky now that he is attacking Trump. But, far from it. Even partisan hacks like Adam Schiff and Eric Swalwell are miffed that Bolton chose not to testify during the impeachment hearings, instead electing to save his lies for when he wasn't under oath and could hold out for a book deal worth two million dollars.

So, while Bolton is a prefabricator, a backstabber, an egomaniac and an Olympic-class narcissist (the mustache alone tells you all you need to know about that!), he's not quite as dumb as he looks.

#### ■ Bolton didn't mention Trump success

In his book, he writes: "In fact, I am hard-pressed to identify any significant Trump decision during my tenure that wasn't driven by re-election calculations."

That is one of the single silliest statements I have ever read. It would mean that anything good that a president did, such as lowering taxes; supercharging the economy; raising wages for the first time in three decades; increasing employment numbers for blacks and Latinos to record levels; moving our embassy at long last to Jerusalem; modernizing our military; promoting religious values; trying to get Congress to defund Planned Parenthood; supporting cops; and stop supporting NATO, the Palestinian Authority and the World Health Organization with our tax dollars, should be dismissed as playing politics.

#### ■ Bolton wanted to expand war

None of that mattered to Bolton. The only thing Trump could have done that would have pleased Bolton was to expand the war in Afghanistan to include North Korea, Venezuela and, if possible, China.

When it comes to where people stand when it comes to waging war, the scale typically ranges between doves and hawks. But way past the typical hawk is



John Bolton, who's all for wars except if he has to fight in them. He took every possible precaution to avoid a government-funded visit to Vietnam.

The only question on the minds of most sensible people isn't why Trump boot-ed him out of the administration, but why he ever invited him to join.

#### ■ Previous interview with Bolton

It had slipped my mind, but I actually conducted an interview (via email) with Bolton back in 2012 when I was working on "67 Conservatives You Should Meet Before You Die."

When I looked it over a few minutes ago, I came across a couple of telling responses. When I asked him what he would change about America if he could accomplish it with a snap of his fingers, he said: "Replace Barack Obama as President." Today, I'm certain he would say: "Replace Donald Trump as President."

I didn't think to ask him the natural follow-up question: Replace him with whom? Obviously, his answer on both occasions would have been: "John Bolton."

Another question I asked was: "If they ever get around to producing "The John Bolton Story," what actor, living or dead, would you consider ideal casting in the title role?"

He replied: "Tom Selleck."

I figured that was because Bolton thought they looked so much alike.

#### ■ Noticed butterflies

This afternoon, while I read on my front porch and my dog Angel worked on her tan, both of us kept being distracted by a butterfly who appeared to be showing off for us.

She kept flying high above my roof and then flying in low, flying far beyond my yard before returning a few seconds later.

She—all butterflies are presumed to be female because of their beauty—did everything but perform loop-de-loops, seemingly for the pure joy of its being a fine day to be alive and having the ability to fly.

But after a while, it dawned on me that there was a breeze and, although butterflies appear to be the frailest of God's creations, the breeze seemed to have no effect on her. She flew with the breeze but also into the face of it.

Obviously, if I noticed the wind currents, the butterfly must have, but she paid them no mind. She didn't allow anything to dictate where she wanted to go or how she got there.

#### ■ Adapt ways of butterflies

It occurred to me that in 2020 we Conservatives must adapt the ways of butterflies and ignore the ignorance and intolerance of those goony birds aligned against us and our chosen leader. In the words of a certain boxer, we must float like a butterfly and sting like a bee.

## ■ Better to rule in hell

I used to wonder why people like Bill de Blasio, Eric Garcetti, Andrew Cuomo, Gavin Newsom, Nancy Pelosi and others of their ilk wish to stand by and watch decent, hard-working people desert their cities and states, leaving it to the dregs and druggies to use the streets as their bathrooms, and allowing the black marauders to loot and burn to their hearts' content.

Then I recalled the line that John Milton put in the mouth of Satan in his epic poem, "Paradise Lost," to explain his preference for life in the underworld: "Better to rule in Hell than serve in Heaven."



"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.

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### **Deficit**

■ Looking back to May, an article by John Haughey titled "COVID-19 Spending Boosts Taxpayers Share of Federal Deficit to \$77K Each" was posted at the centersquare.com on May 21, 2020.

### **Federal reserve**

■ An article by Sylvan Lane titled "Fed Officials Fear Second Wave of Coronavirus Will Cause Deeper Recession" was posted at thehill.com on July 1, 2020.

### **Finances**

■ A Reuters article by Yereth Rosen titled "Trump Administration Opens Sensitive Arctic Areas to Oil Development" was posted at reuters.com on June 25, 2020.

■ An article by Jeremy Bowman titled "Target Is Following Walmart Into This Huge Market Opportunity [of Order Pickup, Drive Up and Same-Day Delivery]" was posted motleyfool.com on June 27, 2020.

■ An article by Yun Li titled "Nearly Half of U.S. Population Is Without a Job, Showing How Far the Labor Recovery Has to Go" was posted at cnbc.com on June 29, 2020.

■ An article by Susan Jones titled "Employment Up 4,940,000 in June" was posted at cnsnews.com on July 2, 2020.

■ An article by Terence P. Jeffrey titled "Government Employment Down 1,469,000 Since February" was posted at cnsnews.com on July 2, 2020.

■ An article by Craig Bannister titled "Hispanic Unemployment Rate 3.1 Points in June As 1,470,000 More Find Jobs" was posted at cnsnews.com on July 2, 2020.

■ An article by Melanie Arter titled "Stephen Moore: Pelosi's Plan Would Pay People More to Stay Home Than to Work" was posted at cnsnews.com on July 2, 2020.

## **Stimulus checks**

- An article by Andrew Sullivan titled "Government Tax Watchdog [the National Taxpayer Advocate]: IRS Should Not Waste Time Pursuing \$1 Billion in Stimulus Checks Sent to Dead People" was posted at marketwatch.com on June 29, 2020.
- An article by Victor Reklaitis titled "Trump Says He Wants More Stimulus Checks: 'I Support Actually Larger Numbers Than the Democrats' " was posted at marketwatch.com on July 1, 2020.

## **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.
- Looking back to March 2019, an article by Patrick Wood titled "Club of Rome Reveals Gushing Support for Green New Deal" was posted at technocracy.news on March 15, 2019.

## **Coronavirus and civil liberties**

- Looking back to May, an article by Jason Grant titled "[N.Y.] State Bar Group Calls for 'Mandatory' COVID-19 Vaccinations [for the Sake of Public Health], Regardless of Objections [Religious, Philosophical or Personal]" was posted at law.com on May 28, 2020.

## **Coronavirus and religion**

- An article by Conrad Wilson and Dirk Vanderhart titled "Oregon Supreme Court Rules Against Churches Challenging COVID-19 Restrictions" was posted at opb.org on June 12, 2020.

## **Coronavirus and sports**

- An article by Nick Selbe titled "Report: NFL Considers Requiring Fans to Sign COVID-19 Liability Waivers to Attend Games" was posted at si.com on July 2, 2020.

## **Comments about racism (real or imagined)**

- An article by Julio Rosas titled "Protesters Threaten to Tear Down Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Statue Because It's Racist" was posted at townhall.com on June 24, 2020.
- An article by Monica Showalter titled "Black People Stand to Defend the Lincoln Emancipation Statue" was posted at americanthinker.com on June 27, 2020.
- An article by Jennifer Maas titled "'The Office' Season 9 Christmas Episode Re-Edited to Remove Blackface Scene" was posted at thewrap.com on June 26, 2020.
- An article by Ryan Young titled "Native American Group Urges Redskins Players to Sit Out Season in Protest of Team Name" was posted at yahoosports.com on June 26, 2020.

- An article by Doug Stanglin and Joel Shannon titled "Princeton Removes Woodrow Wilson's Name From School, Citing His 'Racist Thinking and Policies' " was posted at [usatoday.com](https://www.usatoday.com) on June 27, 2020.
- An article by Natasha Reda titled "The Simpsons Will No Longer Have Characters of Color Voiced by White Actors" was posted at [glamour.com](https://www.glamour.com) on June 27, 2020.
- An article by Fnr Tigg titled "Houston Realtors Will No Longer Use Term 'Master' When Describing Bedrooms" was posted at [yahoo.com](https://www.yahoo.com) on June 27, 2020.
- An article by Ellise Shafer titled "Politicians Demand John Wayne Airport Changes Name Over Actor's Racist History" was posted at [variety.com](https://www.variety.com) on June 27, 2020.
- An article by Tarpley Hitt titled "Aunt Jemima's Relatives Want Reparations" was posted at [thedailybeast.com](https://www.thedailybeast.com) on June 29, 2020.
- An article by Alexandra Canal titled " 'Gone With the Wind' Returns to HBO Max As Disney Revamps Splash Mountain" was posted at [yahoo.com](https://www.yahoo.com) on June 27, 2020.
- An article by Molly Hensley-Clancy titled "N.W.S.L. [Womens' Soccer] Players Kneel for Anthem As League Returns to Field" was posted at [nytimes.com](https://www.nytimes.com) on June 26, 2020.
- An article by Madeline Peltzer titled "The Cultural Revolution Comes for the National Anthem" was posted at [townhall.com](https://www.townhall.com) on June 26, 2020.
- An article by Lee Hawkins titled "High School Graduation Singer Refuses to Sing 'Star-Spangled Banner' " was posted at [wsj.com](https://www.wsj.com) on June 22, 2020.
- An article by Suzy Weiss titled "National Anthem Should Be Changed to John Lennon's 'Imagine'—Activist Says" was posted at [nypost.com](https://www.nypost.com) on June 26, 2020.
- An article by Mike Jones titled "NFL Will Play Black National Anthem 'Lift Every Voice and Sing' Before Each Week 1 Game" was posted at [usatoday.com](https://www.usatoday.com) on July 2, 2020.
- An article by Ryan Young titled "Duke Coach Mike Krzyzewski Delivers Powerful Black Lives Matter Message" was posted at [yahoosports.com](https://www.yahoosports.com) on June 26, 2020.
- An article by Sam Quinn titled "NBA to Paint 'Black Lives Matter' on Sides of Courts at Disney" was posted at [cbssports.com](https://www.cbssports.com) on June 29, 2020.
- An article by Melissa Quinn titled "Pence on Black Lives Matter: 'I Really Believe All Lives Matter'" was posted at [cbsnews.com](https://www.cbsnews.com) on June 28, 2020.
- An article by Trace William Cowen titled "Walmart to Cease Sales of 'All Lives Matter' Merchandise" was posted at [yahoo.com](https://www.yahoo.com) on June 30, 2020.
- An article by Tobias Hoonhout titled "Harvard Grad [Claira Janover] Says She Was Fired From Deloitte Job for Threatening [to Stab] 'All Lives Matter' Supporters" was posted at [nationalreview.com](https://www.nationalreview.com) on July 2, 2020.
- An article titled "George Lopez Says Latino Celebs Need to Speak Up About Police Brutality: 'Silence Is Violence' " was posted at [yahoo.com](https://www.yahoo.com) on June 29, 2020.

- An article by Wyatt Grantham-Philips titled "Not Just Confederate Statues: Indigenous Activists Want Conquistadors, Missionaries Removed" was posted at [usatoday.com](https://www.usatoday.com) on June 29, 2020.
- An article by Brent Bozell titled "The Real Story of Black Lives Matter—Marxist, Anti-Family Radicals" was posted at [cnsnews.com](https://www.cnsnews.com) on July 1, 2020.
- An article by Hilary Weaver titled "Beyonce [Whose Net Worth Is Estimated at \$400 Million] Encourages BLM Protesters to 'Continue to Change and Dismantle a Racist and Unequal System' " was posted at [elle.com](https://www.elle.com) on June 28, 2020.

### **Comments about rioters and looters**

- An article by Craig Bannister titled "Bozell: Protesters' Statue Vandalism 'Has Nothing to Do With Racism . . . Everything to Do With Tearing Down America' " was posted at [cnsnews.com](https://www.cnsnews.com) on June 30, 2020.
- An article by Jordan Davidson titled "In First Weekend of Riots, Looting Damage in 20 Major Cities Exceeded \$400 Million" was posted at [thefederalist.com](https://www.thefederalist.com) on June 28, 2020.
- An article by Melanie Arter titled "Turning Point USA Spokesman [Rob Smith]: Mobs in Philly, Wisconsin Targeted Statues of Abolitionists" was posted at [cnsnews.com](https://www.cnsnews.com) on June 25, 2020.
- An article by Emily Jashinsky titled "Leftists Destroy Abolitionist Statues Because Scorched Cultural Earth Is Their Only Option" was posted at [thefederalist.com](https://www.thefederalist.com) on July 1, 2020.
- An article by Sophia Ankel titled "Donald Trump Claims 'Christian Figures Are Now in the Crosshairs' As He Moves to Protect US Statues From 'Mob Rule' " was posted at [businessinsider.com](https://www.businessinsider.com) on June 27, 2020.
- An article by Joe Price titled "Montana Man Arrested for Pulling Down Ten Commandments Monument With Truck" was posted at [yahoo.com](https://www.yahoo.com) on June 29, 2020.
- An article titled "Activists Set Up Guillotine in Front of Jeff Bezos's D.C. Home, Call for Amazon to Be Abolished" was posted at [dailywire.com](https://www.dailywire.com) on June 29, 2020.
- An article by Jonah Gottschalk titled "Shootings Surge Across the Largest U.S. Cities" was posted at [thefederalist.com](https://www.thefederalist.com) on June 29, 2020.
- An article titled "Body Cam Shows Fireworks Being Launched 'at Police' During Richmond Protest" was posted at [storyful.com](https://www.storyful.com) on June 27, 2020.
- An article titled "Portland Police Use Tear Gas As Riot Declared" was posted at [storyful.com](https://www.storyful.com) on July 1, 2020.
- An article by Ian Swartz titled "Seattle Mayor [Jenny] Durham: CHAZ Has a 'Block Party Atmosphere,' Could Turn Into 'Summer of Love' " was posted at [realclearpolitics.com](https://www.realclearpolitics.com) on June 12, 2020.
- An article by Lisa Baumann titled "Shooting in Seattle Protest Zone Leaves 1 Dead, 1 Injured" was posted at [apnews.com](https://www.apnews.com) on June 20, 2020.

- An article by Jim Carlton titled "Protesters Won't Leave CHOP in Seattle As Tensions Rise" was posted at [wsj.com](https://www.wsj.com) on June 27, 2020.
- An article titled "Youth Killed in Another Shooting in Seattle's Occupied Protest Zone" was posted at [apnews.com](https://www.apnews.com) on June 29, 2020.
- An article by Craig Bannister titled "Seattle Mayor Declares CHOP Protesters Dangerous After [Council Member Kshama Sawant Leads Them to Her House and] They March to Her Doorstep [on June 28]" was posted at [cnsnews.com](https://www.cnsnews.com) on June 30, 2020.
- An article by Michael W. Chapman titled "[Black] Florida Sheriff [Darryl Daniels] Will Deputize 'Every Lawful Gun Owner' If Needed to Handle Lawless Protests" was posted at [cnsnews.com](https://www.cnsnews.com) on July 2, 2020.

### **Comments about police**

- An article by Christina Carrega titled "Michigan Police Release Video of Excessive Force Arrest" was posted at [abcnews.com](https://abcnews.com) on June 27, 2020.
- An article by Michelle Mark titled "8 Louisiana Police Officers Have Been Charged After Violently Beating 2 Men Who Prosecutors Said Tried to 'Surrender Without Resistance' " was posted at [businessinsider.com](https://www.businessinsider.com) on July 1, 2020.
- An article by Gino Spocchia titled "Police Officer Filmed Punching Black Woman at Miami International Airport" was posted at [independent.co.uk](https://www.independent.co.uk) on July 2, 2020.
- An article titled "Amid Calls for Police Reform, Many Turn Their Focus to the Powerful Unions That Protect Officers" was posted at [cbsnews.com](https://www.cbsnews.com) on July 2, 2020.
- An article by Thomas Lifson titled "Minneapolis City Council Members Who Voted to Abolish Police Are Now Getting Private Security Protection Paid for by Taxpayers" was posted at [americanthinker.com](https://www.americanthinker.com) on June 28, 2020.
- An article by Mary Stringini titled "LA City Council Approves First Step in Replacing LAPD With Community Responders for Non-Violent Calls" was posted at [foxla.com](https://www.foxla.com) on June 30, 2020.
- An article by Dean Balsamini titled "272 Uniformed NYPD Cops File for Retirement After George Floyd Death" was posted at [nypost.com](https://www.nypost.com) on June 27, 2020.
- A Reuters article titled "Republican Senator [Tim Scott of South Carolina] Sees Effort This Week to Revive Police Reform Debate in U.S. Congress" was posted at [reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com) on June 28, 2020.

### **Illegal immigration**

- A Reuters article by Jonathan Stempel titled "Trump's Spending for Border Wall Rejected by U.S. Appeals Court" was posted at [reuters.com](https://www.reuters.com) on June 26, 2020.
- An article by Bailey Duran titled "CBP: Up to 200 Migrants Held in Custody Now Compared to 20,000 Last Year" was posted at [cnsnews.com](https://www.cnsnews.com) on June 26, 2020.



## Comments about weapons

- An article by Jeff Jacoby titled "Black and White Americans Are Embracing the Second Amendment" was posted at townhall.com on June 24, 2020.
- An article by Andrew Davenport titled "Gun Permits Up 500% and Sales Skyrocket Amid Chicago Protests" was posted at cnsnews.com on June 26, 2020.

## Comments about Mail-In Ballots

- An article by Paulina Enck titled "Widespread Fraud in New Jersey Special Election Proves Again That Mail-In Ballots Are Ripe for Abuse" was posted at thefederalist.com on June 26, 2020.
- An article by Alexa Ura titled "U.S. Supreme Court Declines Texas Democrats' Request to Allow All Texans to Vote by Mail" was posted at texastribune.org on June 26, 2020.
- An article by Ken Blackwell titled "Senior Living Facilities: All the Vote Fraud We Cannot See" was posted at cnsnews.com on July 2, 2020.

## Comments about Trump support

- An article by Mike Davis titled "Promises Made, Promises Kept: President Trump's Transformation of the Federal Judiciary" was posted at townhall.com on June 24, 2020.
- An article by Ryan J. Reilly titled "Trump Justice Department Forms Task Force to Investigate Antifa, Boogaloo" was posted at huffpost.com on June 26, 2020.
- An article by Katie Pavlich titled "After Nadler Claims Antifa Doesn't Exist, Republicans Give Details About the Violent Group" was posted at townhall.com on June 26, 2020.
- An article by Katie Pavlich titled "Trump's Latest Executive Order Changes Hiring Standards for Federal Jobs [Prioritizing Skills and Knowledge Over Academic Degrees]" was posted at townhall.com on June 26, 2020.
- An article by Bill Hagerty titled "If Chief Justice Roberts Wants to Legislate, He Ought to Run for Office" was posted at townhall.com on July 1, 2020.
- An article by Susan Jones titled "'Black Voices for Trump' Advisor [Carol Swain] Warns of 'Global Movement to Destroy the United States'" was posted at cnsnews.com on July 2, 2020.

## Comments about Trump opposition

- An article by Sean Davis and Mollie Hemingway titled "Explosive New FBI Notes Confirm Obama Directed Anti-Flynn Operation" was posted at thefederalist.com on June 24, 2020.
- An article by Melanie Arter titled "NYC Mayor to Cut \$1 Billion From NYPD Budget; Invest in Youth Centers, Housing" was posted at cnsnews.com on June 30, 2020.

- An article by Melanie Arter titled "AOC: NYPD's \$1 Billion Budget Cut Doesn't Go Far Enough" was posted at [cnsnews.com](https://www.cnsnews.com) on July 1, 2020.
- An article by Haley Byrd titled "House Democrats Pass DC Statehood Bill Friday [June 26]" was posted at [cnn.com](https://www.cnn.com) on June 27, 2020.
- An article titled "Ted Cruz Slams Democrats, Reveals Why They're Really After D.C. Statehood [Democrats Want Two More Senators]" was posted at [libertybell.com](https://www.libertybell.com) on June 29, 2020.
- An article by Glenn T. Stanton titled "The Queer Movement Wants to Convert Christians, Not Coexist" was posted on [thefederalist.com](https://www.thefederalist.com) on June 26, 2020.
- An article by Curtis M. Wong titled "New York's Queer Liberation March Ends in 'Violent Clash' With Police" was posted at [huffpost.com](https://www.huffpost.com) on June 29, 2020.
- An article by Pete Williams titled "Supreme Court, in 5-4 Ruling [With John Roberts Joining the Liberal Justices], Strikes Down Restrictive Louisiana Abortion Law [a Victory for Abortion-Rights Activists]" was posted at [nbcnews.com](https://www.nbcnews.com) on June 29, 2020.
- An article by Katie Yoder titled "Supreme Court Abortion Ruling: Celebrities Declare 'Victory for Women' " (but not for killed babies) was posted at [townhall.com](https://www.townhall.com) on July 2, 2020.
- Looking back to February, an article by Brad Polumbo titled "Joe Biden Just Claimed There Had Been '150 Million' Gun Deaths, and No One Even Called Him on It" was posted at [washingtonexaminer.com](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com) on Feb. 25, 2020.
- An article by Yaron Steinbach titled "Joe Biden Says There Are '120 Million Dead From COVID' in Latest Gaffe" was posted at [nypost.com](https://www.nypost.com) on June 26, 2020.
- An article by Ted Johnson and Dominic Patten titled "Joe Biden Hits Hollywood Jackpot; \$6 Million Raised at Jeffrey Katzenberg-Hosted Virtual Fundraiser" was posted at [deadline.com](https://www.deadline.com) on June 27, 2020.
- An article by Veronica Stracqualursi titled "Former GOP Candidate Carly Fiorina Says She'll Vote for Biden" was posted at [cnn.com](https://www.cnn.com) on June 25, 2020.
- Looking back to 2017, an article titled "LeBron James Calls Trump a 'Bum' Amid Fallout From President's Comments on NFL Players" was posted at [cnn.com](https://www.cnn.com) on Sept. 23, 2017.
- Looking back to 2018, an article by Nick Schwartz titled "10 Times LeBron James Stood Up to Donald Trump" was posted at [usatoday.com](https://www.usatoday.com) on Aug. 4, 2018.
- A video and an article titled "'We're Looking to Take Out Trump and Trumpism' in 2020: The Lincoln Project Co-Founder [Reed Galen]" were posted at [yahoofinance.com](https://www.yahoofinance.com) on July 1, 2020.
- An article by Brent Budowsky titled "Michelle Obama or Tammy Duckworth for VP" was posted at [thehill.com](https://www.thehill.com) on June 10, 2020.

■ An article by Bill Ruthhart and Rick Pearson titled “Could Illinois Sen. Tammy Duckworth’s Remarkable Life Story [Thai Woman Who Won the Purple Heart As a Helicopter Pilot Who Lost Her Right Leg] Help Make Her Joe Biden’s Pick for Vice President?” was posted at [chicagotribune.com](http://chicagotribune.com) on June 30, 2020.

### **Kamala Harris**

■ An article by Sean Sullivan and Annie Linskey titled “Kamala Harris Once Went After Joe Biden, But Now There’s Only Bonhomie As the Vice Presidential Tryouts Continue” was posted at [washingtonpost.com](http://washingtonpost.com) on June 26, 2020.

■ An article by Joshua Nelson titled “Kamala Harris Will Be Joe Biden’s VP Pick, [New York Post Columnist] Miranda Devine Says” was posted at [foxnews.com](http://foxnews.com) on June 30, 2020.

### **News about the media**

■ Looking back to May, an article by Dan McLaughlin titled “The 1619 Project Wins a Pulitzer Prize for Agitprop [Political Propaganda]” was posted at [nationalreview.com](http://nationalreview.com) on May 7, 2020.

■ An article Karu F. Daniels titled “MSNBC Anchor Joy Reid Reportedly Set to Take Over Chris Matthews’ Former ‘Hardball’ Time Slot” was posted at [nydailynews.com](http://nydailynews.com) on June 25, 2020.

■ An article by Denise Petski titled “‘Tucker Carlson Tonight’ Draws Record 4.3 Million Viewers in 2Q Amid All-Time Highs for Fox News Channel” was posted at [deadline.com](http://deadline.com) on June 30, 2020.

■ An article by Mia Jankowicz titled “Tucker Carlson Laid Into Jared Kushner, Blaming Him for a Protest Response That Makes Trump Show ‘Weakness’ ” was posted at [insider.com](http://insider.com) on June 2, 2020.

■ An article by Jonathan Swan titled “Scoop: Trump Regrets Kushner Advice on Prison Reform” was posted at [axios.com](http://axios.com) on July 1, 2020.

### **General interest**

■ An article by Ellen Manning titled “Hotel Buffet Breakfasts Will Be a ‘Thing of the Past’ Post-Lockdown, Tourism Boss Warns” was posted at [yahoonews.com](http://yahoonews.com) on June 27, 2020.

■ An article by Mike Murphy titled “‘Travel Will Never, Ever Go Back to the Way It Was,’ Airbnb CEO Says” was posted at [marketwatch.com](http://marketwatch.com) on June 28, 2020.

■ An article by Nina Golgowski titled “Airlines CEO [Nicholas E. Calio of Airlines for America] Defends Full Flights, Arguing ‘You Can’t Socially Distance’ on Planes” was posted at [huffpost.com](http://huffpost.com) on June 30, 2020.

■ An article by Danico Coto titled “Puerto Rico to Demand COVID-19 Test Results From Arriving Passengers” was posted at [fox13news.com](http://fox13news.com) on June 30, 2020.

■ An article by Kristin Salaky titled “Almost 60,000 Pounds of Frozen Chicken Nuggets Have Been Recalled [Apparently Contaminated by Flexible Rubber Material]” was posted at [gh.com](http://gh.com) (Good Housekeeping) on July 1, 2020.

- An article by John Jakubisin titled "Sen. [Roger] Wicker [Republican From Mississippi]: 'Serious Reservations' About Biden Plan to Allow Biological Males Into Women's Locker Rooms" was posted at cnsnews.com on July 1, 2020.
- An article by Bailey Duran titled "Sen. [Mike] Rounds [Republican From South Dakota] on Biden Plan to Allow Biological Males in Women's Locker Rooms: 'Not An Item We're Worried About Right Now' " was posted at cnsnews.com on July 1, 2020.
- An article by Bailey Duran titled "Rep. [Dan] Meuser [Republican From Pennsylvania] on Biden Plan to Let Biological Males Use Girls' Locker Rooms: Whatever's 'Best for the School' " was posted at cnsnews.com on July 2, 2020.



***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."