



WOMEN FOR THE AMERICAN CONSTITUTION NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2024

VOLUME 5, #2



President CJ's Letter

Dear Colleagues:

Article 1, Section 10 of the U.S. Constitution expressly defines a State's right to self-defense and protection against invasion. Specifically:

*"No State shall, without the Consent of Congress, lay any Duty of Tonnage, keep Troops, or Ships of War in time of Peace, enter into any Agreement or Compact with another State, or with a foreign Power, or engage in War, **unless actually invaded, or in such imminent Danger as will not admit of delay.**"*

The State of Texas has been invaded for the last 3+ years. After such a lengthy time, Texas and the entire country is now in imminent danger. The United States federal government has a responsibility to *"provide for the common defense,"* as stated in the Preamble of the Constitution. In addition, Article 4, Section 4 of the Constitution states:

*"The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, **and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature can-not be convened) against domestic Violence.**"*

As expressly stated in this founding document, national security (foreign and domestic), is the chief duty of our central government – protecting each of the States and the collective union of States from imminent harm. For the first time in America's history, the central government is not only failing to do so, but outwardly refusing to do so.

In 3 years, the Biden administration has allowed 10.4 million foreign nationals to illegally enter the United States across the southern border, breaking compliance with all immigration laws and prerequisites for entry into our

country. The influx of the criminal element due to open borders has overwhelmed U.S. cities and endangered the nation's "domestic tranquility." Mexican cartels freely traffic humans, guns, drugs, and child sex through schools and neighborhoods across our nation – with organized help from violent gangs such as MS-13. In FY 2023, 169 people on the FBI Terror Watchlist were encountered at the border, an all-time high, as well as 24,314 known Chinese nationals (an increase from 450 in FY 2021), all entering illegally.

Texas bears the primary burden of an open southern border, with 1250 miles (about half the width of the United States) stretching between Texas and Mexico. In 2023, the State of Texas chose to continue border wall construction and use every tool and strategy available to defend its southern border. Texas Governor Abbott signed a State Immigration Law, along with six border security laws (bipartisan, passed in 2023 by the Texas Legislature). In a January 2024 press release, Governor Abbott stated "Texas has the constitutional authority to defend and protect itself. That authority is the supreme law of the land and supersedes any federal statutes to the contrary." However, the Supreme Court ruled in January that the federal border agents can be allowed access to key areas along the border and cut razor wire installed by the State of Texas. Governor Abbott answered the ruling saying, "Border wall construction is ongoing and will continue." Governors from 25 States have outwardly voiced their support for Texas and many have offered aid from their National Guard, when needed.

Our country is at a dangerous crossroad. If the federal government will not defend against foreign invasion and protect against domestic violence, it is up to the individual States. But if the federal government stands in the way of the individual States, as seems to be the case, we have a crisis never before experienced in our great Republic. Now is the time to stand with the U.S. Constitution, and the State of Texas.

C. J. Hatcher, W.A.C. President

(For more details on the devastating effects of illegal immigration, see House Speaker Mike Johnson's article, pages 9-11, in this newsletter.)

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2024 WAC Membership Gathering

On Tuesday, February 13, 2024, members of Women for the American Constitution enjoyed getting together at the home of Jim and Tanya Skeen for our Annual Membership Gathering and discussing the 2024 elections and our plans for education and activism. We discussed the need for members to volunteer their time helping like-minded candidates win seats, the need to for members to run for leadership positions on the WAC Board, and each WAC Board member spoke about her committee's plans for the year. We were also delighted to hear from U.S. Senate candidate Jonathan Emord who is running to unseat current Senator Tim Kaine. Jonathan discussed his vision for America, including actions he would take to protect parents' rights, ensure election integrity, secure America's borders, restore law and order, protect the first and second amendments, and affirm the sanctity of life, among other topics. Other conservative primary candidates will be invited to address WAC members in the near future. We have a lot to do this critical election year and are looking forward to working to elect like-minded people to serve.





Testimony Given at a Hearing of the U.S. House Administration Committee on American Confidence in Elections:

Confronting Zuckerbucks, Private Funding of Election Administration

By Mollie Hemingway, Editor in Chief of the Federalist,
condensed

The American system of self-governance is under attack.

Instead of an Election Day where everyone votes at the same time and with the same full set of information, votes are counted quickly, and everyone promptly knows and trusts the outcome, we now have lengthy election seasons that can last months prior to and even after Election Day. The situation is so absurd that we have presidential and gubernatorial debates weeks after some people have voted.

Instead of having total security and a verifiable chain of custody for ballots being issued, cast, and counted, we flood addresses across the country with tens of millions of unsupervised mail-in ballots months ahead of elections, frequently to locations from which voters, if they're even alive, have long since moved.

Instead of having election administration that is rigorously nonpartisan and impartial under the law, we have allowed the private takeover of government election offices by partisan oligarchs and their armies of activists who use those offices and their authorities to tilt the election toward favored candidates.

Instead of voters being able to vote for the candidate of their choice, powerful interests backed by wealthy oligarchs are working to remove the most popular candidate -- and the ruling party's chief opponent from the ballot -- in a move reminiscent of Soviet Russia. And if that weren't enough, instead of the top candidates chosen by the people being able to fully engage in a vigorous campaign heading into the election, we have one side actively attempting to throw its opponent in prison and bankrupt his family, moves that are also reminiscent of Soviet Russia.

Instead of a system of rule of law that gives Americans the same rights and due process, the Department of Justice and other partisan actors prosecute their political opposition -- whether powerful or lowly -- and do so only in places where partisan courts and juries will ensure a quick conviction.

Instead of a free and independent press that shares news and information to inform voters on crucial matters, we have a press that is almost exclusively the arm of one political party and is so corrupt that it is willing to perpetrate hoax after hoax against opposition party members.

Instead of a vibrant public square where Americans can debate issues and express their strongly held views, we have an elaborate censorship industrial complex where the government works hand in hand with tech oligarchs to suppress and blacklist debate on all the important issues that contribute to election outcomes.

Allowing just one of these attacks to infect our electoral system would be a crisis. Allowing all of them at the same time is an existential threat to our system of self-government.

In the last presidential election, nonprofit groups with strong ties to the Democrat Party -- and funded by one of the world's wealthiest and most powerful men, Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg -- took over government election offices, most notably in the Democrat areas of swing states. Since then, the efforts by partisans to further infiltrate government election offices to ensure favorable outcomes have only increased.

According to the most recent census data, more than 12 percent of residents move every year and a 2012 Pew study found that about one out of every eight voter registrations in America are "no longer valid or are significantly inaccurate." As a result, many ballots circulate for weeks before Election Day, and elections are increasingly being decided by technologically sophisticated ballot harvesting operations that parachute into decisive battlegrounds and scare up enough votes from otherwise unmotivated voters to overcome the natural enthusiasm of informed and self-motivated voters who make the effort to get to the polls.

In 2016, Donald Trump won Georgia by five points, but in 2020, following the massive infusion of Zuckerberg's cash, he came up around 11,000 votes short of winning the state again. On average, counties in Georgia that were funded by Zuck Bucks saw an increase in the Democratic share of the vote that was more than twice that of counties that did not receive any Zuck Bucks funding.

Similarly, what happened in Georgia played out in other swing states. For instance, \$10.1 million in Zuck Buck grants were awarded in Wisconsin, but nearly \$8.5 million of that went to just five cities of Green Bay, Kenosha, Madison, Milwaukee, and Racine -- cities where Biden's average margin of victory was over 37 points. Wisconsin was another state that Trump won in 2016 that he very narrowly lost in 2020.

Ultimately, the distribution of Zuck Buck grant amounts – both in absolute and per capita terms – shows, unequivocally, a systematic bias in favor of Democratic jurisdictions. And further, the larger grants that were awarded revealed a partisan pattern of funding that was especially apparent in swing states. Overall, a county that voted for Biden was over 3.5 times more likely to be funded by Zuck Bucks than a county Trump won. Trump counties received an average of \$0.59 per capita in Zuck Bucks, while Biden counties received \$2.85 per capita.

Since these abuses of nonpartisan government election offices were highlighted in the 2020 election, some 27 states have passed laws banning the private funding of elections. However, organizations on the Left are actively trying to circumvent these bans. Late last year, The Honest Elections Project highlighted the existence of a new \$80 million organization, the U.S. Alliance for Election Excellence, designed to infiltrate local election offices and do it in a way specifically designed to get around bans on direct funding of election offices.

“County election offices that enroll in the US Alliance for Election Excellence receive legal and political consultation, public relations assistance, and guidance on recruitment and training,” notes an article coauthored by Jason Snead of the Honest Elections Project and Andy Jackson of the Civitas Center for Public Integrity. “Once counties are enrolled, the Alliance gathers detailed information on the offices’ inner workings and provides specific ‘improvement plans’ to reshape the way they operate. In other words, the Alliance allows the left to have deep influence on election administration.”

Some functions of government are so sacred they must not ever be overtaken by outside interests.

Free and fair elections are a crucial aspect of our Constitutional republic. Wealthy and powerful individuals messing with the integrity of our elections is a grave matter requiring careful oversight. When stated plainly, the issue here should be agreed upon by all Americans: The people counting our votes should not be partisans, and the counting of America’s votes should not be privately funded by activist billionaires.

Allowing the private takeover of government election offices undermines trust in government at the deepest levels. Everyone in Congress, regardless of party, should see this as the threat that it is and come together and put a stop to it.



The Them-vs.-Us Election

Not all rich people are ‘elite’—and that helps explain America’s cultural divide.

By Kimberly A. Strassel, Wall Street Journal, condensed

Most Americans wouldn’t consider a banking titan a spokesman for the common man. But give JP Morgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon credit for putting his pinkie finger on the phenomenon—the divide—that best explains today’s unsettled political environment.

In an interview Wednesday with CNBC, Mr. Dimon took issue with a disconnected liberal elite that scorns “MAGA” voters. “The Democrats have done a pretty good job with the ‘deplorables’ hugging on to their bibles, and their beer and their guns. I mean, really? Could we just stop that stuff, and actually grow up, and treat other people with respect and listen to them a little bit?”

The powerful, the intellectual and the lazy have long said that the “divide” in this country is between rich and poor. They divvy up Americans along traditional lines related to wealth—college, no college, white-collar, blue-collar, income—then layer on other demographics. This framing has given us the “diploma divide” and the “new suburban voter” and “Hillbilly Elegy.” It’s sent the political class scrambling to understand Donald Trump’s “forgotten man”—again, defined economically.

That framing fails to account for the country’s unsettled electorate. There’s a better description of the shifts both between and within the parties, a split that better explains changing voter demographics and growing populist sentiments. It’s the chasm between a disconnected elite and average Americans. This is becoming a them-vs.-us electorate and election. Political candidates, take heed.

This gulf is described by unique new polling from Scott Rasmussen’s RMG Research, conducted for the Committee to Unleash Prosperity. Mr. Rasmussen says that for more than a year he’d been intrigued by consistent outlier data from a subset of Americans, which he later defined as those with a postgraduate degree, earning more than \$150,000 a year, and living in a high-density area. Mr. Rasmussen in the fall conducted two surveys of these “elites” and compared their views to everyone else.

Talk about out of touch. Among the elite, 74% say their finances are getting better, compared with 20% of the rest

of voters. (The share is 88% among elites who are Ivy League graduates.) The elite give President Biden an 84% approval rating, compared with 40% from non-elites. And their complete faith in fellow elites extends beyond Mr. Biden. Large majorities of them have a favorable view of university professors (89%), journalists (79%), lawyers and union leaders (78%) and even members of Congress (67%). Two-thirds say they'd prefer a candidate who said teachers and educational professionals, not parents, should decide what children are taught.

More striking is the elite view on bedrock American principles, central to the biggest political fights of today. Nearly 50% of elites believe the U.S. provides "too much individual freedom"—compared with nearly 60% of voters who believe there is too much "government control." Seventy-seven percent of elites support "strict rationing of gas, meat, and electricity" to fight climate change, vs. 28% of everyone else. More than two-thirds of elite Ivy graduates favor banning things like gasoline-powered cars and stoves and inessential air travel in the name of the environment. More than 70% of average voters say they'd be unwilling to pay more than \$100 a year in taxes or costs for climate—compared with 70% of elites who said they'd pay from \$250 up to "whatever it takes."

This framing explains today's politics better. While this elite is small, its members are prominent in every major institution of American power, from media to universities to government to Wall Street, and have become more intent on imposing their agenda from above. Many American voters feel helplessly under assault from policies that ignore their situation or values.

What unites "rich" and "poor" parents in the revolt against educational failings? A common rejection of disconnected teachers unions and ivory-tower academics. Why are growing numbers of minorities—across all incomes and education levels—rejecting Democrats? They no longer recognize a progressive movement that reflexively espouses that elite view. Why are voters on both sides—including "free market" conservatives—gravitating to politicians who bash "big business" and trade and are increasingly isolationist? They feel the system is rigged by elites that care more about the globe than them. And why the continued appeal of Mr. Trump? The man is a walking promise to stick it to the "establishment" (never mind that most of his party's establishment has endorsed him).

This lack of trust and cultural divide are no healthier than the simpler rich-poor split, but they're there. The challenge for Mr. Trump's GOP opponents as they move past Iowa is to recognize the sense of alienation. That doesn't mean calling to burn everything down (Vivek Ramaswamy tried that and freaked people out), but it does require a campaign that offers more than vague promises to "strengthen the

cause of freedom" or run on "your issues." The polling suggests that most Americans are looking for a leader who promises to return power to the people. They are looking for a freedom agenda. Anyone?



WEF Totalitarians Seek to Euthanize the West

By J. B. Shurk, American Thinker, condensed

Totalitarianism is the warm bath in which civilization slits its wrists. It envelops the people with petty rules, strange dogmas, immoral duties, and forced sacrifices. It warms its victims with intoxicating promises of the government's false love. It leaves the citizen naked — stripped first of his free will, then the thoughts in his head, and finally anything he once called his own. It slowly dispossesses each person of his personhood, until the population withers into frail, colorless facsimiles of the bleak, omnipresent State. Without the courage to act, the desire to think, the wisdom to pray, or the conscience to object, human purpose disappears. Society is exsanguinated of its vitality, creativity, spirituality, and mirth — until it slips beneath the water and stops breathing.

This was the story of Lenin's Soviet Union and the imprisoned nations trapped behind Stalin's Iron Curtain. It was the story of Hitler's Germany, Mussolini's Italy, Mao's China, and Pol Pot's Cambodia. It has been the story of Kim's North Korea, Castro's Cuba, Chávez's Venezuela, and the ayatollahs' Iran. For over a century, humanity has endured one form of barbarous totalitarianism after the next. It slithers into unsuspecting countries — often hiding behind the mask of democratic elections. It misrepresents itself as just one political party of many before announcing itself as the *only party* for all. It seeks to eliminate opponents in stages: first it proselytizes, then it intimidates, and finally it murders. With a couple hundred million victims over the last century alone, it is a governing philosophy that specializes in mass executions, dank prison cells, killing fields, and concentration camps. Totalitarianism infiltrates society with lies and builds nothing but the machinery of death.

With the Earth still wet from so much blood, Western governments now seek to turn the twenty-first century into the twentieth century's even bloodier reflection. It is humbling to realize that we humans repeat so many mistakes through the course of history. It is infuriating, however, to watch today's political leaders push humanity down the exact same paths that led to such monstrous tragedies in the recent past. When will the lesson be learned that censorship of opposing points of view leads to irreparable social division? When will governments grasp

that coercion only intensifies the human desire to be free? When will courts realize that two-tiered justice and political persecution ensure the rule of law's demise? How many more lives must be lost before those who exercise power understand that tyranny always leads to terror?

Totalitarian control over each citizen's life was the driving force behind the outbreak of WWII and the prolonged isolation of closed societies surviving under the blanket of communism during the Cold War. Germans uniquely possess the social memories of both totalitarian perpetrator and victim — first driving the Nazi ideology across the European continent and then suffering through a half-century of bifurcation and Soviet oppression in the East. They experienced the temporary euphoria of trading their individual lives for the greater glory of the German State and the torturous agony of submitting to an occupying force that required absolute obedience. If any nation of people should have learned the harsh repercussions of totalitarianism, it is Germany.

Instead, today's German leaders seek to ban opposition political parties and silence dissent. They micromanage economic activity under the dangerous propaganda campaign of "climate change." They disrupt social cohesion and cultural unity by opening Germany's borders to illegal aliens from unassimilable civilizations. They use the horrors of their own past to slander political protesters as "fascists." Nearly a century ago, German Nazis rose to power by dehumanizing much of Europe. Now their ideological descendants dehumanize those who oppose growing German totalitarianism by ironically branding them as Nazis. And in this strange milieu of historical contradiction, the German Klaus Schwab has built the World Economic Forum as an engine for making oppressive government universal. Even after the devastation of WWII and the Iron Curtain, it seems Western leaders still have no "vaccine" for the totalitarian disease.

It is a strange sight to see Western nations send their parliamentary leaders, foreign ministers, military generals, and prominent business executives to Schwab's WEF powwows, where they may organize how best to dominate and manipulate their respective national populations without even the pretense of a democratic mandate or constitutional legitimacy. This time around, totalitarianism returns to the West not on the heels of invasion and annexation but rather with light bacchanal celebrations in the crisp air of the Swiss Alps. It seems that the only thing aspiring Western tyrants learned from the twentieth century's carnage is that would-be totalitarians should not waste resources fighting one another when their common enemy has always been the people. During the age of monarchies and empires, the easiest way to conquer foreign lands was to purchase their nobles. That is what the World

Economic Forum and its cabal of globalist conquerors do today.

Perhaps the most pungent indicator that Western totalitarianism has returned with a vengeance is the World Economic Forum's Orwellian insistence that its members are working to combat "threats to our democracy." Financial and political oligarchs pretending to protect the people's will is indistinguishable from a fox entrusted to guard the henhouse: the vulnerable always end up dead.

There is nothing "democratic" about labeling dissent as "disinformation." There is nothing "democratic" about conspiring with tech companies to censor public debate as "hate speech." There is nothing "democratic" about imposing top-down "climate change" regulations that do nothing other than strip private property rights and centralize economic control. There is nothing "democratic" about mandating what farmers may grow, what meats may be eaten, what people may own, what words can be said, or what experimental "vaccines" are required to work. There is nothing "democratic" about using central banks' manipulation of digital monies to control the public's behavior. The World Economic Forum is a totalitarian machine that undermines the democratic will of all Western peoples and an existential threat to human rights. As one astute commenter sardonically advised: "I say we nuke the WEF from orbit. It's the only way to be sure." It is certainly true that neither global war nor the proliferation of Iron Curtain police states around the world sufficed to eradicate tyrannical fantasies in the minds of brutal men or bury the miseries of totalitarianism for good.

Fundamentally, the WEF's totalitarians misunderstand history. They believe that easily manipulated people are governed by lies when, in fact, people are desperate for authentic truth. WEF-ers such as Bill Gates, Al Gore, and John Kerry think so little of ordinary people that they terrorize them with scientifically fraudulent warnings of a looming "climate change" apocalypse built around the preposterous notion that poor and middle-class communities can be saved only if they hand over their private property, live in tiny cubicle apartments in fifteen-minute cities, abandon any fondness for personal freedom, and subsist on a diet of bugs.

The fear-inducing power of such malevolent lies does not tend to last. It is why Central and Eastern Europeans rebelled against Soviet communism and collapsed the Iron Curtain. It is why the Chinese Communist Party is so desperate to legitimize its totalitarianism with the pretext that it divinely operates under a "Mandate of Heaven." It is why the Canadian "Freedom Convoy" confronted Justin Trudeau's tyranny. It is why Dutch, Polish, German, Romanian, Irish, and French farmers are fighting back against insane "green" policies today.

Because Klaus Schwab's evil club has effectively disenfranchised the people, there is now a growing popular revolt throughout the West that could easily combust into an anti-Establishment "Reign of Terror." The WEF desires the West's suicide. Let us band together and choose life instead.



This Black History Month, Honor American Hero Clarence Thomas

By Mark Paoletta, The Federalist,
condensed

This Black History Month is an excellent opportunity for Americans to celebrate the inspiring life and jurisprudence of Justice Clarence Thomas, the second black Supreme Court justice in our nation's history (and now the 11th longest-serving justice in history) and the intellectual leader of the Supreme Court.

Justice Thomas is our greatest living American. But the left and its media allies will continue to ignore or defame Thomas because they have manufactured a ridiculous narrative that Thomas does not think the way a black man ought to think. In the left's worldview, your skin color determines how you must think. Of course, this is racist, and the left's narrative is a lie.

From the Depths of Poverty and Despair

But first, let's focus on a truly remarkable American life. Thomas was born in 1948 into abject poverty in Pin Point, Georgia, just outside of Savannah, where segregation ruled the day. His father abandoned the family when Thomas was 2, leaving his mom, who was uneducated and working as a maid for white families and at the nearby oyster factory, to struggle to raise three children.

By the grace of God, Thomas' mother asked her parents to help, and Thomas and his brother went to live with his grandparents. His grandfather enrolled the boys in the segregated all-black Catholic elementary school. Those two developments changed Thomas' life, as his grandfather and the Irish nuns at St. Benedict's held young Clarence to the highest standards and expectations, teaching him the virtues of hard work and perseverance, and did not accept any excuses.

With those skills, Thomas excelled through school at every level, despite being the only black student at a just-desegregated high school seminary. In his college years, and especially at Holy Cross, Thomas embraced black

nationalism, and as he has described, "racism and race explained everything." But Thomas soon concluded this was not the answer and began his journey back to where he started in the Catholic Church. He embraced a philosophy that focused on individual rather than group rights.

On his intellectual journey back from the left, he came upon the books of Professor Thomas Sowell, a brilliant economist and prolific writer, who took issue with liberal social welfare programs and explained how they harmed black Americans. Sowell is a black man, and thus his philosophy was viewed as especially heretical. But Thomas gulped up his work, and as Thomas described, Sowell had a "salvific" effect and a "tremendous impact" on Thomas' life.

At a conference hosted by Sowell in December 1980, Thomas made similar comments to a reporter about the harmful effects of social welfare programs on black families. Retribution from the left and its allies in the media was instant.

Dissenting From Destructive, Racist Ideology

Thomas' hard-earned views led him into the Reagan administration. It was there that Thomas' steel backbone was forged as he was mercilessly attacked, particularly by leftist black leadership. Often ignored in this story are Thomas' battles with those in the Reagan administration who thought he was taking the wrong approach. He stood his ground to all critics and stuck to his principles.

But Thomas' criticisms of race-based affirmative action and other social welfare programs were an existential threat to the left, and especially the leftist black leadership's efforts to play on white guilt and label America as a racist country, where blacks were helpless, lower standards and set-asides were necessary for blacks, and reparations were required.

Thomas called out this destructive ideology and has been branded a sellout, an Uncle Tom. But this is a lie. It's the black leftist leadership that does not reflect black Americans' views, and in fact, advocates policies harmful to black Americans. For example, 81 percent of black parents support school choice, which would allow parents to move their children from failing schools to better schools. Such opportunities have proven to be life-changing to young children who were condemned to a poor education, but the NAACP opposes school choice. Why? Perhaps because the NAACP receives significant funding from majority-white unions, with leaders like Randi Weingarten.

On many of the hot-button issues, black Americans are much more conservative than black leadership. They oppose race-based affirmative action and late-term abortions and overwhelmingly support voter-ID laws. The

leftist black leadership holds the opposite views on these issues. Who exactly is the sellout and traitor?

Thus, it's not surprising that the left launched an all-out assault on Thomas during his nomination to the Supreme Court, including the baseless 11th-hour smear by Anita Hill. The NAACP opposed his nomination, despite support from an overwhelming majority of black Americans. Sound familiar? After watching Thomas, Hill, and others testify, the American people overwhelmingly believed Thomas. And only 26 percent of women believed Hill.

When Thomas went on the court, Democrats and leftist black leadership continued to show their true racist colors, smearing Thomas as dumb and unqualified, a shoe-shine boy to Justice Scalia. A young Hakeem Jeffries compared Thomas to a "House Negro." Thomas paid no mind to these critics, taking his seat on the high court, and over the course of more than 30 years in more than 750 opinions, he advocated an originalist jurisprudence that is faithful to the Constitution. He was often in the dissent, but these opinions have formed a roadmap for this new court's majority opinions, including on affirmative action, Second Amendment rights, abortion, religious liberties, and reining in the administrative state.

Endless Mission to Discredit a Black Conservative

Having lost the battle of ideas, the left now attacks Thomas on made-up ethics charges. Like the smears over the past 40 years, Thomas knows it is not grounded in facts, but driven by the left's obsession to take down a principled black conservative. As he noted, "This is the wrong black guy. He has to be destroyed. Just say it. Now, at least we're honest with each other."

This animosity toward Thomas was on shocking display in the last year of the Obama administration when the National Museum of African American History and Culture opened, and there was nothing on Thomas' life or time on the bench. Instead, it mentions Thomas once in the context of the discredited Anita Hill making allegations against him and has a button, "I believe Anita," on display.

We know Thomas lives rent-free in the left's collective racist mind and drives them crazy, but for those not blinded by leftist rage, Thomas should live in our hearts and minds, and we should celebrate him and his life — especially during Black History Month.

During this month, and every other month, I recommend watching the terrific documentary, "Created Equal: Clarence Thomas in His Own Words," or reading the book of the same name. Better yet, read Justice Thomas' riveting

memoir, *My Grandfather's Son*, which was a No. 1 New York Times bestseller.



Democracy Without Politics

By Carson Holloway, American Mind

As the 2024 election campaign begins in earnest, the Democratic Party has apparently decided that its central electoral pitch will be that American democracy itself is at stake in this year's national elections. This was the central theme of President Biden's first major campaign speech of the year, dutifully echoed by lower-ranking Democrats and the party's megaphones in the media and among the Left intelligentsia. Unable to run on a record of competent custodianship of the seemingly less lofty policy issues that concern many voters—like the economy, foreign policy, and immigration—Biden and the Democrats must present themselves as the only backstop against the dire prospect of regime change.

This kind of framing is not, moreover, limited to the Left's understanding of American politics. It is how they view, or at least how they choose to present, the world political situation. Case in point: an op-ed recently appeared in *Bloomberg News* offering the strange warning that "2024 is the Year of Elections, and That's a Threat to Democracy." Despite its alarming title, the piece is less frightening than instructive. Written by a former deputy editor at the *New York Times*, Tobin Harshaw, the column sheds valuable light on the character and thought processes of the liberal governing class.

The piece is lacking in real substance; indeed, it is almost vacuous. Its vacuity is instructive, however, because it opens a window on the thinking—or, if that is too generous a term, on the mental reflexes—of the class of people who govern the western nations, and who evidently believe that they have a right to govern them.

The article is entirely dedicated to admonishing us that democracy is at stake all over the world in 2024, but without ever defining the term "democracy," or dealing with the evident paradox that elections, the main mechanism of modern self-government, could somehow be a "threat" to democracy. Careful readers will accordingly suspect that they are being manipulated by an author who is a conscious propagandist or who is himself the victim of propaganda.

This suspicion is confirmed when Harshaw gets to the specific threats to democracy, both past and present, that he finds so worrisome. The list will be familiar to anyone who has followed politics for the last eight years: Brexit, the election of Donald Trump, the conceivable re-election of Donald Trump, the possible rise to political power of various “populist” and “right-wing” (terms that are also never defined) parties in the western world.

None of this is a threat to democracy in an objective sense—that is, as it has been traditionally understood, as “government by the people.” Presumably, majorities of voters in any nation are, under the proper circumstances, as capable of being persuaded of right-wing views as they are of centrist or left-wing views. Everything will depend on the voters’ preferences and the nature of the challenges their societies face, and their judgment of the effectiveness of the parties currently in power. If the Right wins, you don’t have the death of democracy; you have an experience of right-wing democracy. In this there is nothing “unthinkable”—a term Harshaw uses freely to discredit political outcomes that he cannot countenance but the badness of which he cannot explain.

The liberal establishment in the western world no longer uses the term “democracy” to describe a form of government in which the majority’s preferences are translated into public policy through competitive elections. They instead use it as a polemical term to discredit and demonize those political and social movements that are a threat to their remaining in power. Democracy no longer means that the people get to decide. It means a specific set of policies that liberals prefer, the revision of which they cannot abide.

Calls from the establishment Left to protect democracy are nothing more than propaganda. Indeed, the title of Harshaw’s piece recalls the propaganda so effectively lampooned by George Orwell in 1984. “War is Peace.” “Ignorance is Strength.” “Freedom is Slavery.” And now, we are told, “Elections Threaten Democracy.”

This is nothing new, by the way. Consider the way the UK’s elites tried to cripple Brexit, even after a majority had voted for it. Consider how American elites were happy to use unelected judges to redefine marriage and, at the same time, demonized anyone who complained about it. Nobody could seriously conclude that such elites have any interest in “democracy,” understood as rule by the people.

The good news is that “democracy” is not at stake in 2024. What is at stake is instead the power of a particular elite that has governed, and desperately

wants to continue governing, certain societies. That some faction wants to hold on to power is not surprising, but the possibility it might lose does not constitute a crisis of the legitimacy of the state. In a real democracy the people have a right to get rid of their present governing elite and give themselves a new one. The bad news is that we are at present stuck with a governing elite that has degenerated to the point that it is willing to use “democracy”—a term that should describe the common ground that all citizens, Left, Right, and Center, can embrace—as a synonym for the maintenance of their own power, regardless of how self-serving and incompetent their use of that power. This alone is a good reason to vote them out of office.



U.S. House Speaker Mike Johnson’s First Floor Speech as Speaker was on the Border Crisis (reprinted below)

House Speaker Mike Johnson delivers first floor speech on border catastrophe, accusing President Biden of intentionally creating a “clear and present danger to our national security.”

“Since I was elected Speaker less than 100 days ago, more than 700,000 illegals have been welcomed into our country illegally by the Biden administration.

American schoolchildren have been forced into virtual schools so migrants can sleep in their school buildings.

Korean War veterans have been booted from nursing homes that were sold to house migrants.

Our streets are being flooded with fentanyl. Hundreds of thousands of children and adults are being poisoned and losing their lives. Vulnerable children and women are being exploited and trafficked by cartels.

Since President Biden and Alejandro Mayorkas assumed office, there have been more than 7 million encounters with illegal aliens just at our southern border alone.

35 of our 50 states, including my home state of Louisiana, don’t have a population that large.

More than 300 individuals who are on our terror watchlist have been apprehended on the southern border.

The frightening question is, how many have entered undetected?

We know there are at least 1.8 million gotaways that have escaped.

Understand that the situation at our border presents a clear and present danger to our national security, and it demands that it be addressed.

FBI Director Christopher Wray told the Homeland Security Committee in November that these gotaways are a great concern for the agency, and all 56 of our Joint Terrorism Task Forces are trying to identify who these people are.

We don't know how many terrorists are inside our borders.

We do know that fentanyl is pouring into our communities like an open sewer.

Right now, the leading cause of death in America for Americans aged 18 to 46 is fentanyl poisoning.

To make matters worse, we've learned that the Biden administration is now simply just releasing 85% of the illegals who come across that border right into the country.

For reference, by the way, in 2013, the Obama administration detained 82% of illegal aliens. How do we go from detaining 82% to releasing 85%?

It only happens if this is by design. It only happens if it's an orchestrated intentional effort by the administration to do exactly that, and that is what the evidence shows.

Earlier this month, I released a memo documenting 64 specific actions that the Biden administration has taken to undermine our border security and to promote the mass release of illegals and dangerous persons into our country.

The very first day President Biden walked into the Oval Office, he revoked Executive Order 9844. Do you know what that did?

It ended the construction of the border wall that Congress had already paid for. Everybody has seen the images of the materials out there rotting in the sun. Why?

Because Joe Biden decided unilaterally that he didn't want a wall.

In February 2021, the administration stopped applying Title 42 expulsions to children and incentivize by doing that incentivize families to send unaccompanied children through Mexico under the watch of cartels and traffickers.

Since then, the administration admits to losing track of more than 80,000 unaccompanied children somewhere in the US.

We don't know where they are. Have they been put into trafficking rings? We know that some of these kids are being trafficked for free labor and being forced to do things that are too appalling for us to articulate on this floor.

Everybody here knows that's happening, and we're not demanding the President stop it? He can. He has the power to do it.

In October 2021, the Biden administration revoked the migrant protection protocols that had been instituted under President Trump.

That's the policy that we all know colloquially as Remain in Mexico. The Remain in Mexico policy kept asylum seekers in a safe haven third country while they were seeking asylum in the United States.

Do you know why that works magically so well? Because it sent a message around the world that you shouldn't pay your life savings to a cartel to traffic you through Mexico and drop you over the US border because you're not going to be dropped over the US border.

The word goes out on social media to countries all around the world. They are not going to let you in.

Man, is that the most common-sense rule you've ever thought of? President Biden doesn't agree because he stopped it. He issued an executive order to stop that common-sense rule.

A senior border patrol officer told us on that trip to Eagle Pass that if President Biden, by the stroke of a pen, would issue an executive order today to just simply reinstate Remain in Mexico, they think that would stop the flow by 70%.

One stroke of the pen by the President. He does not seem to care.

I told President Biden this myself on multiple occasions, most recently, a couple of weeks ago on the phone, I read him the law that says that he has all this authority, but he refuses to act.

And even that's even despite court orders, by the way that instructed the administration to reinstate the institute remain in Mexico while the litigation was going on. You know what they did? They ignored it.

The Biden administration is actively incentivizing illegals to come to the United States. We have laid out the welcome

mat. We told everybody around the world, come on, you know what? The US taxpayer will take care of you.

It's costing the American people billions and billions and billions of dollars to provide for people who are intentionally breaking our laws, billions and billions of dollars to house them and educate them and clothe them and take care of them. Why should we bear the burden when they break our laws?

In January 2023, the Biden administration expanded the use of the Customs and Border Patrol One App so illegal aliens could just make appointments and then be released immediately right into America's interior.

Guess what? 95% of all illegals who simply scheduled appointments through the app were released right into the United States. That's right.

All you have to do is just download the app because they all have smartphones, make an appointment, and the President of the United States will release you into a network of NGOs who will put you on a plane to the destination of your choice.

Without identification, by the way, while Americans are waiting in line to get through TSA. All on the dime of the American taxpayer.

In December 2023, CBP recorded more than 302,000 encounters, almost double the population of my hometown of Shreveport, Louisiana. In just one month 302,000 people just walked right into the country.

I could go on and on about the 64 actions we've documented that President Biden has specifically taken to open our border wide up, but it's crystal clear his policy choices and Secretary Mayorkas refusal to comply with the law are driving this border catastrophe.

They have chosen disorder and chaos for us rather than securing the homeland. They've ceded the homeland to cartels and traffickers.

In the Del Rio sector alone in Eagle Pass, Texas, the cartels are making an estimated \$3.5 million dollars a day trafficking human beings into our country. Do the math.

They are making billions of dollars a year trafficking undocumented children and victims into this country.

The Department of Homeland Security has effectively become a taxi driver to just help traffickers complete the last few miles of their human smuggling operation, and they're making billions of dollars in the process.

It's absolute madness, and it is dismantling the safety of our communities. More than half a million known criminals and illegal aliens are in the US in our communities, free to re-offend and victimize American people.

When we were at Eagle Pass in the Del Rio sector earlier in January, they told us that 60 to 70% of the people coming across the border right there at that epicenter are single adult males. They're military-aged.

These are not huddled masses of families seeking refuge and asylum. These are people coming into our country to do only God knows what.

The Biden administration is allowing it, and we've noted that they are coming from adversarial nations and from terrorist regions. We have no idea what they're planning.

But in fiscal year 2023, border patrol encountered illegals from 170 different countries, including hundreds from Iran and Syria, thousands from Russia, and tens of thousands have come in from China. Tell me that's not dangerous?

Law enforcement and intelligence leaders are warning us that we may very well suffer a preventable terrorist attack here in the homeland if we don't immediately secure that border and remove these dangerous terrorists from inside our borders.

I read the black letter law to the President of the United States on the phone about two and a half weeks ago. I said, Mr. President, it says very clearly that you have all the tools and the executive authority necessary to reverse the catastrophe that you have created. He has those tools right now, and he has since day one.

We have to decide if we believe in the rule of law or not. We have to decide if we're a sovereign nation or we're not. I believe that border security is part of our solemn obligation to safeguard the well-being of our citizens and uphold the principles that define who we are as a nation.

A weak border weakens America, and a strong border is good for America, and a stronger America is good for everybody around the world. And everybody in this chamber should acknowledge that.

Just as we lock our doors at night to protect our homes, we secure our borders to protect our homeland. And my friends, that is our sacred obligation."





Students Should Sue Universities for Anti-Conservative Bias, Group Says

By Breccan F. Thies, *Washington Examiner*, condensed

America First Legal is launching a toolkit to help student loan borrowers get their debt waived if their university made “substantial misrepresentations” about intellectual diversity and their educational programs. The conservative legal group is looking to use borrower defense claims against schools that “push anti-American and anti-Semitic woke ‘intersectional’ indoctrination and host foreign propaganda” in order to force the schools to pay for their allegiance to ideology over inquiry. “This toolkit empowers students and parents who have been defrauded by the woke leftists who run our colleges to push back,” AFL vice president Reed Rubenstein told the *Washington Examiner*. “The higher education industry owes taxpayers and consumers the truth — and the Department of Education must support them by holding the industry accountable. The industry’s fraud on the market perpetrated against conservatives, pro-American, and Jewish students must be stopped.”

The “[Borrower Defense Toolkit](#)” comes as universities across the country are grappling with antisemitism investigations from both the Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights and the House Education and Workforce Committee. Conservatives have been sounding the alarm about the spread of left-wing ideology on campus for years, criticizing schools for offering worthless degrees and a poor learning environment.

Borrower defense is part of federal law that allows students who are victims of “substantial misrepresentations” from a school to have their student loans canceled by the Department of Education, making the institution itself responsible for paying the federal government back.

“Many schools only enforce their conduct policies against conservative pro-American, pro-life, and pro-Israel students or faculty while leftist woke anti-Semites are protected — the rules simply do not apply to them,” AFL said in a press release. “If your college or university gives leftist students, pro-Hamas faculty, or anti-American foreign nationals favors or fails to discipline them in compliance with published standards of conduct, then it has likely made ‘substantial misrepresentations’ that may entitle you to claim a Borrower Defense to student loan repayment.”

AFL says “substantial misrepresentations” can come from how schools market their academic programs in communications and on their websites, where “nearly all

higher education ‘institutions’ claim to be inclusive, to follow the law, and to enforce generally applicable rules of conduct,” but are in reality not places where conservative students can participate in the discourse.

Federal law also stops universities from omitting information “in such a way as to make an erroneous, misleading, or false statement.”

Roughly 43.4 million borrowers held \$1.64 trillion in taxpayer-guaranteed student debt as of June 2023 — a “subsidy” AFL says without which the “higher education industry would collapse.”

Borrower defense claims have typically been used against for-profit colleges, where the worth of a degree can be attached to the post-graduation salaries of students, requiring the school to ensure their degree is successful in the job market.

Public institutions, however, had rarely seen such claims until last year, when public research universities, community colleges, and other not-for-profit institutions saw an uptick in borrower defense claims. According to *Inside Higher Ed*, many of the schools are worried and do not know how to respond to them.

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Upcoming Events/Announcements

March Luncheon – Please mark your calendars and join us for our March luncheon on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at the Greencroft Club. Registration begins at 11:30am. Our speaker is Constitutional Lawyer and U.S. Senate candidate, Jonathan Emord.

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