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President CJ's Letter:

Dear Colleagues,

For the next 21 days, more than 11,000 athletes from around the world will compete in the 2020/21 Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo. While they come in pursuit of personal dreams, they will also represent their respective countries. For spectators and supporters from the more than 206 nations participating, the Olympics are a chance to cheer for their countrymen/women. It is a time of national pride and celebration through sport and fair play.

For the athletes themselves, national pride is a powerful motivator. They are ambassadors for their respective countries. One veteran track and field Olympian said, "It is this motivation that makes you want to train at two hundred percent of your abilities when the goal is to satisfy an entire nation." Throughout the years of the modern Olympic Games, patriotism has given athletes a sense of purpose beyond personal achievement.

According to the International Olympic Committee (IOC), "the goal of the Olympic Movement is to contribute to building a peaceful and better world by educating youth through sport practiced without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit of friendship, solidarity, and fair play."

The modern Olympics were conceived and designed not merely as a venue for individual competition but also as a force for world peace. The idea was that by representing nations rather than one's self, athletes would show that international tensions or rivalries could be set aside for the purpose of honorable, amicable competition under rules applicable to all. That is why the Olympics are officially organized according to nationality. Athletes who do not wish to represent their country of birth are entitled to change their citizenship and/or nationality status. Or if they enjoy dual citizenship, they have a choice of the two

nations. Otherwise, they must represent their nation or stay home.

While protests or kneeling demonstrations seem vogue for a few athletes today, most Olympians believe this is not the venue for such behavior. This has nothing to do with freedom of speech or the right to protest. It's one thing for athletes to protest the national anthem on their own free time or within their own country. But it's quite another to do so while playing on the international stage for Team USA. To do so is unfitting behavior for an "Olympian."

The IOC's Rule 50 prohibits political demonstrations at the medal ceremonies, the opening and closing events, on the field of play, and other locations of neutrality. (Although not often enforced.) Rule 50 notes that athletes can express their personal political views at press conferences, social media, or other venues. The Olympics is and always has been an apolitical zone.

On a personal level, I love watching and cheering Team USA. These athletes train for a lifetime and deserve to have an audience. Maybe I am naïve, but I still believe in the concept of the modern-day Olympics – the patriotism it instills for country and sport, setting aside international tensions and rivalries, the world can come together once every four years for one common purpose. There is more that unites us, than that which divides us, in the human race.

Let the games begin.

C. J. Hatcher, WAC President



INSIDE CONTENTS

WAC Welcomed Del. Rob Bell and Del. Chris Runion as Our June Luncheon Speakers.....	2
Our July Speaker was Critical Race Theory Expert Mary Prentice, PhD of Liberty University.....	2
WAC September BBQ.....	3
The Hedgehogs of Critical Race Theory, by Lance Morrow	3
American Marxism, By David Limbaugh.....	5
Religious Liberty – The Bedrock of Freedom, By Mike Pompeo.....	6
The Secret that Biden, Obama, Hillary Won't Say Aloud About Today's Democratic Party, By Victor Davis Hanson.....	7
Supreme Court Turned the Tide on Election Integrity War, By Ken Blackwell.....	8
Three Conversations Parents Need to Have to Avoid Raising Woke Children, By Michelle Easton.....	9
Points of Interest/Board Members.....	10



WAC Welcomed Del. Rob Bell and Del. Chris Runion as Our June Luncheon Speakers

Our June luncheon speakers were Delegates Rob Bell and Chris Runion who spoke about recent happenings in Richmond. They described how unique this last session was given the fact that it was virtual which had positive and negative consequences for Virginians. The positives were that it was easier to testify and it was easier for people to watch the delegates work from anywhere in the state. But, the negatives outweighed the positives since there were no more “elevator” or “backroom” meetings where lawmakers propose various amendments and negotiate among themselves to improve bills. With all the technology that are available to us, the world still operates on human relationships. Unfortunately, a lot of bills got farther than they should have without being fixed. Bell and Runion also spoke about what has happened in Richmond since Democrats took control of the House of Delegates, the Senate, and the Governorship two years ago. Democrats

have used their power to eliminate the photo ID requirement to vote, authorize plastic bag taxes and public employee unions, remove abortion restrictions, and enact gun control bills. Democrats were also able to reduce the maximum penalties for robberies, reduce penalties for people who steal repeatedly and make it harder to hold violent offenders when they try to make bond and more difficult to address their actions after they are convicted and violate probation. They also abolished the death penalty for offenders who commit premeditated murder of police officers, and packed the Court of Appeals. We all need to work very hard to defeat Democrats in November!

Our June luncheon attendees also heard from Nicki Athey who is an active member of the newly formed Citizens Advocating for Responsible Education (CARE) parents group that opposes the implementation of the Critical Race Theory curricula in Albemarle County. Nicki gave us an overview of Critical Race Theory (CRT) which is a Marxist ideology that argues all of society is racialized and properly viewed through a prism of identity groups based on race and color, with minorities being the oppressed while white people serve as the oppressor. Moreover, CRT teaches that white people are inherently and irredeemably racist and benefit from various systemically racist power structures that white people have put in place and perpetuate. ACPS implemented a pilot CRT program at Henley Middle School this past academic year and plans to teach it county-wide this fall. Some parents have tried to opt out of the program at Henley, but it is technically impossible to do so since the curricula is being incorporated into most classes throughout the school day. The fight against CRT continues in ACPS.

Our July Luncheon Speaker was Critical Race Theory Expert Mary Prentice, PhD of Liberty University



WAC members/guests were privileged to have Dr. Mary Prentice of Liberty University give an in-depth presentation on Critical Race Theory (CRT) at our July luncheon. Dr. Prentice cited writings of CRT expert Christopher Rufo of the Heritage Foundation who has written extensively on the subject. According to Rufo, CRT is an academic discipline that claims the United States is a nation founded on white supremacy and oppression, and that these forces are still at the root of society. Its proponents believe that the U.S. Constitution and legal system preach freedom and equality but are mere camouflages for naked racial domination. They believe racism is a constant, universal condition: it simply becomes more subtle,

sophisticated and insidious over the course of history. CRT reformulates the old Marxist dichotomy of oppressor and oppressed, replacing the class categories of bourgeoisie and proletariat with the identity categories of White and Black.

Dr. Prentice believes that the origin of CRT efforts in Virginia was when Governor Northam tried to save his job after his embarrassing blackface photos surfaced and the NAACP tried to force him out of office a few years ago. He promised during an apology tour that he would spend the rest of his administration devoted to equity and justice (as defined by CRT proponents). Consequently, he sold out Virginia's highly revered educational system to let woke radicals do whatever they want with it.

A brief summary of some of the additional points made by Dr. Prentice include:

- Critical race theorists falsely accuse the United States of being a fundamentally racist nation and condemn capitalism, individual rights, and the Constitution.
- CRT ignores evidence that shows that family structure, educational attainment, and workforce participation are the primary drivers of inequality.
- CRT seeks to undermine the foundations of American society and replace the Constitutional system with a near-totalitarian "anti-racist" bureaucracy.
- Ibram X. Kendi, a leading figure in the CRT movement, argues: "I classify racism and capitalism as these conjoined twins In order to truly be anti-racist, you also have to truly be anti-capitalist ... And, in order to truly be anti-capitalist, you have to be anti-racist, because they are interrelated.
- What does CRT seek? The Marxist redistribution of income ... take from the haves and give to the have-nots.
- The solution for some CRT proponents is to replace the system of property rights and equal protection with a system of positive discrimination tasked with redistributing power and resources in order to rectify inequalities and to achieve real equality.
- Kendi promotes the concept that individuals and societies cannot be neutral in America's eternal racial conflict; they must be anti-racist. That is, they must either adopt the political program of CRT or be considered racist.
- Kendi claims that if you are White, you are per se a racist and oppressor. If you are Black, you can't be a racist and are a victim because you have no power.
- In the name of racial justice CRT proponents would limit, curtail, or abolish the rights to property, equal protection, due process, federalism, speech, and separation of powers.
- Contrary to the logic of critical race theorists, the key determinant of child poverty is not race, but a cluster of

human and social variables that affect Americans of all racial demographics with remarkably equal force. Success strategy is to get an education, then a job, then marriage, then have kids. People of any race who follow this trajectory in life do well.

- According to an analysis by Robert Rector, living in a two-parent household reduces the probability that a child will live in poverty by 82 percent, and 75 percent when controlling for the level of education. Yet despite this clear evidence, critical race theorists have lambasted the nuclear family as a vestige of patriarchy and white supremacy.
- CRT is attempting to rewrite history, degrade our founding fathers, attack and disregard our Constitution in a Maoist/Marxist revolutionary way aiming to promote the long march toward communism in America through school indoctrination and destruction of all the freedoms we value.
- It is our duty as patriots to pass on the soul of our country to the next generation. We are one blood under God.
- If we can get just one conservative on the ACPS school board it will make a very big difference.



WAC September BBQ!!

Mark your calendars for our annual Red, White and Blue Picnic which will be held on Saturday, September 18, 2021 at the Fraternal Order of Police's Thompson-Hall Lodge No. 5, 974 Michie Tavern Lane, Charlottesville, VA 22902, rain or shine! Time: 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm. MISSION BBQ! Speakers: Local conservative radio celebrities, Joe Thomas and Rob Schilling have been invited, as have political candidates Youngkin, Miyares, Sears, and other politicians. Bring your family and friends.



The Hedgehogs of Critical Race Theory

By Lance Morrow, Wall Street Journal

The political philosopher Isaiah Berlin turned an obscure fragment by the ancient Greek poet Archilochus ("The fox knows many things, but the hedgehog knows one big thing") into an intellectual's cocktail-party game. In a famous essay, published as a book in 1953, Berlin suggested that the world is divided between hedgehogs and foxes—between those

who believe in One Big Thing (one all-sufficient super-explanation), and those who are content with a more modest, irrational and even incoherent idea of history's unfolding. Karl Marx was a supreme hedgehog: Everything, for him, was about the conflict of economic classes. Franklin D. Roosevelt was a restlessly improvising fox.

The world's hedgehog population tends to expand in times of stress and change. Lately it has exploded in the U.S. Hedgehogs are thick on the ground, all of them advancing One Big Thing or another—each peering through the lens of a particular obsession. At the moment, the biggest One Big Thing is race—the key, it seems, to all of America, to the innermost meanings of the country and its history.

It isn't really true. Race is one of many big things in America. It is hardly the most important. Americans need to desanctify the subject of race—to mute its claims, which have grown absolutist and, as it were, theological in their thoroughness, their dogmatism.

Critical race theory has spread across the U.S. like—forgive the expression—a virus, coming to infect primary schools and high schools and universities, foundations, art museums, big corporations, the military, local, state and federal government bureaucracies. It's everywhere in the West Wing. President Biden, who spent almost 40 years following the ways of an amiable political fox in the Senate—exchanging pleasantries and now and then doing legislative business with Confederate mossbacks like Strom Thurmond and James Eastland—has, in his old age, signed on with the monomaniacs of the left.

The hedgehog's trajectory may begin on the side of undeniable and important truth—for example, the truth that slavery was a great wickedness in America (as it was elsewhere in the world), and that race prejudice has been a chronic American dilemma and a moral blight that has damaged and scarred the lives of millions of black American citizens over generations.

All true—a truth to be acknowledged and addressed. But hedgehogs, who deal in absolutes, are liable to get carried away. Their truth changes shape as it coalesces into a political movement and gets a taste of power and begins to impose itself programmatically. Its ambitions swell, it grows messianic, it embraces civic idiocies (defund the police!) and beholds the astounding impunity with which it may run amok in the streets and burn police cars and shopping malls, as it did last summer, and the ease with which it may take over city councils and mayors' offices and turn so many of the country's normal arrangements upside down.

It was said in the era of Joe McCarthy that he and his followers saw a communist under every bed. The single-

minded ideology of critical race theory sees racism in every white face—a racism systemic, pervasive, inescapable, damning. All white people are racists. The doctrine devolves to the crudest form of what might be called racial Calvinism: Americans are predestined—saved or damned, depending on the color of their skin. This doctrine merely reverses the theory of white supremacy, which damned black people—and consigned them to oppressive segregation—because of the color of their skin.

So critical race theory, protesting the old injustice, embraces its lie. This is not progress but revenge. The motive is not justice but payback, *lex talionis*—an understandable, if Balkan, impulse. Beware a hedgehog claiming the immunities of an innocent victim. Beware when victimhood is his One Big Thing.

The victim wants revenge, and who is more justified in committing any crime or injustice than a blameless victim acting in historic retaliation? Virtue, feeling vengeful and tasting power, grows manic—dogmatic, dangerous. Critical race theory ends by fostering the evil it professes to combat—racism and the hatred that comes with it. “Those to whom evil is done, do evil in return,” W.H. Auden wrote. The 20th century taught the lesson over and over again, but it seems to be wasted on the 21st.

The theologian H. Richard Niebuhr (younger brother of Reinhold) explained the fallacy thus: “There is no greater barrier to understanding than the assumption that the standpoint which we happen to occupy is a universal one.” It is an error embedded in human nature.

When Niebuhr wrote that line, in a 1937 book called “The Kingdom of God in America,” he was arguing against the Marxist hedgehogs' economic interpretation of the Constitution—their claim that the Founders were nothing more than capitalists protecting their own interests. Niebuhr meant that it is an error to assume that one's own particular fixation (whether it be money or race or class or religion or environment or animal rights or transgenderism or whatever) is the One Big Thing. The hedgehog's most profound character defects are moral vanity and self-righteousness—his fatal, paradoxical intolerance.





American Marxism

By David Limbaugh, *The Spectrum*

Most people sense that America is under assault by America-hating forces and worry that our freedoms are actually in jeopardy. Mark Levin's new book, "American Marxism," confirms those fears, exposes the chilling aims and methods of these malicious groups, and provides a blueprint to restore America to a path of recovery.

Levin has a gift for distilling abstract ideas into understandable terms for lay consumption. I've personally written and discussed many of the ideas he addresses in this compelling book but had not considered the term "counterrevolution" to describe what we're witnessing.

He is exactly right. This is a counterrevolution to the American revolution, and horrifyingly, "It is devouring our society and culture, swirling around our everyday lives, and ubiquitous in our politics, schools, media, and entertainment." He is also correct that this disturbing insurrection is no longer a fringe movement but is in the mainstream of our culture and institutions.

Mark identifies the source of this threat — Marxism — the sinister, utopian ideology "responsible for the enslavement, impoverishment, torture, and death of untold millions." But he goes further and usefully tags the particular brand of this menace as "American Marxism": "the application and adaption of core Marxist teachings to American society and culture."

What makes the counterrevolutionaries particularly dangerous is their sophisticated techniques of distorting language, disguising their true intent with deceitful euphemisms to disarm patriots and facilitate their scheme to fundamentally transform this nation into something unrecognizable to its founders and wholly unacceptable to all who cherish and revere the glorious American experiment in self-governance. They've labeled themselves "progressives," "social activists" and other innocuous-sounding terms because they know Americans still, by the grace of God, reject naked Marxism. More recently, they operate under such organizations as Black Lives Matter, cloaking their anti-capitalist designs in a facade of racial, environmental or gender justice. They have foisted their once-ridiculed notion of critical race theory into the forefront of our lives, forcing this dangerous philosophy into mainstream societal acceptance.

Race agitation isn't their only weapon. They've achieved considerable traction in the advancement of their agenda through divisive class warfare, which fuels their destructive

policies of obscene deficit spending, confiscatory taxation, and runaway governmental and bureaucratic regulation.

Their shameless employment of identity politics is just one of many arrows in their quiver. They expand their arsenal to ensure that certain setbacks will not ultimately thwart their agenda. To shore up their bases, they promote extraconstitutional schemes to crush their opposition through ostensibly legal means, such as changing the voting rules to rig the playing field in favor of their candidates. In the name of preserving our democratic processes, they pervert them — disenfranchising people while pretending to protect their voting rights.

We saw this on the front pages lately when President Joe Biden preposterously argued that such election-integrity measures as voter ID were the greatest threat to American democracy since the Civil War. He also scored a twofer, as he invoked race — echoing his party's position that these laws are a new form of heinous Jim Crow legislation. Anyone with half a brain recognizes that eliminating the requirement of proving one's identity as a condition to voting destroys rather than safeguards the integrity of the election process. Anyone with half a molecule of discernment understands that to equate voter ID laws to suppression of the Black vote is the worst kind of patronizing insult to Black voters, who these demagogues imply aren't capable of furnishing proof of their own identity.

Levin astutely notes that while the counterrevolutionaries were formerly very cautious in concealing their goals, they are becoming more confident with their recent successes and thus more outspoken and brazen about who they are. They've also developed another formidable weapon to impose their ideas, which is to intimidate, silence and cancel those who dare to oppose them or who even casually violate their draconian rules for acceptable speech and behavior.

The stakes couldn't be higher. Whereas the American Revolution was founded on liberty and representative government and led to the freest and most powerful nation in history, the counterrevolution aims to destroy our form of government, our cherished liberties, our society and our way of life.

Levin soberly observes that to defeat the threat we face, "a unified, patriotic front of previously docile ... factions and forces" that believes America is worthy of defending must emerge. People of good will must wake up to the gravity of the threats we face and recognize "the urgency of the moment" and rise up to take back this nation.

In "American Marxism," Mark Levin paints a bleak picture of an America under siege, but he offers hope that we can turn this around and inspires us to unite around the noble

cause of liberty and the salvation of the greatest nation the world has ever known.



Religious Liberty – The Bedrock of Freedom

By Former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo

In 1790, early in his tenure as our young nation's first president, George Washington wrote in his timeless and eloquent letter to the Hebrew Congregation in Newport, Rhode Island:

"All possess alike liberty of conscience...happily the Government of the United States, which gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance, requires only that they who live under its protection should demean themselves as good citizens, in giving it on all occasions their effectual support."

His letter expressed the aim that all American citizens, be they Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, or otherwise, hold each other in equal regard as individuals with the inherent right to worship God as they saw fit, and in so doing be united as one people. Along with property rights, the Founders viewed religious freedom as the bedrock upon which all other unalienable rights of individuals rested, because it entailed respect between both individual American citizens as well as between the government and the American people. At the time, this commitment not just to religious tolerance but to true religious liberty was revolutionary.

Today, our commitment to religious liberty must be grounded in those same principles that inspired our Founders if we wish to remain a great and free nation. But there is much work to be done. Throughout the pandemic caused by the coronavirus born in Wuhan, China, we have seen churches, synagogues, mosques, and other places of worship closed down by public officials who cared more for their own political well-being than the spiritual well-being of the American people.

Religious freedom was trampled in the name of public health — we must never allow that to happen again.

In fact, California was ordered to reimburse a local church over \$1 million in legal fees for infringing on their religious liberty. This is the latest in a troubling trend, as faithful Americans in recent years have been ever more compelled by the government to violate their beliefs in order to satisfy the increasingly progressive agenda of the far left.

We saw this infringement happen to the owner of a small bakery in Colorado several years ago. We have seen more

and more states enact laws which force religious organizations who fundamentally reject abortion to cover it in healthcare plans for their employees. We have seen a concerted effort by the far left to scrub any mention of God or religion from our public spaces, specifically those having anything to do with Christianity, under the banner of "tolerance" and "inclusion."

Make no mistake — there is nothing tolerant or inclusive about the imposition of a political ideology to supplant religious belief on faithful Americans. America cannot continue to forsake its commitment to religious freedom in order to satisfy an increasingly progressive agenda and still expect to remain a free and prosperous nation.

This problem at home has become even more urgent with the rise of authoritarian regimes abroad. Such regimes, like the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), have no regard for the rights of their people except where they are useful to the state. China today, unfortunately, demonstrates a basic truth that our Founders understood: **When nations disregard religious freedom, tyranny will soon follow.**

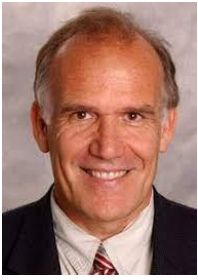
As Secretary of State, I convened the Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom, the largest human rights conference ever held at the Department of State, three years in a row in order to fight these troubling trends. Promoting and safeguarding religious freedom abroad was a cornerstone of the Trump administration's foreign policy because it should always be an essential element in our efforts to fight against authoritarianism around the globe.

Not long after our nation's founding, Alexis de Tocqueville observed the effects of America's commitment to religious liberty on our society and culture, writing in his great tome "Democracy in America":

"Liberty regards religion as its companion in all its battles and its triumphs.... It considers religion as the safeguard of morality, and morality as the best security of law and the surest pledge of the duration of freedom."

America was never meant to be a place where religion is absent from the public square, or a nation where faith is treated as a secondary and merely private concern. When you attack religious freedom, and when you attempt to remove religion totally from the public square, you erode the foundations upon which the freedoms we enjoy rest.

In order to secure freedom for the American people, we must fight against attempts to do this wherever we can. Make no mistake: There are larger forces at play in this battle to preserve our religious liberty, but the faithful remain more than conquerors.



The Secret that Biden, Obama, Hillary Won't Say Aloud About Today's Democratic Party

By Victor Davis Hanson, Fox News

How often during the last year of wokeness have middle- and lower-class Americans listened to multimillionaires of all races and genders lecture them on their various pathologies and oppressions?

University presidents with million-dollar salaries virtue-signal on the cheap their own sort of "unearned white privilege."

Meghan Markle and the Obamas, from their plush estates, indict Americans for their biases.

Black Lives Matter co-founder Patrisse Khan-Cullors Brignac decries the oppressive victimization she and others have suffered — from one of her four recently acquired homes.

Do we need another performance-art sermon on America's innate unfairness from billionaire entertainers such as Beyoncé, Jay-Z or Oprah Winfrey, or from multimillionaire Delta or Coca-Cola CEOs?

During the 1980s cultural war, the left's mantra was "race, class and gender." Occasionally we still hear of that trifecta, but the class part has increasingly disappeared.

The neglect of class is ironic given that a number of recent studies conclude class differences are widening as never before.

Middle-class incomes among all races have stagnated, and family net worth has declined. Far greater percentages of rising incomes go to the already rich. Student debt, mostly a phenomenon of the middle and lower classes, has hit \$1.7 trillion.

California's heating, cooling, gasoline and housing costs are the highest in the continental United States. Most of these spiraling costs are attributable to policies embraced by an upper-class elite — in Silicon Valley, Hollywood and marquee universities — whose incomes shield them from the deleterious consequences of their utopian bromides. The poor and middle classes have no such insulation.

So why are we not talking about class?

First, we are watching historic changes in political alignment.

The two parties are switching class constituents. Some 65% of the Americans making more than \$500,000 a year are

Democrats, and 74% of those who earn less than \$100,000 a year are Republicans, according to IRS statistics. Gone are the days of working people automatically voting Democratic, or Republicans being caricatured as a party of stockbrokers on golf courses.

By 2018, Democratic representatives were in control of all 20 of the wealthiest congressional districts. In the recent presidential primaries and general election, 17 of the 20 wealthiest ZIP codes gave more money to Democratic candidates than to Republicans.

Increasingly, the Democrats are a bicoastal party of elites from corporate America, Wall Street, Silicon Valley, the media, universities, entertainment and professional sports. All have made out like bandits from globalization.

Democrats have lost much of their support from working-class whites, especially in the interior of the country. But they are also fast forfeiting the Hispanic middle class and beginning to lose solidarity among middle-class African Americans.

The Democratic Party does not wish to admit it has become the party of wealth. All too often its stale revolutionary speechifying sounds more like penance arising from guilt than genuine advocacy for middle-class citizens of all races.

The wealthy leftist elite has mastered the rhetoric of ridicule for the lower-middle classes, especially struggling Whites. Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton and Joe Biden wrote off their political opponents as supposedly crude, superstitious and racist, smearing them as "clingers," "deplorables," "irredeemables" and "chumps."

Class is fluid; race is immutable. So by fixating on race, the left believes that it can divide America into permanent victimizers and victims — at a time when race and class are increasingly disconnecting.

The wealthy of all races are the loudest voices of the woke movement. Their frequent assumptions of "victimhood" are absurd.

Americans who struggle to pay soaring gas, food, energy and housing prices are berated for their "white privilege" by an array of well-paid academics, media elite and CEOs.

Note that the woke military is the brand of admirals, generals and retired top brass on corporate boards, not of the enlisted. It's multimillionaire CEOs who bark at the nation for their prejudices, not saleswomen or company truck drivers.

America is a plutocracy, not a genocracy. Wealth, not race, is the factor most likely to ensure someone power, influence and the good life.

In the pre-civil rights past, race was often fused to class, and the two terms were logically used interchangeably to cite

oppression and inequality. But such a canard is fossilized. And so are those who desperately cling to it.

The more the elites scream their woke banalities, the more they seem to fear that they, not most Americans, are really the privileged, coddled and pampered ones — and sometimes the victimizers.



Supreme Court Turned the Tide on Election Integrity War

By Ken Blackwell, Family Research Council

Election integrity recently won a pivotal battle against an attempt by Democrats to hijack the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (VRA) for partisan reasons. They failed when the Supreme Court in *Brnovich v. DNC* laid a foundation to restore Americans' confidence in their elections so that everywhere in this nation it can be easy to vote, but hard to cheat.

Decades ago, there was rampant voter suppression of black citizens in certain parts of the country. Although America fought a Civil War in which over a half million citizens gave what Abraham Lincoln in his Gettysburg Address called “the last full measure of devotion” to bring about “a new birth of freedom,” millions of Americans of color were not seeing that new birth in the decades that followed.

We amended the Constitution no less than three times after the Civil War to bring about that new birth of freedom. One of these was the Fifteenth Amendment, which guaranteed that no one could deny a citizen his right to vote on account of race.

Yet almost a century later, millions of black Americans were not living that dream at the ballot box. After years of struggle, the Voting Rights Act was part of Congress's delivery on that promise. And VRA has delivered for more than a half-century.

But Joe Biden, Kamala Harris, and their Democratic National Committee attempted to twist that critically important civil rights law into a tool of the Far Left. They tried, and now they've failed before the highest court in the land.

Democrats sued Arizona in federal court over a state law that did not allow ballot harvesting by political activists, and a policy requiring voters to cast Election Day ballots at their assigned precinct. On July 1, the Supreme Court in *Brnovich v. DNC* held that those Arizona requirements do not violate Section 2 of VRA because they do not make it harder overall for blacks or other racial minorities to vote.

“Every voting rule imposes a burden of some sort,” Justice Samuel Alito wrote in *Brnovich*. “Mere inconvenience cannot be enough” to run afoul of VRA's requirement that the election process be equally open to all racial groups, because otherwise most voting laws would be illegal.

The Supreme Court's majority spoke about each state's strong interest in preventing election fraud. Alito also explained that making sure that voters cast their ballots free from any intimidation or undue influence is another important state interest.

Alito even quoted the report of the Carter-Baker Commission, the bipartisan commission chaired by former President Jimmy Carter concluding that mail-in voting poses serious risks of voter fraud, extolling the virtues of in-person voting. This vindicates what Republicans have been emphasizing for over a decade.

Lawmakers are never blind to politics in their own elections. Some legislators might think that a particular election law might benefit one party more than another, and Democrats argued in court that some Republican lawmakers' votes for Arizona's law made that statute racist. But Alito rejected that, saying that seeking partisan advantage is not the same as discriminating against a voter because of race.

That last point has not gotten the attention it deserves. It's insulting to argue that any measure that might — and I emphasize might — help Republicans must therefore discriminate against black Americans. It's insulting because it's patronizing to think that black voters automatically support Democrats when given a true choice.

Taking the black vote for granted is a conceit Democrats indulge at their peril. It invokes images of Joe Biden's racist comment during the 2020 campaign that if you're a person of color but wouldn't vote for him for president, “You ain't black.”

But that aside, the fact remains: The Left didn't just lose a battle in *Brnovich*; they lost their battle plan for every fight they were going to wage on this front. In other words: Biden and his Democrats have lost the war to stop election integrity. This is a battle that will cost them the war.

Because many of the controversies that arose in recent election cycles — and especially 2020 with voting laws overhauled during COVID lockdowns, abolishing electoral safeguards — can be fixed with election integrity measures that not only enjoy widespread public support, but now will clearly pass legal muster under VRA.

You've heard these measures in countless news stories, though probably with the establishment media's false comment each time that these measures are racist. The importance of encouraging voters to vote in person on

Election Day. Requiring voter ID (including free IDs for anyone who does not have a driver's license). Keeping voter rolls clean of invalid names. Barring billionaires' private money from flooding into election processes, where it's funneled to heavily Democrat areas to boost partisan turnout.

These are the measures you're seeing in election laws in Georgia, Iowa, Texas, Florida, and elsewhere. The Biden administration and national Democrats are filing federal lawsuits nationwide against these laws.

Guess what they cite as the legal standard that these state laws supposedly violate? Section 2 of VRA.

Now the Supreme Court in *Brnovich* makes clear that such regulations of the times, place, and manner of elections are legitimate under VRA. Alito explains for his fellow justices all the reasons why these state laws are valid under the U.S. Constitution and federal law.

Brnovich was only the first battle. But there is every reason to expect that all these other legal challenges will go the same way, either in lower courts or at the Supreme Court. They have most of the same features, and the Left's legal attacks against them are always the same.

That being so, these state laws should be upheld, and Americans of every color and every party will be able to have confidence in coming elections, starting with the 2022 midterms and the 2024 race for the White House.



Three Conversations Parents Need to Have to Avoid Raising Woke Children

By Michelle Easton, *Breitbart*

It used to be conservative families could count on raising children with their values almost by osmosis and lifestyle. But today the outside forces arrayed against them are strong and pervasive. One way to avoid raising a mushy-minded socialist is to use meal times to instill important ideas early. You'll strengthen their hearts and minds, preparing them to resist the relentlessly left-wing toxic array of cultural forces.

In my new book, *How to Raise a Conservative Daughter*, I provide several practical tools and tips on how to have meaningful mealtime conservative conversations with young children on important principles.

Here are three of them:

— **America is an exceptional country.**

Do your children know that in 1776 our country was founded on an idea unique in the history of the world — that our rights are given to us from God, not from government. The founders only formed government to protect those God-given rights.

Leftist propaganda never discusses America's unique nature; it says it's just America's arrogance that causes us to say we're exceptional. They promote crazy ideas like the *New York Times'* 1619 Project that defines American history as a history of defending slavery.

Even well-raised children struggle to articulate the ideals that make our country special. President Reagan said, "We've got to do a better job of getting across that America is freedom—freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of enterprise. And freedom is special and rare." And "We've got to teach history based not on what's in fashion, but what's important — why the Pilgrims came here, who Jimmy Doolittle was, and what those thirty seconds over Tokyo meant."

Don't let the Left erase and replace American history with lies. Talk to your kids about the greatness of America and what makes us different.

— **If socialism is so wonderful, millions would be headed for Venezuela, Cuba, and North Korea, not to America.**

It's freedom and opportunity that draw millions of American immigrants. Socialism teaches the fastest way to happiness and equality is for politicians to distribute other people's earnings. It's that "free stuff" that Bernie Sanders and AOC peddle. History has shown us that social justice is not politicians stealing our income and handing it out for their benefit.

Make your children acutely aware that any money or benefits that politicians give to people is first taken from other people, many of whom are struggling to succeed themselves. And that divorcing having income from earning it, as the Left likes to do, is usually bad. Show how socialism is based on envying and coveting. Ask them where socialism has worked. And teach them Margaret Thatcher's, "The problem with socialism is that you eventually run out of other people's money."

— **There is honor in every paid job.**

When most of us think of our first job, it makes us smile. My first job at 16 was working weekends at a local movie theatre as the candy and popcorn-stand girl. Minimum wage was \$1.25. After receiving my first tiny paycheck, I remember thinking, "What happened?" Taxes had eaten so much of it. Suddenly my parent's discussions about taxes being too high were no longer academic.

Whether bagging groceries, waiting tables, mowing yards or babysitting, people depended on your effort and paid for

it. And earning money shows you that the things you want don't fall from the sky, earning the money for them is hard work.

I'm sure a key reason I turned out to be a strong conservative is dinner table conversations. Starting with Barry Goldwater's 1964 presidential campaign, my parents discussed Goldwater's ideas almost every night.

The great U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia raised nine children and had 30 grandchildren. He admonished his clerks to always "be home for dinner" and claimed "children are civilized at the dinner table." And in his farewell address to the nation President Reagan said, "Let me offer lesson number one about America: all great change in America begins at the dinner table. So tomorrow night in the kitchen, I hope the talking begins."

Parents and others who care for children need to understand that no one else is going to teach them your ideas. Children rarely hear conservative values explained. You have to start these conversations purposefully, whenever you can. After decades of working with thousands of young people, I promise that if you take the time to do this, your chances of being pleased with your grown child will greatly increase.

Points of Interest

- Christopher Rufo, Founder and Director of Battlefront, a public policy research center, is one of America's foremost experts on the toxic ideology of critical race theory. He recently delivered a lecture at Hillsdale College on "Critical Race Theory: What It Is and How to Fight It." An excellent article which was adapted from the lecture and published in Hillsdale's Imprimis publication can be found here: <https://imprimis.hillsdale.edu/critical-race-theory-fight/>
- Christopher Rufo also recently published an excellent and comprehensive "Critical Race Theory Briefing Book" which can be found here: <https://christopherrufo.com/crt-briefing-book/>



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Upcoming Events/Announcements

- **WAC's Annual Red, White and Blue Picnic** -- Saturday, September 18, 2021 at the Fraternal Order of Police's Thompson-Hall Lodge No. 5, 974 Michie Tavern Lane, Charlottesville, VA 22902, rain or shine! Time: 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm. MISSION BBQ!
- **WAC Action Committees Sign-Up** – We need members to be involved! Contact: Rena Snow (renasnow@hotmail.com)

