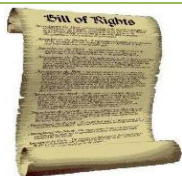




WOMEN FOR THE AMERICAN CONSTITUTION NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2021

VOLUME 2, #2



President CJ's Letter:

Dear Colleagues,

In January, House Democrats introduced their signature piece of legislation called HR 1, the "For the People Act." HR 1 is full of unconstitutional and unnecessary policies to hijack America's election process. I am very concerned about this legislation because it is anything but "for the people."

Free and fair elections are the bedrock of American government. They are fundamental to our way of life and give us confidence in our representative system. After the recent 2020 election, most agree our election process needs to be surveilled for fraud and transparency, but not fundamentally changed. House Democrats are hoping to push through HR 1 disguising it as a "fix-all," fair and transparent. In reality it is a partisan scheme to silence Republican candidates and conservative voices. It could be the most flagrant attempt to seize control of elections through federal government power.

If HR 1 were to become law, the consequences would be catastrophic for our election system. The bill interferes with the constitutional authority of the individual states to determine qualifications for voters, to ensure the accuracy of voter registration rolls, to secure the integrity of elections, to participate in the political process, and to determine the district boundary lines for electing their representatives.

HR 1 would (1) force states to implement early voting, automatic voter registration, same-day registration, online voter registration, and no-fault absentee balloting. (2) Make it easier to commit fraud and promote chaos at the polls through same-day registration. (3) Hurt voter turnout through early voting by diffusing the intensity of get-out-the-vote efforts, raising the cost of campaigns. (4) Degrade the accuracy of registration lists by automatically

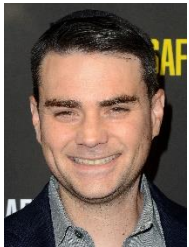
registering individuals from state databases, such as DMV and welfare offices, by registering large numbers of ineligible voters, including aliens as well as multiple or duplicate registrations. (5) Allow for massive voter registration fraud by hackers and cyber criminals through online voter registration. (6) Require states to count ballots cast by voters outside of their assigned precinct. (7) Prevent election officials from checking the eligibility and qualifications of voters and remove ineligible voters. (This includes participating in state programs that compare voter registration lists to detect individuals registered in multiple states or ever removing registrants due to a failure to vote no matter how much time has passed.) (8) Remove state voter ID laws, allowing individuals to vote without an ID and by merely signing a statement in which they claim they are who they say. (9) Prevents "interference with registering or voting" that is so vague it could interfere with free speech and other lawful activity. (10) Expands regulation and government censorship of campaigns and political activity and speech, including online and policy-related speech. (11) Reduces the number of Federal Election Commission members from six to five. (12) Requires states to restore the ability of felons to vote the moment they are out of prison, which is unconstitutional. (Section 2 of the 14th Amendment: Congress cannot override a constitutional amendment with a statute.) (13) Transfer the right to draw congressional districts from state legislatures to "independent commissions." (14) Violates separation of powers and directly interferes with the President's constitutional duties, banning Executive appointees from assisting in, directing the defense of, or enforcement of the law in any matter in which the President is named a party.

HR 1 is a constitutional infringement on States Rights, individual citizen voting rights, and the rights of the Executive Branch under current law. As president of Women for the Constitution, I ask for your help in making it our mission to educate others about this bill and to fight the passage of such an abomination disguised as "for the people."

C. J. Hatcher, WAC President

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The Inequality of Equity

By Ben Shapiro, The Daily Wire

President Joe Biden took office pledging a return to unity and decency. A new era of good feelings is at hand, we were informed by both his administration and its sycophants in the media. A new world — a world of “equity” — is at hand. Equity, you see, is the word of the day. Not *equality* — that would be a traditionally American concept. The Declaration of Independence declares that “all men are created equal ... endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights.”

The 14th Amendment to the Constitution provides that all citizens must receive “equal protection of the laws.” Equality, in the traditional understanding, means something simple and easy to implement: the protection of the rights of all individuals, along with the invasion of none of those rights.

Equity means something different. The two words are separated by one syllable — but that syllable represents the difference between justice and injustice, rights and infringements, individualism and tribalism. Equity, in the common political parlance, means that each *group* should receive the same outcome as every other group. Ibram X. Kendi, the chief expositor of the new Democratic “racial equity” theory, explains that “Racial equity is when two or more racial groups are standing on a relatively equal footing.” Because race is a social construct, says Kendi, the chief indicator that two races are on unequal footing can be found *not* in proof of differential treatment by race but in differential *outcome* by race.

To prove racial inequity, therefore, one need not show animus or discriminatory policy. All one must show is unequal *outcome*. Kendi explains in his massive bestseller, “How to Be an Antiracist”: “A racist policy is any measure that produces or sustains racial inequity between racial

groups. An antiracist policy is any measure that produces or sustains racial equity between racial groups.” And, says Kendi, “There is no such thing as a nonracist or race-neutral policy.” All policies either forward equity or oppose it. Any policy not *explicitly designed* to rectify unequal outcome is therefore racist.

This philosophy is both idiotic and perverse. It’s idiotic because all human groupings — literally all of them — will result in differential outcomes. Draw a line down the middle of any room in random fashion and the result will be unequal income distribution, criminal records, educational histories. When culture takes a hand, disparities can be more deeply rooted than random chance. Discrimination would still not be the cause of such disparity. As a basic logical matter, discrimination is not the cause of all disparity.

This philosophy is perverse because it attributes malice to those who have none; it fosters policy that *actively discriminates*, supposedly in order to alleviate unproven discrimination. Kendi himself explains: “The defining question is whether the discrimination is creating equity or inequity. If discrimination is creating equity, then it is antiracist. If discrimination is creating inequity, then it is racist.”

Unfortunately, this idiotic and perverse philosophy has become the root of Biden administration policymaking. “Equity” has been used as the keyword from environmental to economic to COVID-19 policy. Susan Rice, Biden’s domestic policy adviser, explained this week, “(W)e’re focused on racial justice and equity...It’s for everybody who has not had the benefits of a system that has not served everybody. ... This is not about serving one group to the detriment of another.” This, of course, is a lie. It is utterly about group equality, which requires individual injustice.

America was rooted in equality and freedom. Equity requires freedom to be curbed. It’s therefore a national tragedy to watch equality of rights abandoned in favor of equity. If freedom is discarded to achieve equality of outcome, we no longer live in an America defined by the Declaration of Independence. We live in an America defined by tribalism and leveling — and, in short order, tyranny.

“Men give me credit for some genius. All the genius I have lies in this; when I have a subject in hand, I study it profoundly.....Then the effort that I have made is what people are pleased to call the fruit of genius. It is the fruit of labor and thought.”

Alexander Hamilton



How Equality Lost to Equity

By Tunku Varadarajan, Wall Street Journal

The first time Shelby Steele used the word “equity” in one of his books—“White Guilt,” published in 2006—he was referring to the value his father had accrued in restoring “three ramshackle homes to neat lower-middle-class acceptability.” This was in 1950s Chicago, a city the author describes as “virulently segregated.” Shelby Steele Sr., a Southern-born black truck driver who’d left school in third grade to work the fields, concealed his homeownership from his white employer. He was afraid he’d be fired for “getting above himself.”

No bank would loan the elder Steele money, so he used bricks, discarded lumber, and cast-off roofing shingles to render the properties rentable. “That’s what we used to call equity,” says Mr. Steele, the son. “The sense of the word I grew up with has no relationship at all to the meaning it has taken on today.”

Mr. Steele, 75, is a longstanding conservative commentator on race in America and a senior fellow at Stanford University’s Hoover Institution. We speak over Zoom a week after President Biden signed an Executive Order on Advancing Racial Equity, intended to address “entrenched disparities in our laws and public policies, and in our public and private institutions.” In his remarks at the signing, Mr. Biden seemed to suggest that his is a project aimed at reshaping American governance. “We need to make the issue of racial equity not just an issue for any one department of government,” the president said. “It has to be the business of the whole of government.”

I can almost hear Mr. Steele growl in his study in Monterey, Calif., as I read these words aloud. “This equity is a term that has no meaning,” he says, “but it’s one that gives blacks power and leverage in American life. We can throw it around at any time, and wherever it lands, it carries this stigma that somebody’s a bigot.” Its message is that there’s “inequality that needs to be addressed, to be paid off. So if you hear me using the word ‘equity,’ I’m shaking you down.”

Equity in this “new sense,” Mr. Steele says, can be understood only as “a strategy.” The president is promising to “fix America morally, and aligning himself with the strategy of black people to gain power by focusing on victimization. He’s saying, ‘America must tackle that problem and create programs that help minorities achieve equity’—whatever that may be.”

The idea of equality has been eclipsed, Mr. Steele says, in part because “it was a little too specific” and bore the baggage of the old civil-rights movement. “We fought for equality 60 years ago,” he says. It was a struggle that brought his black father and white mother together. (They married in 1944. All of her siblings abandoned her, “and never came back.”) “We won the civil-rights legislation in the ’60s,” Mr. Steele says, “and the term ‘equality’ is exhausted now. And it’s lost much of its mystique—because you can measure it.”

Americans look at statistics and disparities and many think “there’s another explanation for inequality other than racism,” Mr. Steele says. “Inequality may be the result of blacks not standing up to the challenges that they face, not taking advantage of the equality that has been bestowed on them.” He points to affirmative action and diversity—“the whole movement designed to compensate for the fact that blacks were behind”—and says that blacks today have worse indices relative to whites in education, income levels, marriage and divorce, or “any socioeconomic measure that you want to look at” than they did 60 years ago.

“It’s inconceivable,” says Mr. Steele, “that blacks are competitive in universities today.” In the 1950s, by contrast, they matriculated with slightly lower grade-point averages than whites and graduated with GPAs slightly higher than whites. “Nobody gave them anything,” Mr. Steele affirms. “They didn’t want them in universities then. We would never put our race on an application, because it would be used against us. The minute we started to get all these handouts from guilty America in the civil-rights era, we entered this uninterrupted decline.”

Equality, Mr. Steele suggests, no longer offers an alibi for black underperformance. Equity, by contrast, “is above all that.” Its absence is “just a generalized sort of evil.” Black leaders and white liberals “wanted a new, cleaner, emptier term to organize around. And equity was perfect because it meant absolutely nothing.” It allows whites, he says, to prove themselves to be “innocent” of racism. “The emptiness is what invites them in, and they say, ‘Yes! Oh my God! We’ve got to help blacks create and achieve equity. Because it will show us to be redeemed of our racist past and therefore empower us’”—even as it empowers the black-community leaders who are their moral notaries. He describes this compact as a “nasty little symbiotic bond between white and black America,” with each using the other “to gain power and moral legitimacy.”

Mr. Steele laments that liberal America is “still not ready to talk realistically and frankly” about race. What is obvious to him, and, he says, “obvious to millions of Americans, is the fact that America has made more moral progress in the

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last 60 years regarding race than any nation, country or civilization in history.”

He describes this progress as “miraculous,” and cites his own life as proof. He was born into a deeply segregated America where every aspect of life was racially calibrated. In 1946, when his mother showed up at a Chicago hospital in full labor, nurses ushered her into the maternity ward. When her husband arrived after parking the car, the nurses realized that the baby wasn’t going to be white. They pushed her into the elevator, which descended to the basement, where the “colored maternity ward” was. This was where Mr. Steele and his identical twin brother, Claude, were born. (Claude Steele is also at Stanford, a psychology professor who has studied “stereotype threat” and its effects on minority academic performance. The twins hold polar opposite views on race.)

Mr. Steele encountered plenty of discrimination in his youth. He couldn’t be a paperboy because they wouldn’t let black kids ride a bike through white neighborhoods at 6 a.m. He couldn’t be a caddy on a golf course. He couldn’t wash dishes at the local Greek restaurant because people would see his black hands on the plates. He couldn’t work at J.C. Penney because he couldn’t be seen laying clothes out on display. He couldn’t go to the schools he wanted because all schools were segregated.

While pursuing a doctorate in English at the University of Utah in the mid-1970s, he had to go to court to get an apartment to live in. “Landlords didn’t want to rent to blacks,” he says. “The first housing desegregation lawsuit in the history of Salt Lake City—I filed it.” Offered a job as a literature professor at the university after earning his doctorate, Mr. Steele preferred a position at California’s San Jose State University. He and his Jewish wife, Rita (whose father escaped the Holocaust), wanted to get away from the racism they faced as an interracial couple in Utah.

“Every aspect of life assaulted me as a black,” Mr. Steele says, and things didn’t start to “really, deeply change” until he was in his 30s. “Because I’m that old,” he says, “I have segregation flashbacks” when walking by the lobby of a luxury hotel. When he was a kid, he wouldn’t dream of crossing the threshold into such a place.

“The point I’m making,” he says, “is that I know what racism really is like, what inequality is like.” Today, by contrast, blacks enter the American mainstream as a matter of course, where “they’re far more likely to run into racial preferences, be celebrated for their race, be promoted above their skill levels, than held back.” Mr. Steele says that he doesn’t know “anywhere where blacks are held back. They’re not just pushed forward, but they’re dragged forward into American life.”

That, he says, is a tragedy: Black Americans had “the hell knocked out of them in the mid-’60s” by freedom. “We had borne up under every abuse, every torture. But we had no experience in freedom. We didn’t know what freedom required. We didn’t know how much individual responsibility you have to take on to thrive in freedom.”

How could black Americans have been prepared for freedom? “They should have been left alone, as Frederick Douglass said,” Mr. Steele responds, invoking the 19th-century abolitionist. “Left alone.” Then, says Mr. Steele, they would discover “other talents, other attitudes, other ideas of responsibility.” Instead of thinking that “one has to be blacker than thou, they will actually begin to say, ‘We’ve got to have the skills. We’ve got to make a contribution. We have to join America. We *are* America.’” But today’s America is “too cowardly to do it.”

Mr. Steele again invokes his father, born in 1900. Whites didn’t feel “guilty” about blacks back then: “They didn’t give a damn about my father.” Shelby Steele Sr. taught himself to read and write, built a business, a family, a life. “Everybody in the neighborhood I grew up in in Chicago did that.” Blacks were making economic progress, Mr. Steele says, “until American liberalism came in under Lyndon Johnson and said, in effect, to black people, ‘We don’t really have any faith in you. We don’t believe you can do it on your own. We hurt you, so now we’ll make it better.’” A downward spiral ensued in much of black America. The three houses Mr. Steele’s father fixed up and rented fell victim to blight. In the end, as he writes in “White Guilt,” “the family signed them over to their nonpaying renters for nothing, happy to be rid of the liability.”

White America continues to determine the lives of black Americans, Mr. Steele says: “Patronizing black people is just a form of white decency,” burnished by concepts like systemic racism and white privilege. “‘We’re still in charge of your life,’” white Americans say to blacks. “‘You do what we tell you.’” And so, Mr. Steele says, “we’ve become slaves all over again. And we run around, coming up with words like ‘equity,’ trying to jack the white man up.”

Yet Mr. Steele also sees “more and more blacks” pushing back against “the tribalism of race” as it collides with the “reality of freedom.” He views the Black Lives Matter movement as a desperate attempt to salvage tribalism. For all his indignation, Mr. Steele foresees a better future. “Millions of black individuals, living their lives as individuals, will take us beyond tribes and into true American citizenship. Many blacks are thriving already. Their children will do even better.”



Communist Policies in America Today

Many conservatives are concerned about the presence of communist policies in America today. It is helpful to be reminded from time to time about the content of those policies. Below is an "Extension of Remarks" by Rep. S. Herlong Jr of Florida which was put into the Congressional Record in January 1963 and includes the "Current Communist Goals" of the time. It seems that America is indeed currently living with many of the goals in place.

(The information below was provided by Donna Calvin of Watchwoman on the Wall)

Congressional Record—Appendix, pp. A34-A35

January 10, 1963

Current Communist Goals

**EXTENSION OF REMARKS OF HON. A. S. HERLONG, JR. OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Thursday, January 10, 1963

Mr. HERLONG. Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Patricia Nordman of De Land, Fla., is an ardent and articulate opponent of communism, and until recently published the De Land Courier, which she dedicated to the purpose of alerting the public to the dangers of communism in America.

At Mrs. Nordman's request, I include in the RECORD, under unanimous consent, the following "Current Communist Goals," which she identifies as an excerpt from "The Naked Communist," by Cleon Skousen:

CURRENT COMMUNIST GOALS

1. U.S. acceptance of coexistence as the only alternative to atomic war.
2. U.S. willingness to capitulate in preference to engaging in atomic war.
3. Develop the illusion that total disarmament [by] the United States would be a demonstration of moral strength.
4. Permit free trade between all nations regardless of Communist affiliation and regardless of whether or not items could be used for war.
5. Extension of long-term loans to Russia and Soviet satellites.
6. Provide American aid to all nations regardless of Communist domination.

7. Grant recognition of Red China. Admission of Red China to the U.N.

8. Set up East and West Germany as separate states in spite of Khrushchev's promise in 1955 to settle the German question by free elections under supervision of the U.N.

9. Prolong the conferences to ban atomic tests because the United States has agreed to suspend tests as long as negotiations are in progress.

10. Allow all Soviet satellites individual representation in the U.N.

11. Promote the U.N. as the only hope for mankind. If its charter is rewritten, demand that it be set up as a one-world government with its own independent armed forces. (Some Communist leaders believe the world can be taken over as easily by the U.N. as by Moscow. Sometimes these two centers compete with each other as they are now doing in the Congo.)

12. Resist any attempt to outlaw the Communist Party.

13. Do away with all loyalty oaths.

14. Continue giving Russia access to the U.S. Patent Office.

15. Capture one or both of the political parties in the United States.

16. Use technical decisions of the courts to weaken basic American institutions by claiming their activities violate civil rights.

17. Get control of the schools. Use them as transmission belts for socialism and current Communist propaganda. Soften the curriculum. Get control of teachers' associations. Put the party line in textbooks.

18. Gain control of all student newspapers.

19. Use student riots to foment public protests against programs or organizations which are under Communist attack.

20. Infiltrate the press. Get control of book-review assignments, editorial writing, policymaking positions.

21. Gain control of key positions in radio, TV, and motion pictures.

22. Continue discrediting American culture by degrading all forms of artistic expression. An American Communist cell was told to "eliminate all good sculpture from parks and

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buildings, substitute shapeless, awkward and meaningless forms.”

23. Control art critics and directors of art museums. “Our plan is to promote ugliness, repulsive, meaningless art.”

24. Eliminate all laws governing obscenity by calling them “censorship” and a violation of free speech and free press.

25. Break down cultural standards of morality by promoting pornography and obscenity in books, magazines, motion pictures, radio, and TV.

26. Present homosexuality, degeneracy and promiscuity as “normal, natural, healthy.”

27. Infiltrate the churches and replace revealed religion with “social” religion. Discredit the Bible and emphasize the need for intellectual maturity which does not need a “religious crutch.”

28. Eliminate prayer or any phase of religious expression in the schools on the ground that it violates the principle of “separation of church and state.”

29. Discredit the American Constitution by calling it inadequate, old-fashioned, out of step with modern needs, a hindrance to cooperation between nations on a worldwide basis.

30. Discredit the American Founding Fathers. Present them as selfish aristocrats who had no concern for the “common man.”

31. Belittle all forms of American culture and discourage the teaching of American history on the ground that it was only a minor part of the “big picture.” Give more emphasis to Russian history since the Communists took over.

32. Support any socialist movement to give centralized control over any part of the culture—education, social agencies, welfare programs, mental health clinics, etc.

33. Eliminate all laws or procedures which interfere with the operation of the Communist apparatus.

34. Eliminate the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

35. Discredit and eventually dismantle the FBI.

36. Infiltrate and gain control of more unions.

37. Infiltrate and gain control of big business.

38. Transfer some of the powers of arrest from the police to

social agencies. Treat all behavioral problems as psychiatric disorders which no one but psychiatrists can understand [or treat].

39. Dominate the psychiatric profession and use mental health laws as a means of gaining coercive control over those who oppose Communist goals.

40. Discredit the family as an institution. Encourage promiscuity and easy divorce.

41. Emphasize the need to raise children away from the negative influence of parents. Attribute prejudices, mental blocks and retarding of children to suppressive influence of parents.

42. Create the impression that violence and insurrection are legitimate aspects of the American tradition; that students and special-interest groups should rise up and use [“]united force[“] to solve economic, political or social problems.

43. Overthrow all colonial governments before native populations are ready for self-government.

44. Internationalize the Panama Canal.

45. Repeal the Connally reservation so the United States cannot prevent the World Court



Two Congressmen Want McCarthyite ‘Red Channels’ as Newsmax, Fox Targeted

By Alan Dershowitz, Newsmax

Two Democratic members of Congress from Silicon Valley have written official letters to cable and satellite carriers urging them to shut down conservative TV channels.

These letters are reminiscent of those written by Sen. Joseph McCarthy and his henchmen back in the early 1950s urging television networks and Hollywood studios to drop suspected Communists or leftists. (Remember the movie "The Front").

Thus, the shoe is now on the other foot — It's the left that is trying to censor the right — but it's causing just as many callouses on our First Amendment.

All decent people who care about freedom of speech, without regard to right or left political viewpoints, must stand strongly in opposition to the censorial pressures being exerted by these benighted members of Congress.

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Nor are these two alone.

Congressional committees are now meeting to discuss ways of dealing with "disinformation and extremism in the media."

As with McCarthyism, this attack on free speech is directed only against one side of the political spectrum. This time it is focusing only on conservative news media.

The letter from the members of Congress ends with a veiled threat, "Are you planning to continue carrying Fox News, One American News Network and Newsmax on your platform both now and beyond the renewal date? If so, why?"

In their letter, the two members of Congress: Reps. Anna G. Eshoo, D-Calif., and Rep. Jerry McNerney, D-Calif., complain only about "right wing media outlets."

Not a word is said about left wing media outlets: CNN and MSNBC.

Those networks deny their viewers facts and information that might influence their decisions in a nuanced manner.

CNN is especially guilty of doctoring videos, editing soundbites, distorting the truth, and presenting one-sided diatribes.

But this doesn't concern Eshoo and McNerney because CNN presents their side of the narrative. "Free speech for me but not for thee," seems to be their approach.

They would like to see network cable Television become the Democratic Party's "Pravda."

And like the Soviet Union, they would like to take down all opposing views and deny them access to cable and satellite carriers.

They ignore the provision of the Bill of Rights which prohibit Congress from making any law or taking any action that abridges the freedom of speech.

A letter from two members of Congress on official congressional stationery to satellite and cable carriers, carries the imprimatur of government.

Holding one-sided hearings focusing only on "right wing media outlets" constitutes a direct threat to these carriers.

As William Safire once put it, "Every American has the right to complain about the trash on TV – except Uncle Sam."

The most dangerous aspect of what these members of Congress are doing is that they surely believe they are acting in the interest of truth, liberalism and the American way.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

Left wing censors are as dangerous as right wing censors.

Left wing McCarthyism is as immoral as right wing McCarthyism.

Well intentioned censorship is even more dangerous than censorship that is overtly motivated by evil intentions.

As the great Justice Louis Brandeis cautioned us a century ago, "The greatest dangers to liberty lurk in insidious encroachment by men of zeal, **well meaning** but without understanding."

Newsmax and Fox should challenge any congressional hearings dealing with the contents of their programs.

They should refuse to answer questions from Congress regarding their news gathering or presentation.

The government has no business being in their news or editorial rooms.

The First Amendment protects them from such unconstitutional intrusions.

Not only should Fox and Newsmax fight back against these efforts to control and censor them, so should the satellite and cable providers that carry them.

In the golden era of the First Amendment— from about 1960 to 2000 — the ACLU could be counted on to take up this battle. Don't hold your breath.

The current ACLU prioritizes partisan politics and especially hatred of anything Trump over freedom of speech, especially conservative or pro Trump speech.

They have gotten very rich based on this shift in priorities, because too few Americans believe in free speech for thee as well as me.

So all Americans who care about our shrinking first amendment must take up the cudgels and fight for our liberties.

The letters from Eschoo and McNerney to cable and satellite carriers are accessible via this link: <https://eshoo.house.gov/sites/eshoo.house.gov/files/Eshoo-McNerney-TV-Misinfo%20Letters-2.22.21.pdf>





Give Power Back to the States as Founders Envisioned

By Justin Owen, *Washington Times*,
President/CEO of Beacon Center of Tennessee

With the Democrats holding a slimmer-than-expected majority in the House and a 50-50 split in the Senate, the next two years will represent an almost equal tug of war between Republicans and Democrats in Congress. Rather than simply fight over who wins this particular short-term battle, a more significant long-term path forward would be to return more control to the states and the people themselves like our Founders envisioned, so that whatever happens in Washington means less to our daily lives.

Indeed, our Founders were perpetually concerned about vesting too much power in a single governmental body, let alone the federal one. They took pains to craft a system that kept any single branch from asserting or any centralized federal government from amassing too much authority. As Thomas Jefferson said, “It is by dividing and subdividing these republics from the great National one down thro’ all its subordinates, until it ends in the administration of every man’s farm and affairs by himself; by placing under every-one what his own eye may superintend, that all will be done for the best.”

There is no more local control than that which resides at the kitchen table. Our Founders knew we were a country of individuals who granted the government enumerated powers. And that a government closer to the people would far better represent them than one centralized in a faraway land.

So how do we do that in practice with a federal government encroaching ever further into our daily lives? First, our nation’s governors and state legislators need to assert their authority to make decisions that should be local and not dictated by the federal government. This should include more block grants and state control over existing programs that are currently directed by federal agencies.

Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee, for example, recently secured an agreement to make his state the first to receive the equivalent of a block grant to run its Medicaid program. Among other changes, the new plan allows the state to develop innovative ways to serve Medicaid patients and receive an even split of all cost savings. Previously, any and all savings reverted to federal coffers. This use-it-or-lose it approach has left no incentive for the states to be more efficient and effective with those dollars, resulting in Medicaid becoming the largest single government program in most states and the third-largest government program.

By allowing states to be laboratories of democracy as intended, Congress can turn its attention to using the power it actually does have to rein in the administrative state. With duly elected lawmakers passing legislation rather than ceding authority to bureaucrats to make laws via rule making, we can finally begin to get the federal government out of every facet of our lives.

Right now, the bulk of federal intrusion comes not from Congress, but from unelected bureaucrats making up a 400-agency administrative state. A longstanding constitutional principle was the nondelegation doctrine, which forbade Congress from delegating its authority to the executive branch. But by time I went through law school a decade ago, this doctrine was taught as some kind of ancient and mysterious codex. The consequence of ignoring the nondelegation doctrine? The Federal Register — a compilation of executive branch rules and regulations — now sits at an astonishing 70,000 pages.

Fortunately, the Supreme Court has signaled that it might soon resuscitate this important check on executive power. By requiring Congress to pass the laws that impact our lives, there would once again be accountability to the people, and — as it is harder to enact laws through the legislative process than it is to pass rules through the administrative state — fewer laws altogether.

Returning more control to the states and decimating administrative red tape will do far more to fix our fractured society and minimize the harm done by our dysfunctional federal government than any individual or political party ever could. Who sits in the White House and who controls Congress is, of course, important. But should it consume us? If these people didn’t have so much effect over our lives, perhaps we could rest easy knowing that it wouldn’t matter quite as much, just as our Founders intended.



The Denial of Evil: The Case of Communism

By Dennis Prager, *Epoch Times*

One of the most highly regarded books of the 20th century was Ernest Becker’s “The Denial of Death.” Winner of the 1974 Pulitzer Prize, the book is regarded as a classic for its analysis of how human beings deny their mortality.

But there is something people deny more than mortality: evil. Someone should write a book on the denial of evil; that would be much more important because while we cannot prevent death, we can prevent evil.

The most glaring example of the denial of evil is
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communism, an ideology that, within a period of only 60 years, created modern totalitarianism and deprived of human rights, tortured, starved, and killed more people than any other ideology in history.

Why people ignore, or even deny, communist evil is the subject of a previous column as well as a Prager University video, “Why Isn’t Communism as Hated as Nazism?” I will, therefore, not address that question here.

I will simply lay out the facts.

But before I do, I need to address another question: Why is it important that everyone know what communism did?

Here are three reasons:

First, we have a moral obligation to the victims not to forget them. Just as Americans have a moral obligation to remember the victims of American slavery, we have the same obligation to the billion victims of communism, especially the 100 million who were murdered.

Second, the best way to prevent an evil from reoccurring is to confront it in all its horror. The fact that many people today, especially young people, believe communism is a viable—even morally superior—option for modern societies proves they know nothing about communism’s moral record. Therefore, they do not properly fear communism—which means this evil could happen again.

And why could it happen again?

That brings us to reason number three. The leaders of communist regimes and the vast number of people who helped those leaders torture, enslave, and murder—plus the many more people who reported on their neighbors for saying something objectionable to the communists—were nearly all normal people. Of course, some were psychopaths, but most were not. Which proves that any society—including free ones—can devolve into communism or some analogous evil.

Now some facts:

According to the authoritative “**The Black Book of Communism**,” written by six French scholars and published in the United States by Harvard University Press, the numbers of people murdered—not people killed in combat; ordinary civilians trying to live their lives—by communist regimes were:

Latin America: 150,000.
Vietnam: 1 million.
Eastern Europe: 1 million.
Ethiopia: 1.5 million.
North Korea: 2 million.

Cambodia: 2 million.

The Soviet Union: 20 million (many scholars believe the number was considerably higher).

China: 65 million.

These numbers are quite conservative. For example, in Ukraine alone, the Soviet regime and its Ukrainian Communist Party helpers starved 5 to 6 million to death within a two-year period. It is almost inconceivable that only 14 to 15 million other Soviet citizens were murdered.

And, of course, these numbers do not describe the suffering endured by hundreds of millions of people who were not murdered: the systematic stripping people of their right to speak freely, to worship, to start a business, or even to travel without party permission; no noncommunist judiciary or media; the near-poverty of nearly all communist countries; the imprisonment and torture of vast numbers of people; and, of course, the trauma suffered by the hundreds of millions of friends and relatives of the murdered and imprisoned.

These numbers don’t tell you about the many starving Ukrainians who ate the flesh of people, often children, sometimes including their own; or the Romanian Christians whose communist prison guards forced them to eat feces to compel them to renounce their faith; or the frozen millions in the vast Soviet Siberian prison camp system known as the Gulag Archipelago; or the Vietnamese communists’ routine practice of burying peasants alive to terrorize people into supporting the communists; or Mao Zedong’s regular use of torture to punish opponents and intimidate peasants, like leading men through the streets with rusty wires through their testicles and burning the vaginas of wives of opponents with flaming wicks—Mao’s techniques to terrorize peasants into supporting the Chinese Communist Party in its early days.

Sources for the above:

Ukraine: Anne Applebaum, “Red Famine: Stalin’s War on Ukraine.”

Romania: Eugen Magirescu, “The Devil’s Mill: Memories of Pitesti Prison.” (Cited in Paul Kengor’s “The Devil and Karl Marx: Communism’s Long March of Death, Deception, and Infiltration.”)

Vietnam: Max Hastings, “Vietnam: An Epic Tragedy, 1945–1975.”

China: Jung Chang and Jon Halliday, “Mao: The Unknown Story.”

I return to the theme of the denial of evil.

People associate evil with darkness. But that is not accurate: It is easy to look into the dark; it is very hard to stare into bright light. One should therefore associate evil with extreme brightness, given that people rarely look at real evil. And

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those who do not confront real evil often make up evils (such as “systemic racism,” “toxic masculinity,” and “heteronormativity” in 21st-century America) that are much easier to confront.

The Book of Psalms states, “Those of you who love God—you are to hate evil.”

In other words, you can’t love God if you don’t hate evil.

And if you don’t believe in God, here’s another way of putting it: “Those of you who love people—you are to hate evil.”

If you don’t hate communism, you don’t care about, much less love, people.

Points of Interest

- In a surprisingly candid article titled “The Secret History of the Shadow Campaign That Saved the 2020 Election,” Time Magazine recently described pre- and post-election actions taken by anti-Trump activists, the mainstream media, tech companies, and corporate CEOs, among others, in an effort to “salvage our democracy” from Trump. “They were not rigging the election; they were fortifying it,” according to Time. A link to the article is here: <https://time.com/5936036/secret-2020-election-campaign/>
- Hillsdale College offers free online course lectures on the U.S. Constitution for anyone who is interested. The course is titled: “Constitution 101: The Meaning and History of the Constitution.” The course overview states: “The Constitution established a limited government, but a government with sufficient powers to protect Americans’ God-given rights to ‘Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.’ This course examines the design and purpose of the Constitution, the challenges it faced during the Civil War, how it has been undermined for over a century by progressivism and post-1960s liberalism, and how limited government under the Constitution might be revived.” A link to the free course, which includes twelve 30-minute lectures, is here: <https://online.hillsdale.edu/landing/constitution-101>

“No people is wholly civilized where a distinction is drawn between stealing an office and stealing a purse.”

Theodore Roosevelt

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Upcoming Events/Announcements

- **Next Luncheon:** TBD by COVID restrictions
- **WAC Action Committees Sign-Up** – We need members to be involved! Contact: Rena Snow (renasnow@hotmail.com)

