

# •the journal



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## IN THIS ISSUE:

- » pg. 2 | Summit Alumni Spotlight: Candice Watters
- » pg. 3 | Letter from the Editor: David A. Noebel
- » pg. 4 | Highlights from around the Globe
  - \* *Christianity, Origins, Ethics, Communism, and Social Justice*
  - \* *More articles can be found in the online version of The Journal at [summit.org](http://summit.org)*

“[God] has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”

—Acts 17:31

# SUMMIT ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

2

*a word about Summit Alumna Candice Watters*

## How Summit Set My Course

by Candice Watters

Near the end of my sophomore year of college, my friend, Betsy, said she was planning to spend two weeks at Summit. The more she told me about it—worldview studies in a classroom setting with outdoor adventures in the Rocky Mountains—the more I knew I had to do it.

I had always been interested in politics, feeling a flood of emotion the first time my family visited Washington, D.C. But Summit helped me connect actions to my feelings. While there, I was inspired by Jeff Meyers' observation that "readers are leaders." Add to that Dr. Nobel's admission that he reads a book a day, and I was motivated! I started reading more (if not nearly that fast), paying attention to the news, and most significantly, shifted my focus at Calvin College to the political science department. After graduation, I moved to our nation's Capitol and started looking for a job.

Though my resume was thin, I knew God's Rolodex was endless, so I knocked on doors and prayed. It paid off. I started out as an intern with the Republican Study Committee, and a short time later made my way to Rep. Cass Ballenger's (R-NC) office, first as a Legislative Correspondent, then Legislative Assistant. It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience as I learned how government works, and doesn't, and about our ability to influence the process.

After two years I decided to move home to Ohio to work on a State Representative's re-election campaign, and then, to Regent University in Virginia Beach to pursue my Master of Public Policy. By then I was 25, and single. Though my jobs were fulfilling, what I really wanted was to be a wife and mom. I always assumed marriage was wonderful if you were "lucky" enough to get the opportunity; but I was worried that my luck had run out.

I was learning about the ways our country was slipping from its constitutional foundations and in a moment of exasperation, I asked, "What's the solution?" I really wanted to know, though I'm not sure I believed there was one. My professor, Hubert Morken, was ready with a twinkle in his eye, and an answer: "Get married, make babies, and do government! *That's* how we win."

His response knocked the wind out of me. I assumed by doing government, I was the solution. But he was suggesting the very act of forming families, and raising children for God's glory, was essential to victory. "Candice," he said, "do the math. The people who form families, who raise children and send them into the next generation, are the ones who will influence where our government and culture go in the future."

If what Dr. Morken was saying was true, then I had every reason to hope, and even work, for marriage. Not since I was a teenager had I been this excited about marriage. For the first time in my adult life, I believed it could—and should—happen.

Dr. Morken, and his wife, Mary, mentored me as well as my friend, Steve, that year. Through their wise counsel and God's grace, Steve and I made our way from friendship to the altar. Since then, we've been working to help other single believers marry well, for their good and God's glory. It's our hope that their family making will have a long lasting, transformational, effect on the culture.

Shortly after our wedding, Steve and I moved to Colorado Springs where we launched Boundless.org, a webzine of Focus on the Family. From college to career to relationships, we're helping singles have a vibrant vision for the years between their childhood homes and those they'll form when they marry. Through the webzine, The Boundless Line blog, and The Boundless Show podcast, the Boundless team is making nearly half a million connections each month.

Additionally, we've had four children and written several books. *Get Married: What Women Can Do to Help it Happen* is a call to biblical discipleship, intentionality, femininity, community, purity, stewardship and mentoring.

Together, Steve and I followed that book with *Start Your Family: Inspiration for Having Babies*. It provides vision and preparation for couples on the fence about getting started. It looks at the challenges couples face, the timing, the reasons children are a blessing, and the practical how-tos for embracing the role of parents.

The most recent development in our effort to help young believers form strong families is the service "Marry Well." MarryWell.org is a bold alternative to popular online matching services. It's a world I never imagined getting into, but it's an area we realized could benefit from a distinctively Christian worldview and a countercultural approach—two things that Summit taught me well.



Portions of this story are adapted from *Get Married: What Women Can Do to Help it Happen* (2008, Moody Publishers). Used by permission.

To contact Candice and read more about the books and ventures of Steve and Candice Watters, visit [helpgetmarried.com](http://helpgetmarried.com).



# from the PRESIDENT'S DESK

a word from Dr. Noebel

3

May 16, 2010, begins Summit Ministries' 48th year! This date also marks the beginning of the first of eight Student Worldview Conferences to be held in Colorado this summer. We will also hold two student conferences in Tennessee, and one in Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Summit will be conducted at Green Lake Conference Grounds near Ripon and will be our first one ever in that state. Please pray with us that all 11 conferences will run at capacity with eager students who are willing to tackle challenging material so they can make a difference in their high schools, colleges, and universities this fall.

The centerpiece of Summit's summer worldview curriculum is a thorough examination of six worldviews at work in the world today: Christianity, Islam, Secular Humanism, Marxism, New Age, and Postmodernism. We firmly believe that Christian young people who understand the underlying premises of these six worldviews will not be tempted to abandon their Christian faith when it is challenged.

We do try to keep it as simple as possible by reminding our students that England's top scientist, Sir Martin Rees, wrote a book entitled *Just Six Numbers* in which he explains, defines, and describes the whole physical universe with its billions of island universes and trillions of stars. We're limiting our explanations, definitions, and descriptions to what goes on within just one of the island universes—the Milky Way—and within the Milky Way to just one planet—Earth.

Please pray that our students this summer will be able to connect the dots and make sense of the portion of our planet where God has placed them.

We'll include in our summer curriculum mention of Victor Davis Hanson who has written a telling piece that more or less reinforces our "six worldview" position. His article entitled "A Postmodern Presidency" acknowledges that our universities are creatures of the postmodern worldview. Quite matter-of-factly he writes, "Given thirty years of postmodern relativism in our universities, we were bound to get a postmodern president at some point."

Hear Hanson's explanation: "[Barack Obama] was schooled in the postmodern university and operates on hand-me-down principles from postmodernism. One does not need to read Foucault or Derrida, or to be acquainted with Heidegger, to see how relativism enhances contemporary multiculturalism. Keep that in mind and everything else makes sense."

Summit students will become acquainted with our textbook *Understanding the Times: The Collision of Today's Competing Worldviews* which carefully analyzes (among other ideas) the postmodern worldview and its relationship to competing worldviews. They'll learn that "[e]ach Postmodernist included in [*Understanding the Times*] (Foucault, Derrida, Barthes, Lyotard, Baudrillard, Rorty, etc.) is theologically atheist, philosophically skeptical, ethically relativist, biologi-

cally evolutionist, psychologically soul-less, legally pragmatist, and politically leftist" (p. 9). Postmodern economics we term "interventionism" which is a fancy term for socialism!

Victor Hanson explains how these attributes of a postmodernist apply to our current president: "But the chief characteristic of postmodern thinking is the notion of relativism and the primacy of language over reality." While some would argue that President Obama lies when he says things like there will be no hidden meetings, everything will be done in the light and on C-SPAN, etc., Hanson notes that from a postmodern point of view these are not lies, but merely "another's truth."

However, while the Christian view of truth entails the law of non-contradiction (something can't be both true and false at the same time in the same place—it can't be raining and not raining at the same time in the same place), postmodernists deny this view as narrow and unrealistic. Richard Rorty, for example, says that "truth" is whatever his fellow intellectuals let him get away with!

President Obama acts within the same "truth" confines, and his fellow intellectuals let him get away with just about anything as long as he doesn't strengthen the nation state or capitalism. Hanson explains this way of thinking this way: "What we signify and brand as 'real,' in essence is no more valid than another's 'truth,' even if we retreat to specious claims of 'evidence'—especially if our aim is to perpetuate the nation state, or the primacy of the white male capitalist Westerner who long ago manufactured norms in his own interests."

This is exactly how postmodernism is being played out in today's college and university English departments (see Alvin J. Schmidt's *The Menace of Multiculturalism: Trojan Horse in America*). And unfortunately, it is now being played out on a broader playing field—the world!

Hanson again: "Well, those were not misstatements or misdeeds at all. You, children of privilege, only think they are, since you use antiquated norms like 'abstract' truth to adjudicate the discomfiting efforts of a progressive president."

So how important do you think it is for Christian young people to get a handle on the postmodern worldview? And since secular humanism and Marxism have this same relativism in common, it is imperative that Christian students learn how to put all the pieces together to clearly see and understand what is happening in their world. There is absolutely no reason why Christian teens should be a day



*continued on next page*

# A LOOK AT OUR WORLD

highlights from around the globe

4

late and a dollar short! It isn't necessary because Summit's summer Student Worldview Conferences provide exactly the insight and understanding of how these worldviews will affect them now and in the days to come.

Please help us identify college-bound Christian teens who could benefit this summer by learning how to plant their spiritual and intellectual feet firmly in Jesus Christ (Col. 2), and on the solid ground of understanding the Christian worldview (*Understanding the Times*) and how it stacks up against the nonsensical and dangerous ideas of its competition.

Incidentally, in the last two issues of the *Summit Journal* I have tried to make the case for *The Book of Absolutes: A Critique of Relativism and a Defense of Universals* by William Gairdner, a book that takes on the relativism of postmodernism, secular humanism, and Marxism. I still highly recommend it.

## BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY

† Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him when he saw that the city was given over to idols. Therefore he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and with the Gentile worshipers, and in the marketplace daily with those who happened to be there. Then certain Epicurean and Stoic philosophers encountered him. And some said, "What does this babbler want to say?"

Others said, "He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign gods," because he preached to them Jesus and the resurrection. And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new doctrine is of which you speak? For you are bringing some strange things to our ears. Therefore we want to know what these things mean." For all the Athenians and the foreigners who were there spent their time in nothing else but either to tell or to hear some new thing.

Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD.

Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and have our being, as

also some of your own poets have said, "For we are also His offspring."

—Acts 17:16–28 (NKJV)



What is important is not that we should always fear (or hope) about the End but that we should always remember, always take it into account. An analogy may here help. A man of seventy need not be always feeling (much less talking) about his approaching death: but a wise man of seventy should always take it into account. He would be foolish to embark on schemes which presuppose twenty more years of life: he would be criminally foolish not to make—indeed, not to have made long since—his will. Now, what death is to each man, the Second Coming is to the whole human race.

—C.S. Lewis, *The World's Last Night*

## ORIGINS

Our world is filled with a tremendous variety of life. And its origin is no mystery. The Bible says God created every kind of living thing on Days Three, Five, and Six of Creation Week. Ten times in Genesis 1 the phrase "according to its [or their] kind" is used in connection with different types of plants and animals. The word *kind* is used again in Genesis 6 when God instructed Noah to take two of every kind of land animal onto the Ark; and in Genesis 8 God commanded these animals to reproduce after the Flood.

What does the word *kind* mean?

Since two of each *kind* of land animal (and seven of some) were brought aboard the Ark for the purpose of preserving their offspring upon the earth (Genesis 7:3), it seems clear that a "kind" represents the basic reproductive boundary of an organism. That is, the offspring of an organism is always the same kind as its parents, even though it may display considerable variation.

Dogs, for example, exhibit tremendous variety. Yet diverse breeds of dogs can produce offspring with each other—indicating that all dogs are of the same *kind*. Dogs will not interbreed with cats, however, since they are a different kind. Modern breeding research therefore confirms the biblical concept of animal and plant kinds.

Creation researchers have found that "kind" is often at the level of "family" in our modern classification scheme. For example, zebras, horses, and donkeys all belong to the family Equidae and can mate with each other to form hybrid animals such as mules (from a horse and donkey) and zonkeys (from a zebra and donkey). However, there is no reason to assume a one-to-one correspondence between our manmade system and the biblical terminology.

# A LOOK AT OUR WORLD

highlights from around the globe

5

So “kind” may be at a higher taxonomic level in some cases, lower in others.

God placed the potential for tremendous variety within the original created kinds. This original variation, altered by genetic mutations and other mechanisms after the Fall (such as natural selection), led to the great diversity of living things we see today.

A modern field of study, called baraminology (from the two Hebrew words *bara*, meaning “created,” and *min*, meaning “kind”), attempts to classify fossil and living organisms into their original created kinds (or baramins). This is an active area of creation research. As creation scientists, we are not ashamed to stand on the foundation of God’s Word for our research and understanding of living things.

—Dr. Georgia Purdom, *Answers*, April-June, 2010, p. 52



Did you know that the creature with “the most complex vision systems known to science” is a shrimp? Really! Instead of combining three colors to see all the variety of the visible spectrum, as human eyes do, the mantis shrimp combines twelve colors, and its eye includes polarizing filters that work far more effectively than any filters that humans have so far been able to produce.

Polarization may help the shrimp find a mate, communicate without attracting the attention of predators, or see more clearly to catch its own prey.

This amazing vision system has inspired researchers to find new ways to improve DVD players. Today’s manmade electronic devices are impressive, but how much more awe-inspiring is the handiwork of the Designer, who created the rainbow of colors and made so many types of eyes to see them, including the unique eye of the mantis shrimp.

—Ibid., p. 12



A veteran director of a Texas abortion center resigned recently after watching an abortion on ultrasound for the first time.

“I just thought, ‘What am I doing?’” explained Abby Johnson. “And then I thought, ‘Never again.’” Seeing the baby trying to move away from the abortionist’s probe was a particularly powerful moment.

Because human beings are created in God’s image, we are naturally appalled at the killing of innocents, despite propaganda that claims we are merely highly evolved animals.

For the last five years, the pro-life group Coalition for Life/40 Days for Life has been praying for the abortion clinic where Johnson worked. According to Shawn Carney,

director of the Coalition for Life, “It’s truly been a testament to the power of prayer.”

—Ibid., p. 11

Lyuba, a baby woolly mammoth, has left frosty Siberia for a world tour, which includes a stop this spring in Illinois. This is one celebrity that won’t be welcomed down any red carpet in Chicago, though, for Lyuba died thousands of years ago at one month old.


The size of a large dog, Lyuba is extremely well-preserved, even though secular researchers have dated her at 40,000 years old. Creationist researchers argue that this infant mammoth actually died around 2000 BC, during the Ice Age that followed Noah’s global Flood. Lyuba’s astonishing lack of decay supports a death that was much more recent than the non-biblical time scale.

With such well-preserved tissue available, a long-range goal of scientists is to clone one of these giants back to life. How? By taking a cell of a deceased woolly mammoth and inserting it into the womb of an Asian elephant.

Such a marvel would be possible because mammoths and elephants both descended from the same elephant kind, which God created during Creation Week (Genesis 1) and preserved on Noah’s Ark to repopulate the planet after the Flood (Genesis 7–9).

—Ibid.

## ETHICS

 If one has a proper understanding of human nature, one does not need a philosophy of history.

—John Lukacs, *The Legacy of the Second World War*  
*The American Conservative*, April 2010, p. 44



Paul Johnson argues that the almost universal acceptance of relativism was responsible for what Lakacs calls barbarism, but under either name the war introduced a new age of horror.

—Ibid.

**Editor’s Note:** The two works that we have mentioned in previous *Journals* relating to answering about relativism are *The Book of Absolutes: a Critique of Relativism and a Defense of Universals* by William D. Gairdner and *Human Universals* by Donald E. Brown. Both books cannot be praised too highly. And because four of the six worldviews discussed in *Understanding the Times* are based squarely on relativism (Secular Humanism, Marxism, New Age, and Postmodernism) these two books dismantle these four worldviews as well!

# A LOOK AT OUR WORLD

highlights from around the globe

6

## COMMUNISM

✠ Michael Foot belonged to a privileged family from the south of England but nevertheless, or perhaps therefore, was a man of the hard Left. A journalist by profession, he wrote in the mode of prosecuting counsel. As an orator, he seemed to be acting permanent outrage. A pacifist who himself had not served in the war, he insisted on unilateral nuclear disarmament, every inch one of Lenin's useful idiots. Once he became a member of Parliament, the Labour party took him to its heart and made him its leader. The general election of 1983 was a turning point, when Mrs. Thatcher proved that the country thought more highly of her than of Foot's Socialist alternative. He was 96 when he died, and at his funeral they sang "The Red Flag."

—*National Review*, April 5, 2010, 13

**Editor's Note:** I placed Michael Foot's announcement herein to emphasize that it is not only in America that the upper class tend to be communists! In Whitaker Chamber's *Witness* (p. 616) the working classes are democrats, the middle classes are Republicans, and the upper classes are communists! Nothing seems to change a great deal!



Communist and pro-communist parties rule about a dozen Latin American countries today. This fact, by itself, is enough to prove that the "end of communism," proclaimed by the Right soon after the fall of the Soviet Union, is a myth. World communism was never only an appendix of the USSR. It actually created the USSR, not the other way around. It existed a century before the Russian Revolution and continued to exist after the nominal extinction of Soviet power. What made the resurgence of communism easier—not only in Latin America, but around the world—was the cowardly timidity of Western right-wingers who, instead of taking the opportunity of the fall of the USSR to punish the communists for their crimes, chose instead a policy of "extending them a hand," as if asking for their pardon for having defeated them, and offering them all sorts of aid, enabling them to reappear with a new or attenuated identity, even protecting them from being called "communists" (the fashionable euphemism is now "populism"). I believe that this absurd surrender of the winners was also stimulated by powerful globalist circles, whose interest in establishing worldwide bureaucratic controls converges with the objectives of the communists. The number of billionaire companies which came to openly contribute to leftist parties is enormous. I call "meta-capitalists" the individuals and groups which grew so wealthy with the market economy that they can't stand anymore being at the mercy of the free market and seek, instead, to control everything,

supporting bureaucracy instead of capitalism. Meta-capitalists are natural allies of the communists.

An event that clearly symbolizes this union of apparent adversaries was the tributes paid to Lula ds Silva, the Brazilian President, who in the same week was honored by the World Economic Forum in Davos, for his conversion to capitalism, and by the São Paulo Forum, for his allegiance to communism. The contradiction is only apparent. At the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre, which for public opinion embodies the opposite of the Davos Forum, the main demand was for a greater control over the world economy by big international organizations. Nobody there asked for shutting down the IMF or the World Bank—what they wanted was the integration of "civil society"—i.e., the World Social Forum—into those organizations. Many European NGOs [non-governmental organizations] which participate in the World Social Forum have a seat at the meetings of the World Bank and other international organizations. The "ideological" contrast serves only as propaganda. What we have is a gigantic symbiosis of all globalist and statist forces around the world.

—Olavo deCarvalho, *The New American*, March 29, 2010, p. 27



There is no unified answer that applies to all Latin America. The situation is different in each country. For example, however unbelievable it may seem, there is a strong and organized resistance against the rise of neo-communism in Venezuela. Colombia, likewise, is a remarkable center of resistance. On the other hand, nowhere else has the Right been so utterly destroyed as it has been in Brazil, which is, for this very reason, the headquarters of Latin American revolution. When former Venezuelan presidential candidate Alejandro Peña set up UnoAmerica (Association of Democratic Organizations of the Americas), the only international organization devoted to fighting communism, he found no difficulty in obtaining effective support in most of the Spanish-speaking countries, but he has always had great difficulties finding support in Brazil. . . . In other countries, however, the Left is not so culturally hegemonic, which has made possible the organization of an effective and strong anti-communist action. From this point of view, then, Venezuela is in a better situation than Brazil, for if in the former country, the Right has been oppressed, in the latter it has already died, being now necessary to create a new Right out of nothing. In this sense, American political analysts are always getting it all backwards: They are alarmed at Venezuela and do not understand that the headquarters of the revolution is in Brazil.

—*Ibid.*, p. 30



# A LOOK AT OUR WORLD

highlights from around the globe

7

On February 23, Orlando Zapata Tamayo, a Cuban prisoner of conscience, died after an 83-day hunger strike. President Lula da Silva of Brazil happened to be in Havana, visiting with the Castros. Democracy activists pleaded with him to say something about human rights. He refused. And he has refused to do so since. Instead, he has defended the Castros' dictatorship. He said, "We have to respect the decision of the Cuban legal system and the government to arrest people depending on the laws of Cuba." He further said, "I don't think a hunger strike can be used as a pretext for human rights to free people. Imagine if all the criminals in São Paulo entered into hunger strikes to demand freedom." Thus did he compare prisoners of conscience to drug dealers, rapists, and murderers. Silva himself was a hunger striker, back when he was a prisoner of his country's military dictatorship. But now he has changed his tune: "I would never do it again. I think it's insane to mistreat your own body." In January, the World Economic Forum (famous for its annual meeting in Davos, Switzerland) gave Silva its first-ever Global Statesmanship Award. Perhaps a Nobel is in the offing.

—*National Review*, April 5, 2010, p. 11–12



The Senate can pass only one reconciliation bill per year, which is why the Democrats—who seem to intuit that they won't be so numerous next year—want to combine the health-care reconciliation bill with legislation that would make the government the direct provider of most student loans. The combination is poetic: American college-loan policy offers an illustration of how the government can absorb an activity incrementally, claiming to cherish the benefits the private sector provides until the bait has worked and it's time for the switch. Government support for student loans began in the form of subsidies for private loans, much as the Democrats' health-care bill would succor the insurance industry by subsidizing its product while forcing people to buy it. In the 1990s, Democrats added a "public option"—making government the direct provider of some student loans—with the Clinton administration claiming that "students and schools are served by healthy competition" between the private sector and the government. This is the same rhetoric Obama used when he tried to sell us a public option for health care. And now we see how quickly Democrats dispense with the rhetoric of competition when a government takeover seems viable: The new student-loan bill would make the public option the only option, thus completing the absorption of the activity. In a similar way, the current health-care legislation isn't the endgame.

—*National Review*, April 5, 2010, p. 4, 6

**Editor's Note:** Socialists/Communists/Statists (call them whatever) continually seek to sweep as much under the government rug as the populace allows. Nationalizing the student loan industry is but another proof that we are dealing with all three of the above labels!

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

The Bible speaks consistently and forcefully about the need for justice throughout society. But the term "social justice" has become a code-term used by the Religious Left to mean everything from socialized medicine to redistribution of income. Their argument goes like this: Since God wants Christians to show compassion to the poor, government should work to meet the needs of everyone. But this argument is, oddly, a form of merging the roles of the church and state—something the Left says it opposes—and thoughtful conservatives should oppose. Faith and policy are closely linked but the institutional roles of church and state are, as our Founders recognized, distinct.

Last week, talk show host Glenn Beck said on his program, "I beg you, look for the words 'social justice' or 'economic justice' on your church website. If you find it, run as fast as you can." To which Jim Wallis, a leader of the Religious Left, responded that Beck "attacks the very heart of our Christian faith, and Christians should no longer watch his show." Wallis's comments indicate how deeply Beck's comments cut. He has been the Left's main proponent of merging the biblical idea of justice with the liberal agenda to transform America into a place where the government orchestrates all facets of the economy. The Bible teaches that the state has a very limited role, a view reflected in the Constitution. One of those roles is not mandating coercive charity-taking from some people to give to others, in the name of "compassion."

That's not compassion—it's theft. And as the failed social programs of the past 40 years have shown, when Big Government usurps the role of churches, private charities, and voluntary associations, it creates dependence on programs that just don't work. So we support true social justice: A transcendent understanding that all human life is sacred, that our liberty is granted by God, and that happiness is ours to pursue. It leads us to seek policies that establish: fair tax policy, economic freedom, greater opportunity for all, and protections for the weak from criminals. But to those who wish to cloak political liberalism in the guise of biblical language, beware. Being a wolf in sheep's clothing is something Scripture strongly condemns.

—Tony Perkins, Family Research Council,  
March 12, 2010

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# A LOOK AT OUR WORLD

more highlights from around the globe

9

## POLITICS AND EDUCATION

President Obama's budget has added more than \$100 billion of federal taxpayer money to what is called "education," so that means it will be spent by alumni of the Saul Alinsky school of radical community organizing and/or the Chicago Democratic machine. We're indebted to Pamela Geller of AtlasShrugs.com for exposing the shocking use of some of these funds.

Obama is using the public schools to recruit a private army of high-schoolers to "build on the movement that elected Present Obama by empowering students across the country to help us bring about our agenda." We now know that Obama's "agenda" is to move the United States into European-style socialism.

Obama's Internet outreach during his campaign, Obama for America, has been renamed Organizing for America (OFA) in order to recruit students to join a cult of Obama and become activists for his goals. Geller discovered that the teacher of an 11th-grade government class in Massillon, Ohio, passed out the sign-up sheet, headed with Obama's "O" logo, asking students to become interns for Organizing for America.

These interns will be given an intensive training course using comprehensive lesson plans. Assigned readings include *Stir It Up: Lessons from Community Organizing and Advocacy* by the left-wing activist Rinku Sen, Saul Alinsky's notorious *Rules for Radicals* and sections of Obama's *Dreams From My Father* dealing with Obama's days as a community organizer.

Republican students will be filtered out of the intern program by requiring applicants to answer questions that reveal their politics, such as: "What one issue facing our country is important to you and why?"

Geller said the purpose of this training to become Alinsky-style community organizers, is "of course, to elect more Democrats."

The sign-up sheet for Organizing for America starts with this instruction: "Organizing for America, the successor organization to Obama for America, is building on the movement that elected President Obama by empowering students across the country to help us bring about our agenda of change." The application explains that this national internship program is "working to make the change we fought so hard for in 2008 a reality in 2010 and beyond."

Geller explained the extensive political dimension of the new intern program. The OFA student interns will be trained in the goals and language of the left: "anti-war agitation, anti-capitalism, Marx, Lenin, [Bill] Ayers, LGBT agenda promotion, global warming, soft-on-jihad, and illegal immigration."

Another item on OFA's reading list is *The New Organizers* by Zack Exley. It brags about "an insurgent generation of organizers" inside the Obama campaign that has "almost without anyone's noticing . . . built the Progressive move-

ment a brand new and potentially durable people's organization, in a dozen states, rooted at the neighborhood level."

The ten-page "National Intern Organizer Curriculum" is very specific about the tactics interns will be taught, including: "Using Story as an Organizing Tool, Building Relationships and Building Teams, Mobilizing to Win On the Issues (issue advocacy), Healthcare Service Project.

Passage of Obamacare is one of this intern project's major goals. The curriculum promises to provide "insight on the strategy and plan behind the healthcare campaign" and "further motivate them to work on this issue."

The sign-up sheet states that the "purpose" of training these students is "to build community" among the interns and teach them "to be leaders in OFA's organizing work." After all, Barack Obama knows a great deal about being a community organizer. That was his only job before he got into politics.

Job prospects may be bleak for many Americans, but they will be rosy for alumni of Obama's intern program. After the students have been fully trained as Alinsky-style community organizers, they will be eligible for jobs in Senior Corps, Ameri-Corps, or Learn and Serve America.

Those three so-called "service" organizations, which annually dole out millions of dollars to left-wing groups, are overseen by the federal Corporation for National and Community Service.

—Phyllis Schlafly, *Human Events*, March 22, 2010, 13

## CLIMATE CHANGE

It took a while, but former Vice President Al Gore finally admits that the scientific community has made mistakes on the issue of climate change.

"It is true that the climate panel published a flawed overestimate of the melting rate of debris-covered glaciers in the Himalayas, and used information about the Netherlands provided to it by the government, which was later found to be partly inaccurate," the global warming guru wrote in an Op-Ed piece for *The New York Times*.

"In addition, e-mail messages stolen from the University of East Anglia in Britain showed that scientists designed by an onslaught of hostile, make-work demands from climate skeptics may not have adequately followed the requirements of the British freedom of information law," he wrote.

It's unrealistic to expect scientific research to be 100 percent error-free, Gore wrote. But the errors have not changed the consensus opinion of the scientific community on climate change, he contended. To wit, he pointed out the following:

- January was the second-hottest in 130 years, globally speaking.

# A LOOK AT OUR WORLD

more highlights from around the globe

10

- The past decade has been the hottest 10 years since records were first kept.
- Warmer temps have been increasing ocean evaporation.

Gore wrapped up his Feb. 28 opinion piece by urging the Senate to pass a cap-and-trade bill that Sens. John Kerry, Lindsey Graham, and Joe Lieberman were introducing in March.

—*Newsmax*, April 2010, 17



When ancient fossils of creatures that live on the ocean floor have been found in rock formations at the summit of Mount Everest, that ought to give us a clue that big changes in the Earth are nothing new, and that huge changes have been going on long before human beings appeared on the scene.

The recent statement that the Earth was warmer in the Middle Ages than it is today, made by the climate scientist who is at the heart of the recent scandal about “global warming” statistics, ought to at least give pause to those who are determined to believe that human beings must be the reason for “climate change.”

Other climate scientists have pointed out before now that the Earth has warmed and cooled many times over the centuries. Contrary to the impression created in much of the media and in politics, no one has denied that temperatures change, sometimes more than they are changing today.

Three years ago, a book by Singer and Avery was published with a title that says it all: *Unstoppable Global Warming: Every 1500 Years*.

Contrary to clever political spin that likened those who refused to join the “global warming” hysteria to people who denied the Holocaust, no one denied that climates change. Indeed, some of the climate scientists who have been the biggest critics of the current hysteria have pointed out that climates had changed back and forth, long before human beings created industrial societies or drove SUVs.

It is those who have been pushing the hysteria who have been playing fast and loose with the facts wanting to keep crucial data from becoming public, and even “losing” some of that data that supposedly proved the most dire consequences. It has not been facts but computer models at the heart of the “global warming” crusade.

Nothing is easier than coming up with computer models that prove almost anything. Back during the 1970s, there were computer models predicting mass starvation and global cooling. The utter failure of those predictions ought to make us at least skeptical of computer models, especially computer models based on data that advocates want to

keep from public view or even “lose” when investigators start closing in.

On climate issues, as on many other issues, the biggest argument of the left has been that there is no argument. The word “science” has been used as a magic mantra to shut up critics, even when those critics have been specialists in climate science.

Stealing the aura of science for political purposes is nothing new for the left. Karl Marx called his brand of Utopianism “scientific socialism.” Even earlier, in the 18th century, the Marquis de Condorcet referred to “engineering” society. In the 20th century, H.G. Wells referred to the creation of a lasting peace as a heavy and complex “piece of mental engineering.”

Genuine science is the opposite of dogmatism, but that does not keep dogmatists from invoking the name of science in order to shut off debate. Science is a method of analysis, rather than simply a set of conclusions. In fact, much of the history of science is a history of having to abandon the prevailing conclusions among scientists, in light of new evidence or new methods of analysis.

When the scientists in England who were promoting “global warming” hysteria sent e-mails out to colleagues, urging them not to reveal certain data and not to let the fact become widely known that there was a freedom-of-information act in Britain, they were behaving like politicians, rather than scientists. The huge political, financial, and ideological investment of many individuals and institutions in the “global warming” hysteria makes it virtually impossible for many of the climate crusaders to gamble it all on a roll of the dice, which is what empirical verification is. It is far safer to dogmatize and to demonize those who think otherwise.

Educators who turn schools into indoctrination centers have been going all out to propagandize a whole generation with Al Gore’s movie, “An Inconvenient Truth”—which has in fact carried a message that has been very convenient for Al Gore financially, producing millions of dollars from his “green” activities.

—Thomas Sowell, *The Gazette* (Colorado Springs)  
April 1, 2010, A13

## HEALTHCARE

I have read the entire text of proposed House Bill 3200: The Affordable Health Care Choices Act of 2009. I studied it with particular emphasis from my area of expertise, constitutional law. I was frankly concerned that parts of the proposed law that were being discussed might be unconstitutional. What I found was far worse than what I had heard or expected. To begin with, much of what has been said about the law and its implications is in fact true, despite what the Democrats and the media are saying. The law does provide for rationing of health care, particularly where senior citizens and other classes of citizens are in-

# A LOOK AT OUR WORLD

*more highlights from around the globe*

11

volved, free health care for illegal immigrants, free abortion services, and probably forced participation in abortions by members of the medical profession. The Bill will also eventually force private insurance companies out of business and put everyone into a government run system. All decisions about personal health care will ultimately be made by federal bureaucrats and most of them will not be health care professionals. Hospital admissions, payments to physicians, and allocations of necessary medical devices will be strictly controlled by the government.

However, as scary as all of that is, it just scratches the surface. In fact, I have concluded that this legislation really has no intention of providing affordable health care choices. Instead, it is a convenient cover for the most massive transfer of power to the Executive Branch of government that has ever occurred, or even been contemplated. If this law or a similar one is adopted, major portions of the Constitution of the United States will effectively have been destroyed.

The first thing to go will be the masterfully crafted balance of power between the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches of the U.S. Government. The Congress will be transferring to the Obama Administration authority in a number of different areas over the lives of the American people and the businesses they own. The irony is that the Congress doesn't have any authority to legislate in most of those areas to begin with. I defy anyone to read the text of the U.S. Constitution and find any authority granted to the members of Congress to regulate health care.

This legislation also provides for access by the appointees of the Obama administration of all of your personal healthcare information, your personal financial information, and the information of your employer, physician, and hospital. All of this is a direct violation of the specific provisions of the 4th Amendment to the Constitution protecting against unreasonable searches and seizures. You can also forget about the right to privacy. That will have been legislated into oblivion regardless of what the 3rd and 4th Amendments may provide. If you decide not to have healthcare insurance or if you have private insurance that is not deemed "acceptable" to the "Health Choices Administrator" appointed by Obama there will be a tax imposed on you. It is called a "tax" instead of a fine because of the intent to avoid application of the due process clause of the 5th Amendment. However, that doesn't work because since there is nothing in the law that allows you to contest or appeal the imposition of the tax, it is definitely depriving someone of property without the due process of law.

So, there are three of those pesky amendments that the far left hate so much, out the original ten in the Bill of Rights, that are effectively nullified by this law. It doesn't stop there though. The 9th Amendment that provides: The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by

the people; The 10th Amendment states: The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are preserved to the States respectively, or to the people. Under the provisions of this piece of Congressional handiwork neither the people nor the states are going to have any rights or powers at all in many areas that once were theirs to control. I could write many more pages about this legislation, but I think you get the idea. This is not about health care; it is about seizing power and limiting rights. Article 6 of the Constitution requires the members of both houses of Congress to "be bound by oath or affirmation to support the Constitution." If I was a member of Congress, I would not be able to vote for this legislation or anything like it, without feeling I was violating that sacred oath or affirmation. If I voted for it anyway, I would hope that American people would hold me accountable. For those who might doubt the nature of this threat, I suggest they consult the source, the US Constitution, and bill of Rights. There you can see exactly what we are about to have taken from us.

—Michael Connelly, Retired attorney,  
Constitutional Law Instructor, Carrollton, Texas

## MARRIAGE

The census study, which tallied the percentage of people divorced at least once over the age of 15 by county, provides "a big step forward in our country's understanding of marriage and divorce rates," says census demographer Diana Elliott.

"For the first time, we now have good, solid marriage and divorce statistics," she tell Newsmax.

Floyd and Madison counties in Indiana also placed among the top 10, as did Putnam and Pinellas counties in Florida. Seven Indiana counties placed in the top 50, as did five Florida counties, but neither state led in state rankings. Indiana is No. 16; Florida, 28.

The top nine divorce states are Wyoming, Oklahoma, Kentucky, Alaska, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Nevada, and Arkansas. In Oklahoma, people keep trying. The state had the highest rate of people who have been married at least three times. Not that it helps much—the Forest Institution of Professional Psychology reports that chances for failure are about 50 percent for first marriages, 67 percent for second, and a staggering 74 percent for third marriages.

Want to wed in one of 10 states where your marriage is likely to last? Try New Hampshire, Connecticut, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Hawaii, New Jersey, New York, and, tops on the list, North Dakota.

Overall, about 2 percent of marriages—roughly 20 out of a thousand—ended in divorce last year, but the statistic represents only a slight increase in the number of people



# A LOOK AT OUR WORLD

*more highlights from around the globe*

12

divorced. However, the percentage of unmarried people in the United States continued its 10-year climb; about one-third of Americans older than 15 are single.

About 43 of first-time marriages will end in divorce, down from the peak of about 50 percent in the 1960s, says Brad Wilcox, director of the National Marriage Project at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

"In the 1950s, everyone got married," Wilcox tells Newsmax. "Today, marriage is the Lexus of relationships, and it used to be the Kia of relationships. The rich and religious get married, and the poor and secular tend to cohabit."

So what? "It matters because we need meaningful statistics to develop effective policy to encourage marriage stability," Wilcox says. "Marriage provides a tremendous amount of social, emotional, and financial resources to children and is a spur to male responsibility."

—Clayton B. Reid, *Newsmax*, April 2010, 20, 21

## ISLAM

A new report from the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) raises concerns about the growing threat from American Muslim extremists.

More than 30 such extremists have been arrested during the past two years on various terror-related charges, including providing material support to terrorists and plotting to plant bombs in the United States, according to the ADL.

The threat came into focus in November, when authorities say Virginia-born Muslim Nidal Malik Hasan opened fire at Fort Hood, Texas, leaving 13 people dead and 29 wounded.

Two months earlier, American Muslim convert Michael Finton was charged with attempting to bomb the federal courthouse in Springfield, Illinois.

Also in September, Najibullah Zazi, a permanent U.S. resident, was charged with conspiracy to use weapons of mass destruction in the United States. He was plotting to blow up commuter trains, officials say.

"An alarming number of recent plots and conspiracies have involved or been led by American Muslim extremists," says Abraham Foxman, the ADL's national director.

"It is a troubling reminder of the broad problem of increased radicalization among a small subset of the domestic Muslim population." Most Muslim extremists in the United States are American-born converts to Islam, first generation Americans, or naturalized U.S. citizens or permanent residents, according to the ADL. They share the belief that they are fighting against a Western enemy that victimizes Muslims around the world.

One factor propelling the threat is the increased availability on the internet of extremist propaganda in English. This material, previously available largely in Arabic, might include instructions for carrying out suicide bombings.

—*Newsmax*, April-June 2010, p. 25