

# •the journal

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2011 | Hillary Term

Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid.  
—Proverbs 12:1 (NKJV)

# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Summit, I want to say thank you for giving me my love for reading back! All my life, I have been an avid reader, since learning how to read at age three, but one year of studying at a godless, liberal college sapped that joy from me. At college, I surprised myself at how I grew less and less fond of reading, but it was because I had to read quickly with the aim of passing a test and because most of the assigned reading was trash. After that year of college, I dangled through only two books that entire summer.

THEN came Summit Semester! Gradually, through the fascinating, godly reading requirements at Summit, combined with the atmosphere of “Read to learn, not to get through the material,” I began to gravitate more and more towards books in my spare time! Now, I’m back to loving to read again!!! Thank you, thank you, for being instrumental in returning the love of reading to me in full force! In my spare time since leaving Summit, that’s all I’ve done—read! And am I glad! Reading is so expanding to the life of a person. How valuable it is to be able to read in a few hours the condensed lifetime’s work of another person!

—Gratefully, M.E., Durango, CO

Summit Semester is our 3-month intensive program for recently graduated high school students who want to hone their intellectual skills and solidify their biblical worldview before they begin college. An added blessing has been the nurturing of Christian friendships. Our scholar-in-residence is Dr. Michael Bauman, Professor of Theology and Culture at Hillsdale College and a longtime Summit speaker. Summit Semester is limited to 30 students and runs from September through November at Snow Wolf Lodge near Pagosa Springs, Colorado. Beginning this fall, students can opt to earn college credit through Bryan College for their participation. Because enrollment is limited, interested students should apply soon.

Let me take this opportunity to highlight the rest of Summit’s overall game plan for those of you who are newer *Journal* readers, friends, and supporters. You probably already know about our two-week student worldview conferences held from mid-May to early-September each year. This summer we have scheduled eight of these in Manitou Springs, Colorado, 1 in Tennessee at Bryan College, and 1 in Wisconsin at the Green Lake Conference Center near Ripon. These conferences are geared for Christian young people 16 years and older who are planning to attend college.

Our Summit Oxford Study Centre is dedicated to scholarship for church and culture. Undergraduates and graduates may apply for the program. There

are two terms, Michaelmas (September through December) and Hilary (January through April). Summit Oxford is directed by scholar-in-residence Kevin James Bywater, who has been on Summit’s staff for over 18 years. Applications for the autumn term are being taken right now!

Summit has also developed worldview curricula for Christian schools. *Building on the Rock* is an integrated worldview and Bible survey curriculum for the six elementary grades. *Lightbearers* is a worldview curriculum for the middle school grades, and *Understanding the Times* is a comprehensive study of 6 major worldviews for high school students. Each of these is biblically based and has a strong emphasis on the Christian worldview. In conjunction with Apologia Press, Summit is also in the process of developing a four-volume home school adaptation of its elementary school curriculum entitled *What We Believe*.

In other words, Summit Ministries has worldview programs and educational materials for Christian families from first grade through the university level. I would encourage you to spread the word in your church, your youth group, your school, and among your friends about all Summit has to offer.

We are living in very exciting times, at least for those of us who understand them (I Chronicles 12:32). It should come as no surprise that we are witnessing the collision of disparate worldviews and at the same time the merger of two world-

## Upcoming Student Conference Schedule

CO Session 01 May 15 – May 27  
CO Session 02 May 29 – June 10  
CO Session 03 June 12 – June 24  
CO Session 04 June 26 – July 08  
TN Session July 10 – July 22  
CO Session 05 July 17 – July 29  
CO Session 06 July 31 – August 12  
WI Session August 07 – August 20  
CO Session 07 August 14 – August 26  
CO Session 08 August 28 – September 09



views that would seem to be incompatible—radical Islam and radical Marxism. These topics will be high on the agenda in our lectures and discussions during our two-week conferences this summer. Every Christian teenager should know what makes these worldviews tick and be able to identify them as they are playing out in our government, public schools, and media as well as across the globe.



The Summit Oxford Study Centre is an advanced worldview program located in Oxford, England. As such, it offers both advanced worldview studies and a study abroad experience. Oxford provides participants with access to world-class scholars and extraordinary opportunities for academic advancement and networks. Being a Summit program means taking ideas seriously, pursuing the truth, loving God with all we are and have, and seeking the well-being of others.

We now are concluding the third year of our program. At the end of the current term, we will have over forty alumni. These are promising Christian scholars and leaders pursuing goals in a variety of disciplines and professions. As professors, pastors, politicians, professionals, and parents, our alumni enjoy deep loyalties to Jesus and his body the church, and a wide and far-reaching vision for loving our neighbors — including our future neighbors, generations hence.

One alumnus from the autumn of 2010 is Andrew Fraser. He is a student at Indiana University-Purdue University, in Indianapolis, studying biomedical engineering. Below he speaks about his studies, his goals, and his time at the Summit Oxford Study Centre.

*Andrew, what is biomedical engineering?*

I am aiming to specialize in tissue engineering, working with stem cells for medical applications, making everything from skin grafts to complete organs. Such endeavors sit on the cutting-edge both of science and medical ethics.

*Why would an emerging Christian scholar choose this field?*

One reason I have chosen this field is illustrated by an interview I did last year with a notable pediatric cardiologist about his work with stem cells. I was appalled that he advocated using stem cells from aborted children. As I see it, embryonic stem cells are not a moral option. Surprisingly, they also are proving not to be a viable scientific resource either. Adult stem cells have greater benefits and potential, providing both a feasible and ethical resource.

*What are your goals?*

I am planning to pursue a PhD in tissues engineering. Beyond that, I look forward to a career in both research and teaching — working in the field and mentoring upcoming students. I would love to advance the field in order to help others, voice my concerns about moral boundaries in the field, and inform Christians about the wonders and ethical challenges of biomedical research.

*How would you briefly summarize your Oxford tutorials?*

Summit Oxford has provided an environment to honestly question, candidly discuss, and critically reason through some tough worldview issues. With the other students, I relish our

deep friendships, our learning and laughing, as well as the mutual challenges and encouragements.

*We spent a lot of time studying the Bible, wrestling with different perspectives, and seeking to both understand and participate in the biblical worldview. What have you learned about the Bible, or about understanding the Bible?*

Through the Summit sessions I have come to see that the Bible cannot fully be understood in bits and pieces. It is a cohesive collection that rightly is read in context. That context is more than simply the preceding verses (though it is that); it is the concert of the whole canon of Scripture. The Scriptures present us with God's metanarrative, not simply an assortment of proof texts. Seeing the Bible this way opened up to me the expansive and beautiful landscape of the biblical worldview.

*What have you gleaned regarding communicating our faith and convictions with others?*

In many of our discussions we considered approaches and tactics for sharing the truths of our faith. I have found the many principles and suggestions helpful. I have learned more from Kevin's example. He gently challenged our presuppositions and preconceptions, lead us logically through fields of ideas and evidence, anticipated our objections, and ably guided us. From this I witnessed the fruitful combination of preparation, tact, compassion, and humility. And I had several opportunities to emulate our discussions with other students here at Oxford University. These other conversations ranged across such territory as evolution, feminism, environmental concerns, politics and religion.

*What are your feelings on having lived in Oxford for four months?*

Several times each day there are little moments where you realize, "Wow, I'm really in Oxford!" It may happen during even-song in the cathedral where John and Charles Wesley were ordained, looking at a first edition of a work by John Locke, eating in a grand college hall, or sitting at your desk with what seems like the most impossible assignment you have ever had. There's really nothing quite like it.



Applications for the Summit Oxford program — autumn 2011 and winter/spring 2012 — are now being received. Read more about the program and download an application at [www.summitoxford.org](http://www.summitoxford.org).

# A LOOK AT OUR WORLD

## BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY

Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid. A good man obtains favor from the LORD, but a man of wicked intentions He will condemn. A man is not established by wickedness, but the root of the righteous cannot be moved. An excellent wife is the crown of her husband, but she who causes shame is like rotteness in his bones. The thoughts of the righteous are right, but the counsels of the wicked are deceitful. The words of the wicked are, "Lie in wait for blood," but the mouth of the upright will deliver them. The wicked are overthrown and are no more, but the house of the righteous will stand. A man will be commended according to his wisdom, but he who is of a perverse heart will be despised.

—Proverbs 12:1–8 (NKJV)

This year marks the four-hundredth anniversary of the publication of the King James Bible, and the King James Bible Trust in the United Kingdom is organizing a number of events to celebrate the anniversary. The celebration has attracted at least one unexpected supporter: Richard Dawkins.

"You can't appreciate English literature unless you are steeped to some extent in the King James Bible," he explained on the Trust's website, adding that "We are a Christian culture, we come from a Christian culture, and not to know the King James Bible is to be in some small way, barbarian." He did his part with a reading of a chapter from the Song of Solomon for the Trust's YouTube Bible project.

Just when you think that there may be some hope for Richard Dawkins, he adds that "religion should not be allowed to hijack this cultural resource." By "hijack," he seems to mean, "act as if the reasons it is now a cultural resource matter." You know, Professor Dawkins, it's our book. The people who want to take it over as a cultural symbol with no religious relevance are the hijackers.

—*First Things*, Mar 2011, p. 68

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

There were plenty of violent revolutions during the time of Jesus, and Jesus had several Zealots in his inner circle. But he was teaching them another way of life. I am reminded of how Gandhi said that if he had to choose between a violent person and a coward, he would choose the violent person. For a violent person can be taught to love, but very little can be done with a coward. We are students of a gentle revolution, and that is what the world needs more of, whether you're conservative or liberal. It was Argentinian doctor and pop-revolution icon Che Guevara who said, as he was leaving Cuba for Africa, "Let me say, at the risk of seeming ridiculous, that the true revolutionary is guided by great

feelings of love."

Just as "believers" are a dime a dozen in the church, so are "activists" in social justice circles nowadays. But lovers are hard to come by. And I think that's what our world is desperately in need of—lovers, people who are building deep, genuine relationships with fellow strugglers along the way, and who actually know the faces of the people behind the issues they are concerned about. We are trying to raise up an army not simply of street activists but of lovers—a community of people who have fallen desperately in love with God and with suffering people, and who allow those relationships to disturb and transform them.

—Shane Claiborne, *The Irresistible Revolution: Living as an Ordinary Radical*, p. 295–296

"A revolutionary must become a cold killing machine motivated by pure hate. We execute from revolutionary conviction."

—Ernesto 'Che' Guevara, *American Thinker*, Dec 18, 2008

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Shane Claiborne's book, published by Zondervan and forwarded by Jim Wallis of *Sojourners* fame, is presently being used in evangelical churches to seduce evangelical young people to accept the Marxist gospel of Jim Wallis, Tony Campolo, and other leftwing nuts! No sane evangelical Christian would hold up the communist Che Guevara as an example for discipleship. Come on! Che Guevara was Fidel Castro's executioner! (See Humberto Fontova, *Exposing the Real Che Guevara and the Useful Idiots who Idolize Him*—Sentinel Publishers, 2007.) The ugly truth is that nearly all leftwing Christians are useful idiots. That may seem a bit harsh but a studied read of Paul Ken- gor's *Dupes* will more than verify such an allegation. Evangelical churches using Claiborne's book need to apologize to their young people. And for proper penance these churches need to send these young people to Summit Ministries' two-week youth camps to undo the spiritual and intellectual damage done. In the meantime, a further read of my *You Can Still Trust the Communists to be Communists* will set the record straight regarding Jim Wallis and his radicalism.

A new film and website produced under the aegis of the relief arm of the National Association of Evangelicals touts the pro-amnesty cause to young evangelicals. Called Undocumented.tv, the film and website explain that their advocacy for the "undocumented," i.e. illegal immigrants, is premised on "Caucasian evangelicals" being "especially obligated to speak for those who cannot speak." It also explains that il-

legal immigration ostensibly facilitates evangelism in the U.S. and it notes that since white evangelicals “mostly sat out” the 1960s era Civil Rights Movement, “we don’t want to make the same mistake” on what could be “the great justice issue of our time.”

But “justice” for whom? Undocumented.tv seems largely aimed at upper middle class, educated, white evangelicals who are slightly guilty about their privileges and are atoning through amnesty advocacy. All immigrants, whether legal or illegal, and no matter where they are from or why they came to the U.S., are characteristically lumped together, with their political and economic interests portrayed as interchangeable. Do legal immigrants as a whole favor mass legalization for all illegal immigrants? Does a legal immigrant Indian engineer have the same opinions as a Sudanese political refugee or an illegal laborer from Mexico? Or are these questions irrelevant in terms of what may be the ultimate goal: easy good feelings for aspiring social activists in search of a “justice” cause.

Like most Evangelical Left amnesty advocacy, Undocumented.tv largely avoids specifics, especially statistics. The US accepts about 1 million legal immigrants every year. Almost 40 million Americans currently are immigrants who gained legal status. Most legal immigrants every year involve family reunification, for which there is virtually no ceiling, at least for immediate family. Only a small minority of legal immigrants annually fit professional job quotas, are refugees, or are seeking asylum. Current U.S. immigration policy, which accepts more immigrants every decade than the total population of most states, is extraordinarily generous. It is not particularly focused on attracting highly educated, easily employable immigrants who quickly benefit the U.S. economy. Instead, it prioritizes family reunification, and to a much lesser degree, refugees, and asylum seekers.

Few of any of these details interest the conscience salving political advocacy of liberal evangelicals. Their amnesty advocacy would primarily privilege Latin American illegal immigrants, especially Mexico and Central America, over virtually all other immigrants. Mexico and Central America are not as wealthy as the U.S. but neither are they among the world’s poorest nations. Immigrants from those countries currently are typically not fleeing political or religious persecution. The vast majority of illegal immigrants from that region want jobs with better income, plus the social services, and overall standard of living that accompany residency in the U.S., even for the “undocumented.” Their desires are humanly understandable. But a purely humanitarian immigration policy would prioritize immigration from much poorer nations, especially those dealing with famine or extreme political or religious persecution. An immigration policy purely focused on U.S. national interests might prioritize highly educated immigrant experts in highly desirable professional fields.

Somewhat illogically, Undocumented.tv, like its patron,

the National Association of Evangelicals, mostly wants to ratify the status quo, legalizing ever larger numbers of unskilled Latin American immigrants, heedless of the consequences. This initiative, focused as it is on emotional appeal rather than facts, emphasizes the evangelistic opportunity of large-scale immigration to the U.S. But Christianity, especially its evangelical variant, is dramatically growing in Latin America and virtually everywhere around the world, except for Europe and oppressive Muslim countries. Christian evangelism hardly depends on unlimited immigration to the U.S. When Undocumented.tv does try to assert facts supportive of its political cause, its claims are suspect. Its website asserts immigrants, in a typical lifetime, pay \$80,000 more in taxes than they cost in government services. First, the website does not distinguish between legal and illegal immigrants, nor between skilled and unskilled immigrants. Secondly, it seemingly contradicts other data. A 2007 Heritage Foundation report showed that low-skilled immigrant households, of whom 40 percent were illegal, each cost nearly \$20,000 in government services more than in all taxes paid.

—Mark D. Tooley, FrontPageMagazine, Jan 25, 2011

## MARXISM AND ISLAM

The communist revolutionary Left has sought to support Arab terrorists and extremists for half a century. The goal of Moscow was to create a permanent instability in the Middle East that they could engineer to their geopolitical advantage. Arafat and the PLO were at the core of the Kremlin strategy.

Yasser Arafat based his PLO in Tunisia for well over a decade and was brought back in to prominence by the Bush/Clinton-era State Department during the Oslo years. In 1994 when Arafat entered Gaza, the PLO was headquartered in Tunis.

Beyond being a dedicated Muslim, Arafat was a consistent supporter of repressive, anti-American, communist regimes. It should be recalled that Arafat notoriously praised Beijing’s bloody response to the Tiananmen Square protests in 1989.

According to the Xinhua News Agency (June 27) Arafat wrote to General Secretary Jiang Zemin:

On behalf of the Arab Palestinian people, their leadership, and myself, I express the warmest, most sincere congratulations to you, dear comrade, on your appointment to general secretary of the Communist Party of China, and take this opportunity to express extreme gratification that you were able to restore normal order after the recent incidents in People’s China.

Where did Arafat’s close relationship with the communists originate?

In 1964, when the Fatah was in its infancy, Arafat and Abu Jihad traveled to Beijing for meetings there to earn support for their “armed struggle.” In 1965, Abu Jihad was introduced to Che while Guevara was in Algeria during the celebrations there after the revolution.



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The anti-Zionism/anti-Semitism of the Marxists has spread to the non-Communist far left in the decades since. This has mirrored the rise in popularity of Che (and his image) from just a martyr of the Marxists to a symbol of an extremely large portion of the left.

The Marxist/Islamist Unholy Alliance indoctrinated millions through a steady diet of anti-West and anti-Israel propaganda for half a century.

The demands for freedom and elections (and even democracy) should not be followed by expectations that there will be demands for a closer relationship with the West in general or with the U.S. in particular let alone seen as a sign of any tolerance for Israel.

—Moshe Phillips, *NewsReel*, Feb 22, 2011

## HISTORY

The American Left provided Moscow with a target-rich environment for dupes.

Fortunately for the Kremlin, liberal American journalists seemed to relish the opportunity to contest Reagan’s anti-Communist claims. They were not Communists, of course, but they shared the Soviets’ revulsion of expressive anti-Communism. More than that, Reagan was a Republican who stood between the Democrats and the White House. Thus, many journalists shared the Soviets’ desire to embarrass the president.

Consequently, some members of the Reagan administra-

tion created an internal counter-response team to deal with the double assault from Soviet Communists and liberal American journalists. An unofficial team within the Reagan administration tasked itself with verifying Soviet quotations cited by Reagan, in order to be able to defend the president against charges leveled by the American media and by Soviet propagandists. This group worked primarily out of the United States Information Agency (USIA).

USIA ended up working a form of “public diplomacy” for the Reagan administration that has been neglected in histories of the Reagan administration and the Cold War. The agency was headed by old Reagan friend Charlie Wick, who worked closely with Ambassador Gil Robinson, among others. The unofficial front man for handling the Soviet quotes Reagan cited was Herb Romerstein, America’s top expert on everything Communist. As a former Communist himself, Romerstein knew his Marxism-Leninism and could be called upon at any moment to certify the authenticity of certain quotes.

Other members of the Reagan administration outside of USIA helped support the president’s strategic use of strong rhetoric against the USSR. One of those figures was top Reagan aide and confidant Bill Clark, who headed the National Security Council in 1982 and 1983, and was the single most important Reagan adviser in the effort to take down the Soviet Union. Clark worked closely with Ambassador Robinson at USIA. Another Reagan administration official, Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams, reached out to Clark. A fascinating letter from Abrams to Clark, which today sits in Clark’s private boxes at his ranch in Paso Robles, California, illustrates the degree to which Reagan officials came to the president’s defense when he was attacked for revealing

## Honored Active Duty Summit Alumni



SGT TJ Amdahl is a 2005 Summit Alum and Navy Seal currently stationed in San Diego, CA with team seven of the Navy Seals.



CPT Michael Bales is a 2000 Summit alum and a Blackhawk pilot with the 3-10 Aviation Battalion currently serving in Afghanistan.

Please keep these soldiers and their families in your prayers.

the true nature of Soviet Communism.

Abrams, who dealt with Latin American affairs at the State Department, was a Harvard J.D. who was long accustomed to confronting vicious, and often specious, charges from the Left. In a typed letter dated March 10, 1983—not coincidentally, two days after President Reagan called the USSR an “evil empire,” for which he was being derided—Abrams began, “Dear Bill: Press people may well ask on what basis the President says that the communists have no morality, so herewith are two useful quotes from Lenin which can be used as backing for the President’s statements.” With full citations from the Selected Works of Lenin, Abrams passed along the source for the most commonly contested Lenin quote used by Reagan, “We repudiate all morality...,” as well as a Lenin gem that Reagan had not yet employed: “We have never rejected terror on principle, nor can we do so. Terror is a form of military operation that may be usefully applied.”

Abrams, who had worked for Clark at the State Department, knew that Clark was closer to Reagan than any other White House figure, including in terms of shared perception of the Communist threat. Abrams knew that Bill Clark would hold on to the letter, which he did.

In short, the president’s defenders were arming themselves behind the scenes. They were forced to do so, as the American and Soviet media were lining up the cannons, with the same anti-Communist target in their sights.

—Paul Kengor, *Dupes*, p. 375–376

## SOCIALISM

This is a common trope on the left: “Socialism” sounds scary, but we’re really talking about things like public schools and public highways. Education blogger Jerry Webster, writing at About.com, headlined his post on nationalizing teacher-pay decisions “Give Socialism a Chance.” Writing in the arts and humanities journal *Helium*, Daniel Reneau asks, “Like public schools? . . . Then say, ‘Thank you, socialism!’” Other writers on the left have similarly argued that the popularity of the public schools suggests that Americans are more comfortable with socialism than they let on.

As indeed they are. The public schools constitute one of the most popular instantiations of socialism in American life, though Social Security and government-funded transportation systems no doubt rank nearly as high. But popular with whom? Certainly the educators and administrators who run the system are largely pleased with it, as they should be; the noncompetitive nature of government-run education provides them with salaries and benefits far exceeding what they plausibly could earn in the private sector. Some parents and property owners are very happy with the public schools as well. The well-off and well-connected tend to enjoy reasonably good public schools, which help sustain high residential real-estate values in the largely suburban communities that host them. But other Americans are much less pleased with

their government schools, particularly the poor, non-whites, and those living in inner cities. Black families, in particular, consistently rate their government schools as performing poorly, and their subjective impressions are borne out by empirical data. The public schools are not a random or inexplicable failure. They are a classical socialist failure, with massively misallocated resources, an ensconced bureaucratic class, and a needlessly impoverished client class.

—Kevin D. Williamson, “Socialism is Back,”  
*National Review*, Jan 24, 2011, p. 36

Public schools fail for the same reason that all socialist enterprises fail: lack of information. In marketplace transactions, prices communicate critical information about who is producing what, who is consuming what, and what it is that producers and consumers want and need. This information is always local and contingent and is otherwise impossible to aggregate. This is not a new argument: Socialism’s real intellectual death-blow was dealt in 1920 by Mises based on the relatively dry and technical question of the use and nature of prices in an economy.

As we know from the Labor Theory of Value, socialists of the Marxian bent hold prices to be at some level objective. Somewhere out there, in the economic ether, is a universally true and just price for any given prescription drug, rent-controlled apartment, semester’s tuition, or credit card fee. In part, this is an outgrowth of socialism’s pretense that it is a scientific system for understanding and organizing a society. If economic values are in constant, unpredictable flux, then central planning is impossible. To counteract that criticism, socialism posits that economic values are fixed and knowable. For the socialist, a product has a certain value, and it is a moral imperative that the worker be compensated at a level equal to the value of the thing produced.

Under the socialist understanding, prices are endogenous, an aspect of the thing itself, reflecting the material, resources, time, expertise, and—above all—the labor involved in its creation. But for Mises, and for practically all modern economists, prices are exogenous, reflecting only how people value a particular product. This may seem like an oversimplification—a product is worth only what you can sell it for—but, in practice, the radical subjectivism of Mises provides an infinitely richer and more nuanced model of pricing—and thus of human action—than does the static Marxist model. That’s because the Mises model asks not only, “What is it worth?” but, “What is it worth? To whom? At what time? In what context? In relation to what other goods?”

Where there are no real market transactions, there are

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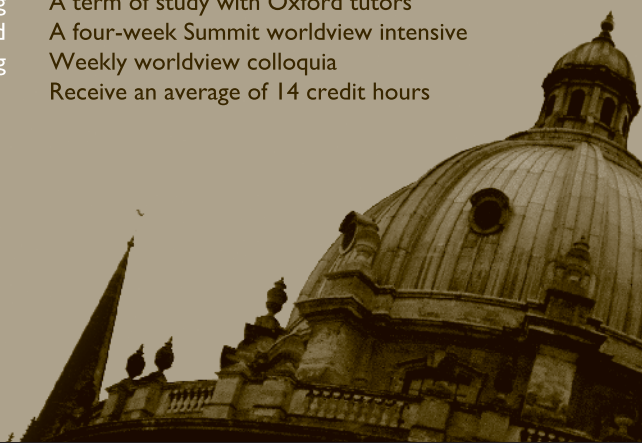
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no real prices. Where there are no real prices, there is not much real knowledge about actual economic conditions. In the United States, we have an education system that already is socialized to a greater extent than Lenin managed for Soviet agriculture. We have a health-care system that is well more than half socialized. We have a mortgage market that is largely socialized. Not surprisingly, our schools, our health-care system, and our mortgage market are the three most prominent failures of major institutions in recent memory. That is not the fault of Barack Obama and his hidden socialism. That is the fault of longstanding American economic policy and its unhidden socialism. If you are worried about socialism, start at the schoolhouse, not the White House.

—Ibid

## SCIENCE

The physical sciences, then, depend on the validity of logic just as much as metaphysics or mathematics. If popular thought feels “science” to be different from all other kinds of knowledge because science is experimentally verifiable, popular thought is mistaken. Experimental verification is not a new kind of assurance coming in to supply the deficiencies of mere logic. We should therefore abandon the distinction between scientific and non-scientific thought. The proper distinction is between logical and non-logical thought. I mean, the proper distinction for our present purpose: that purpose being to find whether there is any class of thoughts which has objective value, which is to merely a fact about how the human cortex behaves. For that purpose we can make no distinction between science and other logical exercises of thought, for if logic is discredited science must go down along with it.

—C.S. Lewis, *Christian Reflections*

Whether it's the Beatles or Beethoven, people like music for the same reason they like eating or having sex: It makes the brain release a chemical that gives pleasure, a new study says.

The brain substance is involved both in anticipating a particularly thrilling musical moment and in feeling the rush from it, researchers found.

Previous work had already suggested a role for dopamine, a substance brain cells release to communicate with each other. But the new work, which scanned people's brains as they listened to music, shows it happening directly.

While dopamine normally helps us feel the pleasure of eating or having sex, it also helps produce euphoria from illegal drugs. It's active in particular circuits of the brain.

The tie to dopamine helps explain why music is so widely popular across cultures, Robert Zatorre and Valorie Salimpoor of McGill University in Montreal write in an article

posted online by the journal *Nature Neuroscience*.

The study used only instrumental music, showing that voices aren't necessary to produce the dopamine response, Salimpoor said. It will take further work to study how voices might contribute to the pleasure effect, she said.

The researchers described brain-scanning experiments with eight volunteers who were chosen because they reliably felt chills from particular moments in some favorite pieces of music. That characteristic let the experimenters study how the brain handles both anticipation and arrival of a musical rush.

Results suggested that people who enjoy music but don't feel chills are also experiencing dopamine's effects, Zatorre said.

PET scans showed the participants' brains pumped out more dopamine in a region called the striatum when listening to favorite pieces of music than when hearing other pieces. Functional MRI scans showed where and when those releases happened. Dopamine surged in one part of the striatum during the 15 seconds leading up to a thrilling moment, and a different part when that musical highlight finally arrived.

The study volunteers chose a wide range of music—from classical and jazz to punk, tango and even bagpipes. The most popular were Barber's Adagio for Strings, the second movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, and Debussy's Claire de Lune.

Dr. Gottfried Schlaug, an expert on music and the brain at Harvard Medical School, called the study “remarkable” for the combination of techniques it used. While experts had indirect indications that music taps into the dopamine system, he said, the new work “really nails it.”

—Associated Press, Jan 13, 2011

One of the biggest untold news stories in recent times concerns the admissions that the temperature data used by NOAA, NASA, Britain's University of East Anglia Climatic Research Unit (UEA-CRU), and others in their apocalyptic scenarios are hopelessly corrupted and incapable of providing any meaningful input for policy decisions, especially decisions to impose radical, global CO2 regulations. In one of the many “Climategate” e-mails, for instance, Ian “Harry” Harris, the CRU programmer, lamented about the “hopeless state of their (CRU) database. No uniform data integrity, it's just a catalogue of issues that continues to grow as they're found.” Harris again: “Aarrggghhh! There truly is no end in sight. This whole project is SUCH A MESS. NO wonder I needed therapy!!”

CRU's leading alarmist, Dr. Phil Jones, confessed to the BBC that CRU “surface temperature data are in such disarray they probably cannot be verified or replicated.” Can't be verified or replicated? Then you have no science! Which is why Jones and his CRU colleagues have had to employ

# A LOOK AT OUR WORLD

what they call “fudge factors” to come up with their scary warming scenarios.

And NASA and NOAA have fudge problems of their own. In a policy paper entitled *Surface Temperature Records: Policy-Driven Deception?* published in August 2010 by the Science & Public Policy Institute (SPPI), meteorologists Joseph D’Aleo and Anthony Watts point out the huge discovery that more than 75 percent of the weather stations around the globe have been inexplicably “lost” by the “Scientists” at NASA/NOAA. Moreover, most of those “lost” weather stations happen to be from the planet’s colder areas—from the higher altitudes, the higher latitudes, and the rural areas—thereby conveniently providing NASA, NOAA, and CRU with an automatic temperature rise that more than accounts for the exaggerated “global warming” reports of recent decades.

—*The New American*, Feb 7, 2011, p. 7

## POLITICS

Sometimes it’s necessary to get out on the streets and “get a little bloody,” a Massachusetts Democrat said Tuesday in reference to labor battles in Wisconsin.

Rep. Michael Capuano (D-MA) fired up a group of union members in Boston with a speech urging them to work down in the trenches to fend off limits to workers’ rights like those proposed in Wisconsin.

“I’m proud to be here with people who understand that it’s more than just sending an email to get you going,” Capuano said, according to the *Dorchester Reporter*. “Every once and awhile you need to get out on the streets and get a little bloody when necessary.”

Political observers have been the lookout for potentially incendiary rhetoric in the wake of January’s shooting in Tucson, AZ, where Rep. Gabrielle Giffords (D) survived an assassination attempt, six were killed, and 13 others were injured.

—*The Hill’s Energy Blog*, Feb 23, 2011

As pressure mounts on the White House to intervene to stop Moammar Gadhafi’s bloody crackdown in Libya, many commentators have been wondering why Barack Obama has been cautious in his criticism of the dictator after the U.S. president so fervently supported the removal from office of US ally Hosni Mubarak of Egypt.

But Gadhafi has been tied to Rev. Jeremiah Wright, Obama’s spiritual adviser for more than 23 years.

The Libyan dictator also has financed and strongly supported the Nation of Islam and its leader, Louis Farrakhan. Obama has ties to Farrakhan and his controversial group.

So far, White House officials have called for an end to the violence but have seemingly ruled out any unilateral action in Libya. Despite Gadhafi’s reported ordering of mas-

sacres that reportedly have killed hundreds of civilians in recent days, Obama hasn’t called on Gadhafi to leave office.

Pressure has been mounting on Obama to take a tougher stand, with the chairmen of the House and Senate foreign relations committees calling on the White House to re-impose economic sanctions on Libya that were lifted in 2004.

But Obama has multiple close ties to activists who have had relationships with Gadhafi.

Jeremiah Wright, former pastor of Obama’s longtime Chicago church, went with Farrakhan to visit Gadhafi in 1984.

During the 2008 presidential campaign, Wright himself noted the trip could cause problems for Obama.

“When [Obama’s] enemies find out that in 1984 I went to Tripoli to visit [Gadhafi] with Farrakhan, a lot of his Jewish support will dry up quicker than a snowball in hell.”

Farrakhan, a close friend and associate of Wright, has been financed by Gadhafi, including with a \$5 million interest-free loan in 1985.

Later that year, Gadhafi spoke by satellite to Farrakhan’s Saviour’s Day Convention in Chicago, and reportedly told Farrakhan supporters he was prepared to provide weapons to a black army in the U.S. to destroy “white America.”

In October 1995, Gadhafi reportedly called Farrakhan with congratulations on the success of the Million Man March. Gadhafi was said to have assured Farrakhan that together “we will unite our capabilities and efforts to achieve this.”

According to reports in 1996 from Libya’s news agency, JANA, Farrakhan and Gadhafi agreed to work together to mobilize “oppressed blacks, Arabs, Muslims, and Red Indians” to help reshape U.S. foreign policy.

Gadhafi said that until his alliance with the Nation of Islam, “our confrontation with America was like a fight against a fortress from outside.”

He asserted his alliance with Farrakhan provides him with “a breach to enter into this fortress and confront it.”

Farrakhan went to Libya for multiple other events. He was the recipient in 1996 of the Gadhafi Human Rights Award, which came with a \$250,000 prize. Farrakhan accepted the prize despite U.S. sanctions on Libya.

Wright and Obama reportedly attended the Million Man March on Washington, which was led by Farrakhan and other prominent black leaders such as Al Sharpton.

Rev. Willie Barrow, a member of the Obama campaign’s official Faith Outreach Team and an Obama superdelegate, is a close friend of Farrakhan’s and a staunch Nation of Islam supporter.

Farrakhan stated in a 2002 interview he met with Barrow to devise his Nation of Islam platforms.

Marxist activist Cornel West, an adviser to Farrakhan, also had been an adviser to Obama’s 2008 campaign and is a close Obama associate and personal friend.

During the period of Obama’s attendance at Wright’s Trinity United Church, which practices controversial Black

Liberation Theology ideology, the Chicago church was openly allied with Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam.

Wright gave Farrakhan his 2007 Empowerment Award. Farrakhan delivered multiple guest lectures at the church.

Wright has been involved in Farrakhan initiatives and labeled him “one of the most important voices in the 20th and 21st century” during a national address to the media in April at which Nation of Islam officials were invited guests.

Obama has appeared at least three times on the cover of Trumpet magazine, founded by Wright. The magazine, to which Obama last year granted a lengthy, exclusive interview, regularly hails Farrakhan.

Obama’s face was featured on the cover of a 2006 issue of Trumpet alongside Farrakhan’s image.

During the 2008 presidential campaign, a 2004 photo emerged of Obama’s wife, Michelle, posing with Farrakhan and Obama adviser Barrow at a woman’s luncheon for the Rainbow/Push Coalition for which Barrow serves as chairman emeritus.

In the picture with Michelle Obama is Khadijah Farrakhan, Louis Farrakhan’s wife.

Another Obama connection to supporters of Farrakhan comes from David Axelrod, Obama’s chief political strategist.

Although he is Jewish, Axelrod sits on the finance committee of St. Sabina, the Chicago Catholic parish that was led by controversial pastor Michael Pfleger, an outspoken Farrakhan supporter who hosted the Nation of Islam chief at his parish several times.

The Archdiocese of Chicago temporarily removed Pfleger from his duties at St. Sabina in 2008 following a well-publicized guest sermon at Trinity church in which Pfleger claimed Hillary Clinton cried in public because she thought being white entitled her to the Democratic presidential nomination.

Pfleger hosted Farrakhan at his church several times, including one May 2007 sermon that was Farrakhan’s first public appearance since he announced in 2006 he had been suffering from prostate cancer and was seriously ill.

According to reports, Pfleger spent hours with the Nation of Islam chief during his illness. Pfleger previously enlisted Farrakhan’s support for several of his initiatives, including an anti-gun protest in 2007.

—Aaron Klein, Brenda J. Elliott,  
WorldNetDaily, Feb 23, 2011

## EGYPT

The Christmas season brought murderous attacks on Christians in Iraq, the Philippines, Nigeria, and Egypt. A visibly distressed Pope Benedict spoke publicly of “these absurd acts of violence.” In all cases, Islamist extremists have convinced themselves that they are restoring the caliphate, and if Christians will not submit, then they must be killed or driven out. The Christians of Iraq have understood the message, and some two-thirds of the community—more than half

a million people—have fled. Now it is the turn of the Christian Copts in Egypt, thought to be about 8 million strong, or 10 percent of the population. On New Year’s Eve in Alexandria, the country’s largest city after Cairo, a suicide bomber self-detonated at the end of Mass, killing 21 and wounding 97. Even before this outrage Copts had been regularly targeted, and churches set on fire. In power for 30 years, President Mubarak has made sure to clamp down hard on Islamists, but now he is 82 and not well. He and his son are already deep in a struggle for power with the Islamists. These parishioners may be casualties of that struggle.

—*National Review*, Jan 24, 2011, p. 10

The Egyptian government has been an impediment to the advance of “revolutionary Islam.” The State Department notes, “The Egyptian government’s active opposition to terrorism, and its effective intelligence and security services, made Egypt an unattractive locale for terrorist groups...” Egypt has also been preventing weapons from going to the terrorist group Hamas in Gaza.

For this reason, Weather Underground terrorists Bill Ayers and Bernardine Dohrn actually participated in protests in Egypt in January 2010 on behalf of the “Gaza Freedom March,” in order to deliver “humanitarian aid” to Hamas-run Gaza. Israel conducted a raid in May 2010 on a flotilla delivering “aid” to Gaza. Endorsers of the Gaza Freedom March include Noam Chomsky, a member of the board of the Committees of Correspondence for Democracy and Socialism, a spin-off from the Communist Party; and Howard Zinn, the late “historian” exposed by his FBI file as a secret member of the Communist Party USA.

In this context, because of the mounting evidence of U.S.-based support for foreign terrorist groups, members of the FBI’s Joint Terrorism Task Force on September 24, 2010, raided the home and office of Michael Kelly, a member of the Freedom Road Socialist Organization, an openly communist group in the US. The Freedom Road Socialist Organization describes itself as a revolutionary socialist and Marxist-Leninist organization in the United States.

The FBI raids were designed, according to legal documents in the case, to find connections to the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), and the Lebanese Islamic terrorist group Hezbollah. FBI agents specifically declared they were looking for evidence of illegal FRSO support to foreign terrorist organizations.

—Cliff Kincaid, “U.S.-based Marxists Subvert Friendly Regimes and Support Foreign Terrorist Organizations,” p. 3



# A LOOK AT OUR WORLD

## SOCIOLOGY

Since 1980, Thomas Sowell has been a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution on the campus of Stanford University. It's here that I have that conversation with him. He has a reputation for irascibility and cussedness. And he is surely one of the bluntest men in America. But I have always found him affable and delightful, with a ready and hearty laugh. Indeed, it is one of the readiest and heartiest laughs I know. Though he has not lived in New York for many years, he has an accent that screams of that city. For example, the universities are overrun by Mawxists."

—Jay Nordlinger, *National Review*, Feb 21, 2011, p. 43

Asked to comment on abortion, Sowell says, first, that the courts should have stayed out of the matter. "They were solving what was basically a non-problem. There was no serious controversy over abortion prior to *Roe v. Wade*." States were addressing the issue in their various ways. Second, it is almost impossible to get "an honest discussion" about abortion. No one will say what an abortion actually is. We resort to euphemism and other methods of avoidance. Sowell says that, like many people, he had always thought of abortion in a particular way: An "unformed mass of cells" existed "somewhere in the body"; a doctor removed it, and that was that. But "once I began to learn about these ultrasounds," it was plain that "there's a little person in there," which is a "different ballgame." Sowell notes that people like to say, "A woman has a right to do whatever she wants with her own body." But it should be obvious that there's another body in question.

Now to another "hot-button issue," namely gay marriage. Many conservatives, even those opposed, believe that it is inevitable. Does Sowell? "Nothing is inevitable until it happens. But I am enormously pessimistic." As indicated by those words, he believes that gay marriage would be a harmful development. "There is no gay marriage. There is marriage and then there's the redefinition of marriage. And if you are going to redefine marriage for the gays, why in the world not for polygamists?" Why not for others as well? The debate about gays in the military, Sowell says, has been "very depressing." "We talk about the right of gays to be in the military. Nobody has a right to be in the military. The military doesn't exist as a jobs program. I mean, their job is to stop other people from killing us, and at the risk of their own lives."

—*Ibid.*, p. 45

Be open-minded, modern, and progressive. Show up at your local karaoke joint in coming days and sing the Village People's YMCA in a manner that respects the modern and progressive new brand of the YMCA, which is a logo

that de-emphasizes the "MCA" part—the part that stands for Men's Christian Association. This will make you look cool.

You can do it. Just stand at the microphone and belt out the following: "It's fun to stay at the Y; it's fun to stay at the Y... young gender-unspecified person, young gender-unspecified person, there's no need to feel down; young gender-unspecified person, young gender-unspecified person pick yourself off the ground..."

At the next wedding dance or high school reunion, do the YMCA dance without making the "MCA" symbols with your arms. Just make the "Y," then stand there with a straight face as if nothing is wrong. You will be up with the times.

Advocates of the YMCA's image makeover say it speaks to the progressive nature of the club. Apparently, it's not mod to be called the Young Men's Christian Association in 2010, even though it's among the more successful and well-known brands in the world.

Now it will be just the Young, with the men's Christian part appearing only in agate. Non-Christians and women will have no need to feel down. Only the old will have need to pick themselves off the ground.

Here's the best part: "The Christian principles will never change: spirit, mind, and body," said Wendy Brez Dahl, communications director of the YMCA of the Pikes Peak Region.

Christianity and other religions have led to war and corruption throughout the world. Far more commonly, they have provided great charity and community-building through amazing organizations like the YMCA, which shall be called merely the Y.

Most of us already called it that, so Y not?

—*The [Colorado Springs] Gazette*, Jul 18, 2010, p. A14

President Obama says his "attitudes" toward same-sex marriage are "evolving." To say that he is telegraphing a flip-flop is to understate the cynicism of the gesture. The truth is that the president's opposition to same-sex marriage has never been anything more than rhetorical. He openly supported same-sex marriage when he was appealing to left-wingers at the start of his political career. While claiming to be opposed to it in subsequent years, he has also opposed doing anything to stop it. Thus when California's supreme court read same-sex marriage into the state constitution, he opposed a ballot initiative to take it out. He oppose the Defense of Marriage Act, which protects states from having to recognize same-sex marriages contracted elsewhere. His administration, in the course of supposedly defending that law in court, has abandoned arguments that courts had previously used to uphold it—and a federal judge cited its weak showing as a reason for striking down the law. So what the president is really saying is that he will stop even pretending to oppose same-sex marriage the moment the polls indicate it is safe to do

so. Nobody who has been paying attention needed the hint.  
—*National Review*, Jan 24, 2011, p. 6

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Late Wednesday afternoon, without advance notice and without fanfare, Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick signed an Executive Order mandating the acceptance of “gender identity and expression”—including transsexuality, cross-dressing, and related behaviors—throughout state government. The order also requires affirmative action in the hiring of transsexuals and diversity training for all.

We believe it’s the most extreme executive order ever issued in the U.S. Among the provisions of the executive order:

- The order affects all state agencies and employees, and also contractors and sub-contractors doing business with the state. However, it will technically only apply to contractors when new contracts containing this requirement are signed.
- “Gender identity or expression” will now cover a protected class of people similar to race, religion, sex, etc. However, that new term is not defined, which will likely lead to more abuse of the system by activists.
- Affirmative action for cross-dressers, etc. The order directs all state agencies to “develop and implement affirmative action and diversity plans” to “identify, recruit, hire, develop, promote, and retain” cross-dressers and other members of “under-represented” groups.
- Mandatory diversity training on transgenderism, etc. The order states that “all agency heads, managers, supervisors, and employees shall attend mandatory diversity training within one year of the effective date of this Order. For future hires, such training shall be part of the standardized orientation provided to new employees.”

—Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition,  
Feb. 17, 2011

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“The civil war in the Republican Party takes another turn when Sarah Palin basher Nicolle Wallace lends her name to a fundraiser for a pro-homosexual group called American Foundation for Equal Rights. Wallace, an adviser to the 2008 McCain for President campaign, figures prominently in Sarah Palin’s book, *Going Rogue*, as someone determined to get her on the CBS Evening News with Katie Couric so that she could be sandbagged by the left-wing anchorwoman.

“American Foundation for Equal Rights (AFER) supports the ‘right’ of a homosexual judge in California to unilaterally overturn the state’s ban on homosexual marriage. ...

“The emergence of former McCain aide Nicolle Wallace in the pro-gay movement has raised questions about

whether Palin’s charges against her, made in her best-selling book, were true.

“Palin’s sabotage accusations, a subject of some controversy when her book came out, seem to find confirmation in the fact that Nicolle Wallace and her husband Mark are among the Liberal Republicans listed as sponsors of a September 22 ‘cocktail reception’ to raise money for the pro-gay organization.”

“The Palin book had called the Katie Couric interview a trap and she blamed Wallace for the debacle and questioned Wallace’s Republican credentials. Wallace, who insisted that Palin’s charges against her were false, had been a CBS political analyst after serving in the Bush-Cheney White House as an associate of Karl Rove. She has recently been promoting a novel, *Eighteen Acres*, about a White House sex scandal.”

“But the real-life scandal seems to be how many secret homosexuals and homosexual sympathizers have assumed positions of prominence in the Republican Party.”

—Howard Phillips, *Issues and Strategy Bulletin*,  
Feb 15, 2011, p. 2

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The 10th Circuit Court of Appeals has upheld a ruling that privately erected crosses on Utah highways bearing the names of deceased police officers violate the establishment clause of the First Amendment. The Denver court found that juxtaposing crosses and the insignia of the highway patrol creates “the impermissible effect of conveying to the reasonable observer the message that the state prefers or otherwise endorses a certain religion.” This fails the very “reasonable man” test on which the appeals court relies. At Arlington National Cemetery, Roman crosses (and other religious symbols, including Stars of David), do not by any means constitute an endorsement of faith; they simply recognize it, and mark the fallen.

—*National Review*, Jan 24, 2011, p. 8