



**MILLENNIUM DIGGERS  
ASSOCIATION  
Keizer, Oregon**



**JANUARY 22, 2015**

2014 Officers:  
-President: PENNY ESPLIN  
-Vice-President: KEN ORNDORFF  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 \*\*\*2015-2016 Officers\*\*\*

**Prez Sez.....** We **elect**ed new officers at tonight's meeting; which marks the end of my illustrious presidential administration (not to mention the prestige, notoriety and authority). Why? Because I had previously stated that I did not want to continue as president for 2015. I knew that within our membership, we had the true president just awaiting nomination and then served up on a golden platter! So, for **2015-2016**, I want to congratulate **KAREN DARNELL** as our newly elected **President of the Millennium Diggers Association**. YAY!! (Now I do realize these are some pretty big shoes to fill, they were *always* way too big for me!) On behalf of all our members, we now feel pretty smug having Karen as our president and **BILL MOORE** as our **Vice President!** Who could ask for better? (*Applause, cheering, fanfare, balloons, confetti, cameras flashing, music playing "Hail to the Chief"; as they wave and proceed through the elated members, shaking hands and receiving many pats on the back.....*)

**Call to Order:** Penny called the meeting to order with a *bang!* of the gavel, and welcomed new members and guests.

**In Attendance:** There were 16 in attendance, including new member Micheal Zabrosky, and guests, Kevin Preuse (of Scorpion Mining) and his fiancée, Jessica. He owns several claims down by Azalea, and Jessica has been mining for better than a year and a half.

-Karen took tonight's minutes/notes

**Meeting Minutes:** There were no minutes to read from last meeting, since we combined Nov and Dec meetings into one for our Christmas potluck; which was, by the way, a great success; with plenty of good food, prizes and fellowship.

**Treasurer's Report:** Alice read us the report. Claudia made motion to accept, and Delmon seconded. All in favor? Unanimous "Aye".

**Upcoming Event:** The **GPAA Gold and Treasure show** will be held on **March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>** at the Expo Center in Portland. **We have discount admission tickets for sale for \$5.00 (that's 1/2 off the going price!)**

**-Bonus!** **Four team members from BERING SEA GOLD** will be at the gold show, as well as **Melody Tallis** (Dakota Fred's daughter from past Gold Rush episodes)

**-The Roseburg GPAA Gold Show is on March 21 and 22**

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**Tonight's Program: ELECTIONS FOR NEW OFFICERS:**

OUR NEW OFFICERS FOR 2015-2016 ARE:

-President: **Karen Darnell**

-Vice President: **Bill Moore**

-Treasurer: **Alice Phillips** (she agreed to stay on as our trusted treasurer)

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It was decided unanimously that we would wait until our next meeting (Feb 26th) to nominate a new secretary and an events/outings coordinator. (Penny said she might give it a go again as president after a couple years...)

**News at Hand:** Penny read the Rinehart decision letter, and it was discussed among members. Also discussed was the most recent news about the "de-publication" of the decision, but there is still some confusion about the outcome.

**To help clear the confusion, please read this recent update on the court cases:**

***By BRAD JONES*** GPAA Managing Editor

*After years of legal wrangling, California Superior Court Judge Gilbert Ochoa has ruled the state cannot undermine federal law by banning the use of gold suction dredges.*

*Public Lands for the People have applauded the federal preemption ruling which was handed down Monday, Jan. 12.*

*The court ruling states: "On its motions for summary adjudication, the court finds there is no triable issue of material on the issue of federal preemption and that as a matter of law and in actual fact, that the State's extraordinary scheme of requiring permits and then refusing to issue them whether and/or being unable to issue permits for years stands 'as an obstacle to the accomplishment of the full purposes and objectives of Congress' under "Granite Rock and a de facto ban."*

Besides citing the 1872 Mining Act in his ruling, Ochoa cited the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution, which states that federal law supercedes state law as “the supreme law of the land.”

Referencing other cases in which states have in the past unsuccessfully attempted to skirt federal mining law, Ochoa writes: “The general rule is the ‘where state law stands as an obstacle to the accomplishment the full purposes and objectives of Congress,’ it is preempted.”

### **Rinehart Case Moves to Supreme Court**

Meanwhile, the state of California petitioned the Supreme Court of California to review the People v. Rinehart case.

Brandon Rinehart is a gold miner who was convicted of dredging without a permit on his own mining claim and was sentenced to a pay a \$600 fine and three years probation. Later, that conviction was overturned by the California Third Court of Appeals and sent back to the lower court.

The appellate court judges claimed the lower court had not allowed evidence on the issue of federal preemption and federal mining laws.

In mid-January, the Supreme Court accepted the Rinehart case for review, which automatically “de-publishes” the Third Court of Appeals opinion, according to James Buchal, who represents the New '49ers and Rinehart in the case.

This means the appellate court’s opinion in the Rinehart case can no longer be cited in the lower courts unless or until the Supreme Court decides to allow publishing, Buchal said.

While “anything is possible,” Buchal doesn’t expect the Supreme Court to allow the appellate court’s opinion to be published.

Though he cites the Rinehart case in his Superior Court decision, Ochoa ruled **before** the appellate court opinion was de-published and **before** the Supreme Court of California had granted a review of the Rinehart case.

Buchal said he doesn’t expect the Rinehart case to sway Ochoa’s ruling on federal preemption.

**Stream Savers:** Karen reported, “We have a new strategic plan, and prepared by a professional strategic consultant— who is a doctoral candidate, and also happens to be a member of the board. We’re moving forward, we’ve got an exciting future!”

**‘B’ Rocks shared:** Ken had some beauties of blue Benitoite (*barium titanium silicate*), which is quite rare and found only at the Gem Mine in San Benito, CA. and Neptunite (*complex titanosilicate of sodium, potassium, iron and manganese*). Neptunite and

Benitoite are often found associated together. He also brought some highly prized specimens of Aquamarine (Beryl), each worth hundreds of \$\$.

Penny brought from her collection Barite (*barium sulfate*), Bismuth "Hopper Crystals" (man-made), Aquamarine and Emerald (both are Beryl: *beryllium aluminum silicate*), green Brochantite (*basic copper sulfate*), and Bornite "Peacock Ore" (*copper iron sulfide*).



Photo credit [www.mindat.org](http://www.mindat.org)

Benitoite w/ Neptunite



Photo credit Penny Esplin

Brochantite

**Next Month's Letter is "C"**

**Break Time:** Thank you Alice for bringing donuts and thanks to Terrie for making coffee.

**Discount Admission Tickets for the Gold Show:** will still be available at our next meeting. Remember, they are only \$5.00 (instead of \$10.00)

**Membership Dues for 2015 are \$20.00** If you haven't renewed your membership, please remember to do so at our next meeting. A reminder will be sent out.

We need an **Events/Outings Coordinator:** Look for nominations next meeting

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★ **We Have a Guest Speaker Scheduled for February's meeting!** ★

**Karen has arranged to have William Powell as our guest speaker!**

William Powell, veteran miner, mine owner, mining equipment designer and inventor and accomplished innovator, will come and give us a presentation on "**base metals and recovery**", which is an important factor in learning about the recovery of the noble metals from their associated ores. So, let's all plan to attend and welcome him, it will be a special event just having him there!

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**Outing Proposal:** Jeeter Creek claim needs some major trail renovating done; maybe another route down that is less dangerous (and less strenuous), or seriously stabilizing existing trail. Need to discuss getting an able and willing crew together and setting a date. Will include in February's meeting agenda.

**Snacks for next meeting:** Penny, Claudia and Mike

**Karen made a motion** to maybe think about checking ID's of new members to verify their identity. There really are "spies" out there that would love to get "the digs" on our association. Seriously! We are so fortunate to have certain members with notable distinction and renown; and knowing the devious ways of our "opponents", we really wouldn't put it past them to "infiltrate" us to gather "intel" to use in their power play against us. Anyway, Claudia seconded the motion, and it passed.

**Millennium Diggers Raffle:** The raffle went well, except we had way more ticket sales than there were prizes. So what does that indicate? **We need to bring more prizes for the raffle table!** Think about it, we all have stuff we can donate! We all do! Let's try to make our raffle a better one next month.

**Next Meeting is Thursday February 26<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 BE THERE!**

~~~~~  
Visit our website at <http://www.millenniumdiggers.com/>

The Millennium Diggers Club is a group based in Keizer, Oregon, which is near Salem, Oregon. The club is for people that share an interest in searching for things of value. The club's charter is to provide members with a club that will help promote the hobbies of metal detecting, prospecting, rock hounding, and treasure hunting. Part of our yearly dues pay for mining claims that are available for all club members to use. We use club meetings to share information about locating gold, silver, coins, jewelry, gemstones, fossils and metal detecting. We plan club outings each month where we can help each other learn all aspects of our hobbies. This is a great family activity, bring the kids! Please feel free to drop in on one of the monthly meetings or outings.

**We meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m, at:**  
**Clear Lake United Methodist Church**  
**920 Marks Drive**  
**Keizer, OR 97303**

We meet in the church's Fellowship Hall; a real a nice meeting place complete with tables, chairs and a kitchen. The church is located across the street from the Clear Lake Fire Station. There's plenty of parking in the church's parking lot.

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**" WE NOW LIVE IN A NATION WHERE DOCTORS DESTROY HEALTH, LAWYERS DESTROY JUSTICE, UNIVERSITIES DESTROY KNOWLEDGE, GOVERNMENTS DESTROY FREEDOM, THE PRESS DESTROYS INFORMATION, RELIGION DESTROYS MORALS, AND OUR BANKS DESTROY THE ECONOMY. "** ~ *Chris Hedges*

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## **Gold and Mining**

### **Jerry Hobbs, President of PLP, has died**



#### *Tribute to Jerry Hobbs*

*It is with extreme sadness and regret that Public Lands for the People announced the passing of one of its founders, Jerry Hobbs. Jerry passed away peacefully in his sleep Dec. 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014, after six weeks of struggling with heart issues. He will be missed terribly by Public Lands for the People, the mining community and especially by his family and friends. The Board of Directors for Public Lands for the People pledged to continue to carry the torch in the fight for public lands and mining rights. They have always been committed to doing this, but they are now even more determined to do so in Jerry's honor. In lieu of flowers, it was Jerry's wish that people would join PLP; not only donating funds, but getting involved, volunteering to link arms in the cause that he gave his life represented.*

*Some men seem larger than life by their size, others by what they accomplish in life. Jerry was definitely the latter. He accomplished so much in his life for small scale miners, and especially for property rights and for freedom granted us by the Constitution, that any one tribute could not cover it all. Jerry was a mountain of a man when it came to fighting to keep our Public Lands rights, and he stood up to everyone no matter the odds, fighting for what he knew to be right, fair and just.*

*He was a visionary, seeing the onslaught of the environmentalist groups and government regulations long before anyone else hardly had an inkling of the threat to our freedom. He was rare in that he not only identified the threats, but acted proactively to thwart those threats by forming what is now known as Public Lands for the People, a 501-c3 non-profit organization that has been spearheading the fight to restore dredging rights in California over the last 5 years, as well as many other, lesser known battles (with many victories!).*

*Even while lying in his hospital bed, Jerry was more concerned about the affairs of PLP and the legal battles that are underway than his own welfare. Those of us that have known and worked with him over the years were not at all surprised with his dedication to his life's work, right to the end. You see, these past many years he has dedicated his entire life, morning till night, to helping others. He would often do legal research for anyone that requested answers to public lands/ mining rights/ roads issues. When he wasn't doing that, he was working on fundraising to keep PLP able to stay in the legal fights.*

*He always had a good sense of humor, except if you were on the wrong side of the issues, then, well, you just don't cross a man on a mission!*

*Jerry Hobbs, we will miss you. Your legacy will continue in the capable hands and leadership of PLP. We will continue to build on the solid foundation you have laid. We will never give up my friend; for you, for our kids, and for their kids. We will continue to carry the freedom torch in your honor, the one you inspired to be lit in each one of us. You were a rare leader, a man among men; and in many ways, larger than life. We were blessed to be counted among your friends. You are missed. Good bye friend.*

*Ron Kliewer,  
On behalf of the Board of Directors,  
Public Lands for the People*

Join us with your membership dues and donations as we are on the verge of major accomplishments here.

We are scheduled to resume the settlement conference January 23, 2015.

Become a member or renew your membership in PLP and lets **"TAKE IT BACK AND KEEP IT!"**

### **[PLP1.org](http://plp1.org) !**

PLP is auctioning vintage items, books, gold nuggets, T-shirts, POLO shirts etc. etc. which may pique your interest. When you purchase one of our gold bearing dirtbags (*not a reclusive gold miner with dust in his pockets*) you get a bag of gold bearing dirt that you can pan out on your own or better yet with the kids. Wouldn't they love to pan out their very own gold. Here is a [link](#) to our Auction site on eBay.

[PLP auction site - eBay](#)

**Please pass this on to all Your e-mail contacts.**

[If someone forwarded this to you, you can subscribe to these emails at PLP email signup. \( http://plp1.org/contactus.html \)](#)

Fighting for your right to mine is very expensive. PLP will auction Gold or any donations you donate (tax deductible) to raise operating capital.


If you will help we take just about anything from old heirlooms to vehicles to GOLD dust or nuggets. CASH will be accepted also.

DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. WE ARE A NONPROFIT 501(C)(3)

**PLEASE CHECK IT OUT TODAY.**

**Nature, Our Great Outdoors**  
**It's Intended to be Enjoyed & Explored by All**

The PLP Standing Up For This  
Generation and Tomorrow's



Support the PLP as They  
Support Our Way of Life

**Join Today: [WWW.PLP1.ORG](http://WWW.PLP1.ORG)**

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## **Uniting the Small Miners**

Shannon Poe, January 2015

Have you ever wondered what is it going to take to stop this insanity of politicians and environmental groups from taking away our rights? Well, it is pretty simple really. First, we need to understand why the opposition to the small mining community, public land users, hunters, fishermen, off-roaders and other outdoor groups are so successful. In a few words, they are united and they have a level of communication we don't. Have you wondered how to combat the lies these people tell about suction dredging? With information and facts. Not many of us can rattle off the suction dredge study performed by Claudia Wise and Joseph Greene, quote US -v- Hicks, Granite Rock or the articles in the ICMJ about using a water pump without a permit. But that will change.

We plan to change it. If we are to stop this, we must become united as we never have been before. We must be able to notify all of our community what

is happening, what their rights are, what they need to do to help and we must do it in a precise and expedient manner. We've all received the "calls to action" emails where we have literally a day or two to write a Congressman, DFG, USFS or some other agency to voice opposition to a bill or regulation intent upon taking away more of our rights or public lands. We currently rely on forwarding emails sent to one, then another, then another with the hopes of reaching as many people as possible. This is ineffectual and needs to change. Our opposition is organized, and we must be just as well organized.

So what do we do to change this? Let's take California and start there. Delta Gold Diggers President, Robert Guardiola and AMRA are teaming up together to hold a meeting with every leader of every gold chapter, gold club, retail facility, manufacturer and association in California on March 14th in Sacramento. This meeting will establish a list of contacts and the protocol to quickly and concisely distribute calls to action for the small mining community. This WILL NOT be used to promote any entity, it will be used exclusively for "getting out the word on important and urgent matters". Urgent matters like bills which the political left seems so fond of trying to pass to ban mining, close large swaths of public land or other freedom opposing issues. The calls to action will be sent to the heads of each of these clubs, companies and associations, then forwarded to their members, followers and contacts. This should enable our industry to reach the most people in the shortest time.

The NRA started small, got organized and now is the largest voice for the 2nd Amendment in America. We need to do the same thing, not just for California, but for every state. We are going to start with California, then move on to Washington where they are literally under attack from the environmental groups and the politicians in their pockets. Then Idaho, Oregon, Montana and so on.

We are compiling notebooks for every person in attendance to this meeting which show the science, studies, court cases and documentation which conclusively show suction dredging is not harmful to fish, but in fact helps it. It will also contain facts and laws on rights of access pertaining to public lands and federal mining claims. It is time, long past time we all join together and the mining community is provided with all the tools at their disposal to combat the propaganda promulgated by our opposition. Wouldn't it be nice to pull out a notebook which lists all the studies performed in the last 30 years on suction dredging which dispels the lies? These publications will also be available to

anyone and everyone on line on the AMRA website or any other website who wishes to provide it to the small mining community. We must educate our people with the truth, they in turn can educate the next generation, which, unless we do something now will not exist in small mining. We need to get past the notion of someone needing to take credit for creating a publication like this which is why we are not even putting AMRA's name on this. It is for all miners and it is time we share the knowledge, without ego's getting in the way. We have invited Joe Greene to speak at this event to cover the science behind suction dredging. We have also invited a few others which will empower those in attendance with knowledge, science and facts surrounding the attack on small mining.

If you are a President or Board member of a gold club, a business owner which deals with small mining, a manufacturer or other entity which has members or a customer base which can help fight the stunning attack on small mining, contact us about attending this event. The date scheduled is March 14th, 2015 in Sacramento CA. We will announce the location of the meeting once we can ascertain how many will be in attendance. Inquiries into this event can be made at: [minersmeeting@americanminingrights.com](mailto:minersmeeting@americanminingrights.com)

Another opportunity we are missing is to partner with other public land users such as the off-roaders, the fishermen and women, the hunters and the hikers. They need to understand that what these politicians and environmental groups are doing will affect them immensely. They should be our allies as most of these groups we deal with have the same fundamental values we do and that is of freedom, independence and liberty. There is a fundamental difference between a "right" and a "privilege". Privilege is what the hunters, hikers and other public land use people have in regards to public lands. Mining claim owners have "rights". Rights that are passed by Congress and signed into law by the President of the United States which cannot be taken away, no matter how hard they try. Partnering with these other groups will help to explain what happens to them when these freedom killing bills and regulations are passed. In other words.....we must unite, all of us to preserve what we love for future generations. Because if we don't fight now, who will?

Website: <http://americanminingrights.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/americanminingrights>

Videos: <http://americanminingrights.com/videos/>

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**PRESS RELEASE** From: **Western Mining Mining Alliance**

Reno, NV January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015 For Immediate Release

**FEDS ADMIT LEAD MERCURY RESEARCHER  
A MEMBER OF ENVIRO GROUP**

In a recently released report the US Geological Survey admitted a mercury researcher was a member of an environmental group which lobbied for the California suction dredging ban.

Following a request for an investigation by the Western Mining Alliance (WMA), the Department of Interior released their final report looking into allegations of scientific misconduct by one of their scientists.

The WMA challenged the findings of a 2011 report prepared by Dr. Charles Alpers, of the US Geological Survey (USGS), which concluded suction gold dredging equipment increased mercury levels in streams. The WMA alleged the scientist withheld five years of data and was also a member of an environmental group which was lobbying for a prohibition on suction dredging equipment.

The final report acknowledged Dr. Alpers was not only a member of the environmental group, The Sierra Fund (TSF), but was also on the Board of Advisors of TSF, a position which determined policy and strategy for the group.

The Sierra Fund, based in Nevada City, California, lobbied the California legislature for a permanent ban on suction dredging equipment citing the results of Alper's report as evidence there was a significant threat to the environment.

"There's just one problem," said Craig Lindsay, president of the WMA, "He claimed there was only one year of data available, but we did a Freedom of Information Act request and it turns out he withheld an additional five years of data. The inclusion of the additional data shows no linkage whatsoever, but shows a strong linkage to the size of the spring floods."

The controversy surrounding the use of suction gold mining equipment has led to a six year ban on the equipment which miners are challenging in court. The miners won their first legal victory from a California Appeals Court in September

and appear poised to win a second victory later this month, effectively overturning the ban.

“We were shocked by the deliberate withholding of the data”, said Lindsay. “That Alpers belonged to an environmental group which was lobbying for the ban seemed a little too convenient. The full data set shows no evidence of linkage. The data shows mercury levels in insects have increased significantly since the ban was imposed.”

Despite his membership in the environmental group, and withholding the data the US Geological Survey investigation concluded there was no conflict of interest.

“...the research chemist’s membership in TSF was authorized and complemented USGS interests.” The investigation concluded. The report further justified Alper’s actions by stating “There is a growing trend for people to file scientific integrity complaints in an effort to change legislative decisions they do not like.”

“All we wanted was honest research, not science based on advocacy,” said Lindsay, “Three consecutive California Water Board studies over ten years have shown no linkage between California gold miners and increased mercury. The Alper’s Report was a bit of an outlier to those studies which made us wonder why.”

You can read the publically available USGS report at <http://www.doi.gov/oig/reports/upload/USGSMisconductConflictofInterestPublic.pdf>

You can read the WMA article on the report at <http://www.westernminingalliance.org>

Contact:  
Craig Lindsay, President  
Western Mining Alliance  
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# **MINING RIGHTS, Court battle hinges on Supremacy Clause**

**Ochoa clears legal hurdles, set to rule in California dredging case**

[BRAD JONES](#), [From Gold Prospectors magazine](#), December 15, 2014

Miners and their opponents squared off again in California Superior Court Dec. 12 to make their cases for and against suction dredging mining in California.

The hearing was part of the ongoing Mandatory Settlement Conference that Judge Gilbert Ochoa ordered May 1 last year in an attempt to resolve the legal battle over suction dredge mining, which was banned by the state more than five years ago.

Miners argue that the state has no authority to ban suction dredge mining under the federal Mining Law of 1872 and the Supremacy Clause of the U.S. Constitution, which declares that federal law is the supreme law of the land.

The settlement conference is the culmination of years of litigation involving more than a half-dozen or so consolidated lawsuits that are being heard by Ochoa in San Bernardino.

Ironically, a separate case, the Brandon Rinehart case has become pivotal in the decision.

Rinehart, a gold miner, was cited for dredging without a permit on his own mining claim in 2012, three years after the state refused to issue them. He was not allowed to present all the evidence in his case before the court and was found guilty of dredging without a permit.

He appealed the decision and the Third Court of Appeals overturned the conviction. The appellate court judges sent the case back to the lower court, with its opinion unpublished.

In its unpublished opinion, the appellate court said in essence that the state cannot override federal mining rights. The miners sent hundreds of letters to the appellate court's three-judge panel, requesting to have the court opinion published. The court heeded the miners' request, agreeing to publish the Rinehart case.

Publication of the case is significant in the sense that a published case can be cited in other cases, whereas an unpublished or depublished case cannot.

Miners had hailed publication of the Rinehart case as a small victory in the hopes of citing the Rinehart case in the Mandatory Settlement Conference, which also hinges on federal preemption.

However, the state has since petitioned the Supreme Court of California to revisit the Rinehart case, and to depublish the appellate court's findings.

In the Mandatory Settlement Conference, California Fish and Wildlife, the Karuk Indian Tribe and the Center for Biological Diversity lawyer who is supporting the Karuks requested that there be no rulings from Ochoa and that the Mandatory Settlement Conference continue.

Public Lands for the People spokesman Ron Kliewer, who is a plaintiff in one of the consolidated dredging cases accused the Karuks of stalling in the hopes the Supreme Court of California will accept California Fish and Wildlife's petition for an appeal and to depublish the Rinehart case.

"Ochoa responded that he intends to use the Rinehart case, now that it has been published, to give the court direction. Ochoa said he will rule on the federal preemption issue according to the Rinehart case, and let the chips fall where they may," Kliewer said.

Kliewer said Ochoa agreed with PLP attorney David Young that two legal tracks are a good idea, adding he would rule the first week of January 2015.

"Judge Ochoa did give clear indication that will be in his statements about the Rinehart case. Since it was currently published, he is free to reference it in his decision, even though the Supreme Court of California may hear the Fish and Wildlife's appeal to have it depublished in the future," Kliewer said. "Ochoa wants the case to go forward, and right now there is clarity of direction. This is tremendously good news for the miners. This has been a long, hard expensive fight, and though it is far from over, we are making some serious, long term legal wins for miners not only in California, but across the country."

### **Other developments**

Meanwhile, Ochoa denied PLP's request to enjoin the California Water Resources Control Board in the Mandatory Settlement Conference.

"The miners had requested this be done since the water board will insist on reconsidering everything that was accomplished in the settlement conference," Kliewer said. "We know this because they have stated in writing that they oppose dredging, period."

However, Ochoa did rule in the miner's favor by lifting the stay on ruling on the motion for summary judgment. This will allow him to rule on federal preemption, based on the legal precedent of the Rinehart case.

"The judge made it known he will make his ruling without further oral argument in early January," Kliever said.

The Mandatory Settlement Conference will reconvene Jan. 23 at 10 a.m. in San Bernardino. The courtroom is open to the public, but the settlement conference itself is closed to the public, typically held in the judge's chambers or a conference room.

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# Mountain Democrat

## New ruling gives hope to dredgers

**Dawn Hodson**  
Staff writer

A new ruling issued on Jan. 12 of this year is giving hope to suction dredgers that they will once again be able to ply their trade on California's waterways.

Issued by San Bernardino County Judge Gilbert Ochoa, the decision builds on a previous ruling by a state appellate court in the case of *People v. Rinehart*.

In that case, Brandon Rinehart successfully appealed his conviction for suction dredging without a permit when the Third Court of Appeals for California ruled the trial court had to allow Rinehart's argument that federal laws preempt state laws



Democrat photos by Pat Dollins

**GOLD DREDGERS** Rick Eddy, left, and Steve Tyler stand on the bank of the American River in Coloma on Tuesday, Jan. 20.

regarding mining.

In this most recent ruling, Ochoa declared that the state's moratorium on the use of suction dredges had become a de facto ban and thus violated federal mining law, which encourages mining on federal lands. The ruling also referenced that the State of California continues to require permits but refuses to issue them; the Department of Fish & Game has been prohibited from issuing permits until certain conditions are met, but the requirements are not attainable; and that when state law conflicts with federal law, in this case prohibiting suction gold dredging, federal law prevails.

Suction dredging has been effectively outlawed in the state since 2009 when Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed a moratorium into law. The law allowed dredging permits as long as they met certain conditions. But Ochoa ruled those were impossible to obtain.

Since the law's passage, the Western Mining Alliance has been battling the environmental groups that sponsored the legislation.

On a local level, suction dredgers were elated at the news of the Ochoa ruling after years of expensive legal battles.

Two of those who have been in the forefront of this battle are Rick Eddy and Steve Tyler.

Eddy is the political director for the Western Mining Alliance. Tyler has been mining for 30 years and is also a plaintiff in a case against the state to restore people's private property rights.

"They can regulate us reasonably, but can't shut us down," said Eddy. "In the Rinehart case, the court overturned his conviction because federal law preempts state law and suction dredging was the only way for him to work his claim. The state appealed that decision but lost. Now the state has subpoenaed the Supreme Court of California and is going to try to overturn the appellate court."

However in a setback for the miners, on Wednesday, Jan. 21, the Supreme Court of California voted to review the Court of Appeals decision in *People v. Rinehart*.

Eddy said the only harm found from suction dredging is when the machines suck up fish eggs during spawning season. "That's why we have seasons for dredging that go around spawning so we don't hurt the fisheries," he said, adding that the season varies for different waterways. "It used to be you could dredge year round on the American River. Later they were influenced to put a season on the South Fork, but then they stopped that too."

### **Battling the environmental groups**

Eddy said the battle over suction dredging goes back earlier than 2009 when environmental groups convinced the legislature and the state water board that dredgers were

stirring up mercury and polluting the environment. "But a couple of studies showed that dredgers were only losing 1 percent of the mercury back into the river," he said.

According to the Western Mining Alliance (WMA), one of those who lobbied for the California suction dredging ban is a scientist named Dr. Charles Alpers who works for the U.S. Geological Survey. A member of the Sierra Fund, he issued a report saying that suction gold dredging equipment increases mercury levels in streams. However, according to WMA, Alpers withheld five years of data which, if it had been included in the study, would have shown no linkage at all.

"In the meantime, the Sierra Fund and the Nevada Irrigation District got permits to dredge mercury out of the Combie Reservoir," Eddy said. "Their dredge loses at least 12 percent right back into the river. They are also bragging about how much gold they are going to recover to offset their costs."

"The Sierra Fund is actually benefiting financially from our losses," said Eddy. "They are getting public money to remove the mercury when dredgers had been doing it for free for 50 years. But they are missing more mercury than dredgers do."

"It's a big scare and a big scam," Eddy added. "The thing that really irks me the most is that the Sierra Fund, Charles Alpers and other environmental groups got us kicked out of



Democrat photo by Pat Dollins

**GOLD** dredger Rick Eddy points to a couple of gold nuggets found in the American River near Coloma.

the water with false science and information and are now profiting from the exact same thing. They are using a method that loses more mercury back into the environment when we were doing it all for free. We were the little guys, the scapegoat, easy prey for their environmental agenda. The Center for Biological Diversity had 27 attorneys in there. They're about profits, about getting paid. They're about milking the government for money. They don't care."

Eddy said the state water board also wants the right to issue a permit for suction dredging if it is allowed again. But Eddy complained that such a permit would cost thousands of dollars and require dredgers to constantly test the water to ensure they are not polluting it.

Tyler maintains that all this effort is not about protecting the environment but about eroding people's private property rights. Claiming there's probably millions of dollars worth of gold left in the South Fork of

the American River, he thinks that if dredgers are forced to walk away from their mining claims, other groups would move in and then apply for taxpayer dollars to conduct clean up efforts.

"It all goes back to Agenda 21. It's part of the plan to destroy our private property rights," he said.

"I'm out over a quarter of a million dollars because of this moratorium on suction dredging, and I'm just one miner," said Tyler. "Others have lost more than that. Almost a \$100 million a year of lost economic activity is due to the moratorium. Yet the Sierra Fund wants to draw money from taxpayers to do all this."

"My biggest thing is I want people to know that suction dredgers have been doing good," said Eddy. "In 60 years of suction dredging, there hasn't been a single incident of environmental harm. Dredging enhances the environment by duplicating the natural processes of turning the water. We also pull out a lot of garbage like beer

cans, millions of feet of fishing line, clothing and other junk. I once pulled out 37 pair of sunglasses over a few months of dredging. These environmental groups are out to make a profit at the expense of others. I want the scam to be revealed."

Tyler and Eddy said the next step in the process is a mandatory settlement conference scheduled for Jan. 23 with the intent being to set reasonable regulations for suction dredging. However, the issue remains in limbo as long as Federal law says statutory rights to mine cannot be preempted or prohibited by arbitrary state action, while the state does not concede the right to suction dredge mine.

So for now anyway, all miners can do is apply for a permit and see what the state does in response.

*Contact Dawn Hodson at 530-344-5071 or [dhodson@mtdemocrat.net](mailto:dhodson@mtdemocrat.net). Follow @DHodsonMtDemo on Twitter.*



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## Special Gold Update

Larry Edelson, Money and Markets, January 28, 2015

<http://www.moneyandmarkets.com/special-gold-update-69635#.VNJcAKPLep9>

Everyone seems to think gold has bottomed, but the fact of the matter is this: Nothing could be further from the truth.

Yes, gold has rallied off its lows. Yes, gold could stage one more rally, as high as \$1,365 according to my models. And yes, miners could rally a tad more.

But the key question remains: Has gold really bottomed? Is it in a new bull market now, headed to new record highs?

NO WAY!

FIRST, consider this chart of gold:



As you can clearly see, gold's rally since December is very minor and more importantly, gold is now having trouble at the first levels of major overhead resistance at the \$1,300 to \$1,325 level.

If gold were to manage to break through that level, then additional strong resistance will be found at \$1,365, where I have a system monthly buy signal.

Only a month-end close above \$1,365 would gold indicate a possible pause in trend, and even then, it would not indicate a new bull market; merely a very strong bounce.

However, at this time, it is extremely doubtful that gold could manage a close above \$1,365.

Instead, although the current rally could continue, *the gold market is setting up a trap, one that will suck in unsuspecting investors, only to chew them up and spit them out when the next down leg forms, which will take gold below \$1,000.*

The picture is the same for silver, platinum and palladium, as well as the mining sector. *Though the current rally could continue a bit longer, the rallies are sucker traps.*

SECOND, consider the cycles in gold, per this chart.





Based on over a billion calculations of time series data for gold, this chart clearly shows that — while gold can indeed rally a tad more into mid-February ... ultimately this rally will fail and gold will plunge to new lows in May.

Keep in mind this cycle chart measures the *TIMING* for gold's next move. It is NOT an exact indication of price.

It's telling me loud and clear to expect a February peak in gold followed by a full four-month bear market ...

One that will likely take gold to new lows, which would be retested in June, syncing up nicely with my longer-term models.

THIRD, consider the sorry state of affairs Europe is in. Europe is crashing, the single currency experiment is a massive failure.

The European Central Bank's latest printing efforts will change nothing, and instead, will merely accelerate the capital flight out of Europe, and hence, Europe's collapse.

Moreover, Greece's latest election — ushering in an anti-austerity party — is likely to soon lead Greece to exit the euro, setting off a domino effect as other European Union countries that are suffering begin to see the light of day — and that *the only way out of their suffering is to leave the euro behind*.

FOURTH, consider deflation. It is almost everywhere now, negatively impacting all commodity prices. Nearly every commodity on the board is set for further declines in the weeks and months ahead, among the weakest being oil, which should plunge to the \$30 level later this year.

FIFTH, the dollar. Though short-term its rally is a bit long in the tooth, the dollar's massive breakout cannot be underestimated. At an 11-year high against the euro, and at a 12-year high basis the Dollar Index ...

The dollar remains poised for further gains in the months ahead as the euro crumbles further.

**Bottom line: Do NOT get long the gold market right now. Or any precious metals. Or any miners.**

Do NOT fall for the pitches that claim precious metals are in a new bull market.

Do NOT buy mining shares. They have not yet bottomed either.

Keep in mind that most of the analysts who believe gold has bottomed have something to sell you; namely gold and silver bullion or rare coins. Do you think those analysts sales prospects are all that good if they told you gold prices are headed lower?

Hardly. Which is precisely why they are so biased, jumping on almost every up move to declare the bottom is in. They want to sell you something. Period.

I have no hidden agendas. I call it like I see it. Gold has NOT yet bottomed, Period.

Instead, realize what the current rally is: Nothing more than a bear market bounce.

*A trap that will lead to devastating losses for those who get caught in it.*

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## **Rogue River, Oregon Dam Sediment**

January 30, 2015

Author not identified

Administrator: [Kirk@DefendRuralAmerica.com](mailto:Kirk@DefendRuralAmerica.com)

Website: [www.DefendRuralAmerica.com](http://www.DefendRuralAmerica.com)

**In the e-mail below, there is a brief discussion of water quality problems in the wake of the removal of Savage Rapids Dam (SRD) on the Rogue River. It is my impression that no concerted effort has been made to make publicize these conditions and draw an analogy to the Klamath.**

Savage Rapids Dam was breached on August 9, 2009, and Gold Ray Dam (GRD) was breached on August 15, 2010.

The removal of SRD has led to a substantial downstream migration of bed-load gravels and the scouring-away of gravel bars as far as 2-miles upstream from the dam. I am continuing to monitor these gravel migrations, and I suspect that the day will come when an adequate river flow event will cause a major interruption in water intake for the City of Grants Pass.

The erosion of gravel bars upstream from SRD is especially evident if you look at the historical images on GoogleEarth, 1.1-miles upstream from the dam. I have estimated that the large gravel bar on the north side of the river at that location

has had approximately 45,000 cubic yards of gravel scoured away by river flow. These gravels are definitely not moving upstream.....

Because Gold Ray Dam was removed in August, 2010, there has been no way for ODF&W to collect data on salmonid escapement on the Rogue River. So, the enviros can claim anything they want to claim about improved escapement due to the removal of SRD.

I do have all of the ODF&W fish count data that exists for the Rogue River, including the counts of adult fish entering the hatchery below Lost Creek Reservoir. It is my plan to update the water flow versus escapement study that I published in 1997, but I haven't gotten to that project yet.

On a very serious note, the water quality in the Rogue River is awful.

Late in the summer of 2014, river flows were minimal, and the river literally had a bad odor down in the canyon. I personally believe, and river guide friends of mine agree, that the removal of GRD is largely to blame for deteriorating water quality in the Rogue. It has become so bad that I won't fish the Rogue and I definitely won't eat a fish caught in the Rogue.

I suspect that the massive sludge pond which existed above GRD served as a massive digester of effluent and contaminants that flowed downstream from Bear Creek and from the Rogue Valley Sewage Treatment Plant in White City. With that digester pool gone, all of the contaminants just flow downstream.

In late summer, 2015, I plan to pay the Grants Pass Water Laboratory to sample and test the treated domestic water in the Grants Pass City water system. I suspect that a variety of undesirable compounds will be found in the "potable" water that is distributed to the citizens of Grants Pass. As one example, the biotoxins emanating from decaying blue-green algae in Lost Creek Reservoir, cannot be removed from water that is flowing downstream from the reservoir. And, there is visual evidence of surfactants in the river which are being discharged from sewage treatment plants.

It is pitiful to see the extent to which the Famous Rogue River has become a sewage pipe for the Rogue Valley. It will only get worse, in my opinion, as the Rogue Valley population grows to 250,000 by the year 2020, and as the current Drier/Warmer 18-year half cycle of the Pacific Decadal Oscillation takes firm hold. I'm certain that the current 18-year half cycle started in 2014. There is plenty of evidence to support my conclusion.

From now on, I'll only be fishing in Oregon's coastal streams and in SE Alaska at the tiny town of Coffman Cove, on Prince of Wales Island.

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## Obama's 'Big Lie' set to clash with 'Big Truth'

**Experts warn fudged economic figures will meet reality**

[Jerome R. Corsi](#), WND, February 3, 2015

<http://www.wnd.com/2015/02/obamas-big-lie-set-to-clash-with-big-truth/>



NEW YORK – Despite the Obama administration's touting of lower unemployment figures, a strong dollar and a robust stock market, 2015 will be a year of economic turmoil, dollar panic and hyperinflation, claims economist John Williams, purveyor of the popular website ShadowStats.com and a well-known critic of politically manipulated government economic statistics.

Describing 2014 as a year of “market hype and manipulation,” Williams made his dire predictions in a [special commentary](#) issued this week for his newsletter subscribers.

Adding to the surreal depiction of Obama-era “good economic news” in the form of a low 5.6 percent December unemployment rate – down from a recession peak of 10 percent – Gallup Chairman and CEO Jim Clifton wrote a blistering op-ed attacking the government's “extremely misleading” unemployment statistics.

“There's no other way to say this,” [wrote Clifton](#). “The official unemployment rate, which cruelly overlooks the suffering of the long-term and often permanently unemployed as well as the depressingly underemployed, amounts to a Big Lie.”

Williams believes the actual unemployment stands at 23 percent, pointing out the Bureau of Labor Statistics excludes from the labor force anyone who is “so hopelessly out of work that you've stopped looking over the past four weeks.”

Noting the Gallup chief's surprising public rebuke, Williams says Main Street is not fooled by hype from the BLS.

“Main Street U.S.A. was not looking at a fully recovered and booming economy in the third quarter 2014, as of the November 4, 2014 election,” Williams wrote. “The exit-poll economic rating was consistent with an outright quarter-to-quarter contraction in real third-quarter GDP activity, a quarter that had ended on September 30th, more than one month before the election.”

Williams said voters certainly didn't believe the headline 3.5 percent third-quarter growth published the week before the election.

“If they did not believe that, they most likely also did not believe the 5 percent revised growth rate published on December 23rd as the third estimate, second revision to third-quarter GDP growth,” he said.

Williams believes 2015 will be the year in which the Obama administration's “Big Lie” regarding the economy's strength will turn into the “Big Truth,” with Americans forced to deal with stock market turmoil and a dollar under attack and declining in value. He expects to see the real price of goods and services skyrocket, as the U.S. enters inevitably a long-term cycle of economic decline, persistent high unemployment and hyperinflation.

Clifton wrote: “While you are as unemployed as one can possibly be, and tragically may never find work again, you are not counted in the figure we see relentlessly in the news – currently 5.6 percent. Right now, as many as 30 million Americans are either out of work or severely underemployed. Trust me, the vast majority of them aren't throwing parties to toast ‘falling’ unemployment.”

Williams agrees, contending the economy never recovered from the financial shock of 2008 and predicts 2015 will see the dollar collapse as hyperinflation begins to surge in the nation's economy.

Williams concedes mainstream media headlines in 2014 painted a picture of a strong economy, allowing Obama to brag in his 2015 State of the Union address of his administration's economic prowess.

“Headline circumstances generally were on the plus side in 2014, rarely have they been better, but underlying reality was not so positive, Williams wrote, listing the following as achievements for which the Obama administration took credit:

- ❖ After a first-quarter 2014 GDP contraction, the ensuing three quarters of GDP activity were the strongest of any three-quarter period of GDP growth in more than a decade.

- ❖ Payroll employment recovered its pre-recession high, while headline unemployment dropped to 5.6 percent in December, down from a recession peak of 10 percent.
- ❖ The cash-based federal budget deficit purportedly hit its lowest level since 2008, while the Fed was able to taper asset purchases in its quantitative easing.
- ❖ The stock market hit an all-time high, and the U.S. dollar rallied to multi-year highs, knocking down oil and gasoline prices.

But, in reality, Williams countered, payroll jobs surged based on soaring growth in people forced to work part-time jobs for economic reasons, continued weakness in the economy was evidenced partly by the November midterm election results that went strongly against the Obama administration, and the GAAP-based 2014 federal deficit held near an unsustainable \$6 trillion level.

“With 2015 already underway, U.S. economic activity should slow sharply, as seen with key economic indicators in headline reporting, and in downside historical revisions,” Williams said. “Downside economic shocks should threaten the domestic stock market, intensify speculation as to renewed Federal Reserve accommodation, pummel the U.S. dollar, spike oil and gas prices, and eventually set the early stages of a domestic hyperinflation

“Underlying U.S. dollar fundamentals and shifting sentiment already are in motion, reflecting systemic distortions from the Panic of 2008, as they play out among major U.S. trading partners, including the Eurozone, Japan and Switzerland,” he said.

Williams further predicted the U.S. dollar will turn sharply lower in 2015, prompting a massive dollar selloff with panicked dumping occurring “relatively early” in the year.

Nor does Williams think the Federal Reserve could prop up the dollar this time by initiating yet a fourth round of Quantitative Easing, a policy in which the Fed agrees to buy hundreds of billions of dollars of debt issued by the U.S. treasury.

“QE4 could become a major factor behind crashing the dollar and boosting the price of gold,” he wrote. “The Fed has strung out its options for propping up the system as much as it could, with continual, negative impact on the U.S. economy.”

Williams concludes the basic choices for the United States in 2015 are to continue printing the money needed, leading to hyperinflation, or to slash federal spending while redesigning income redistribution programs, including

Obamacare, which he views as a political impossibility even given the Republican majorities in Congress that resulted from the November midterm elections.

The only bright spot Williams sees for this year is that renewed dollar weakness and the resulting inflation spike "should boost the prices of gold and silver, where physical holding of those key precious metals remains the ultimate hedge against the pending inflation and financial crises.

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## **Enviroment**

### **Who Owns the Environmentalist Movement?**

***Far from a grass roots movement, environmentalism is a big business, funded and directed by the leading families of the U.S. and European establishments***

**MORE PEOPLE ARE WAKING UP**

### **NEO-ENVIRONMENTALISM IS A POLITICAL MOVEMENT**

**JUST ANOTHER TOOL OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER**

***"... It is clear that those at the top of the environmentalist movement are witting in their advocacy of policies that **ultimately kill people**. We know this is the case because many of the environmentalist policy-makers say so publicly. ... The fact is that the top ozone depletion propagandists at the World Wildlife Fund, the Club of Rome, the Population Crisis Committee/Draper Fund, and other elite bodies want it to kill people."***

<http://www.sweetliberty.org/issues/un/environment.htm#.VJTIP88AAB>

By Rogelio A. Maduro and Ralf Schauerhammer

*This article is adapted from Chapter 10 of the Holes in the Ozone Scare: The Scientific Evidence That the Sky Isn't Falling, published in June 1992 by 21<sup>st</sup> Century and now in its second printing.*

Twenty-five years ago, those who believed that Mother Nature comes first and humankind second were part of an insignificant fringe, considered radical by most Americans. These environmentalists were visible mostly at the level of the antinuclear street demonstration, where marijuana smoke wafted around "Back To Nature" posters on display. Today, however, what used to be extremist "environmentalist" ideology has become mainstream, permeating American

institutions at every level, from corporate boardrooms to the Federal Reserve, the Congress, the White House, the churches, homes and schools.

Official lore from the environmental movement's publications asserts that the movement emerged from the grass roots. The truth, however, is that funding and policy lines comes from the most prestigious institutions of the Eastern Liberal Establishment, centered around the New York Council on Foreign Relations, and including the Trilateral commission, the Aspen Institute, and a host of private family foundations.

This network of foundations created environmentalism, moving it from a radical fringe movement into a mass movement to support the institutionalization of anti-science, no-growth policies at all levels of government and public life. As prescribed in the Council on Foreign Relations 1980s Project book series, environmentalism has been used against America's economy, against such targets as high-technology agriculture and the nuclear power industry. **This movement is fundamentally a green pagan religion in its outlook.** Unless defeated, it will destroy not only the economy, but also the Judeo-Christian culture of the United States, and has in fact come perilously close to accomplishing this objective already.

The vast wealth of the environmentalist groups may come as a shock to most readers who believe that these groups are made up of "public interest", "nonprofit" organizations that are making great sacrifices to save the Earth from a looming doomsday caused by man's activities. In fact, the environmental movement is one of the most powerful and lucrative businesses in the world today.

### **Funding from the Foundations**

There are several thousand groups in the United States today involved in "saving the Earth". Although all share a common philosophy, these groups are of four general types: those concerned, respectively with environmental problems, population control, animal rights, and land trusts. Most of these groups are very secretive about their finances, but there is enough evidence on the public record to determine what they are up to.

**Table 1** lists the annual revenues of a sampling of 30 environmental groups. These few groups alone had revenues of more than \$1.17 billion in 1990. This list, it must be emphasized, by no means includes all of these envirobusinesses. It is estimated that there are more than 3,000 so-called nonprofit environmental groups in the United States today, and most of them take in more than a million dollars a year.



The Global Tomorrow Coalition, for example, is made up of 110 environmental and population-control groups, few of which have revenues less than \$3 million per year and land holdings of more than 6 million acres worth billions of dollars, is just the best known of more than 900 land trusts now operating in the United States.

**Table 1 Environmental Groups  
Organization Revenues (U.S. dollars, 1990, 1991) \_\_\_\_\_**

|                                                 |                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| African Wildlife Foundation \$ 4,676,000        | National Wildlife Federation 77,180,104          |
| American Humane Association 3,000,000           | Natural Resources Defense Council 16,926,305     |
| Center for Marine Conservation 3,600,000        | Nature Conservancy 254,251,717                   |
| Clean Water Action 9,000,000                    | North Shore animal League 26,125,383             |
| Conservation International 8,288,216            | Planned Parenthood 383,000,000                   |
| The Cousteau Society 14,576,328                 | Population Crisis Committee 4,000,000            |
| Defenders of Wildlife 6,454,240                 | Rails-to-Trails Conservancy 1,544,293            |
| Earth Island Institute 1,300,000                | Sierra club 40,659,100                           |
| Environmental Defense Fund 16,900,000           | Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund 8,783,902         |
| Greenpeace International 100,000,000            | Student Conservation Association, inc. 3,800,000 |
| Humane society 19,237,791                       | Trust for Public Land 23,516,506                 |
| Inform 1,500,000                                | Wilderness Society 17,903,091                    |
| International Fund for Animal Welfare 4,916,491 | Wildlife Conservation International 4,500,000    |
| National Arbor Day Foundation 14,700,000        | WWF/Conservation Foundation 60,000,000           |
| National Audobon Society 37,000,000             | Zero Population Growth 1,600,000                 |
| National Parks Conservation Assoc. 8,717,104    |                                                  |
| <b>Total \$1,177,656,571</b>                    |                                                  |

Sources: Buzzwork, September/October 1991- *Chronicle of Philanthropy* March, 13, 1992

**Table 2**, lists the grants of 35 foundations to two heavily funded and powerful environmentalist groups -- the Environmental Defense Fund and the Natural Resources Defense Council -- for the year 1988.

The data available from public sources show that the total revenues of the environmentalist movement are more than \$8.5 billion per year. If the revenues of law firms involved in environmental litigation and of university environmental programs were added on, this figure would easily double to more than \$16 billion a year. This point is emphasized in **Table 3**, which lists the top 15

environmental groups receiving grants for environmental lawsuits and protection and education programs.

To get an idea of how much money this is, the reader should consider that this income is larger than the Gross National Product (GNP) of 56 underdeveloped nations (**Table 4**). The 48 nations for which the latest GNP figures were available have a total population of more than 360 million human beings. Ethiopia, for example, with a population of 47.4 million human beings, many starving, has a GNP of only \$5.7 billion per year. Somalia, with 5.9 million inhabitants, has a GNP that is lower than the revenues of those groups listed in Table 1. Not a single nation in Central America or the Caribbean has a GNP greater than the revenues of the U.S. environmental movement.

**TABLE 2 WHO OWNS THE ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT?  
FOUNDATION GRANTS TO EDF AND NRDC (U.S. dollars, 1988)**

| Foundation EDF NRDC                                |                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Beinecke foundation, Inc. 850,000                  | New Hope Foundation, Inc. 45,000                  |
| Carnegie Corporation of New York 25,000            | New York Community Trust 35,000                   |
| Clark Foundation 150,000                           | Noble foundation, Inc. 20,000 35,000              |
| Columbia Foundation 30,000                         | Northwest Area foundation 100,000                 |
| Cox Charitable Trust 38,000                        | Packard Foundation 50,000 37,000                  |
| Diamond Foundation 50,000                          | Prospect Hill Foundation 45,000                   |
| Dodge Foundation, Geraldine 75,000 10,000          | Public Welfare Foundation 150,000                 |
| Educational Foundation of America 30,000<br>75,000 | Robert Sterling Clark Foundation 50,000<br>40,000 |
| Ford Foundation 500,000                            | Rockefeller Brothers Fund 75,000                  |
| Gerbode Foundation 50,000 40,000                   | San Francisco Foundation 50,000                   |
| Gund Foundation 85,000 40,000                      | Scherman Foundation 40,000 50,000                 |
| Harder Foundation 200,000                          | Schumann foundation 50,000                        |
| Joyce Foundation 75,000 30,000                     | Steele-Reese Foundation 100,000                   |
| MacArthur Foundation 600,000                       | Victoria Foundation 35,000 35,000                 |
| Mertz-Gilmore Foundation 75,000 80,000             | Virginia Environmental Endowment 25,000           |
| Milbank Memorial Fund 50,000                       | W. Alton Jones Foundation 100,000 165,000         |
| Morgan guaranty charitable Trust 5,000<br>6,000    | Wallace Genetic Foundation 80,000 65,000          |
| Mott Foundation, Charles Stewart 150,000<br>40,000 | William Bingham Foundation 1,000,000<br>150,000   |
|                                                    | <b>Total* 2,885,000 3,236,000</b>                 |

\*The total includes some smaller foundation grants not listed here. Source: *The Foundation Grants Index* -- 1989, 1990

**TABLE 3 TOP 15 RECIPIENTS IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW, PROTECTION, AND EDUCATION**

| Recipient Foundation Grant in \$                         |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| World Resources Institute MacArthur Foundation           | 15,000,000 |
| World Resources Institute MacArthur Foundation           | 10,000,000 |
| Nature Conservancy R.K. Mellon Foundation                | 4,050,000  |
| Nature Conservancy Champlin Foundations                  | 2,000,000  |
| Oregon Coast Aquarium Fred Meyer Charitable Trust        | 1,500,000  |
| International Irrigation Mgmt Inst. Ford Foundation      | 1,500,000  |
| Open Space Institute R.K. Mellon Foundation              | 1,400,000  |
| Internat'l Irrigation Mgmt. Inst. Rockefeller Foundation | 1,200,000  |
| Chicago Zoological society MacArthur Foundation          | 1,000,000  |
| Native American Rights Foundation Ford foundation        | 1,000,000  |
| Wilderness Society R.K. Mellon Foundation                | 800,000    |
| World Resources Institute A.W. Mellon Foundation         | 800,000    |
| University of Arkansas W.K. Kellogg Foundation           | 764,060    |
| National Park Service Pillsbury Co. Foundation           | 750,000    |
| National Audobon society A.W. Mellon Foundation          | 750,000    |

SOURCE: Environmental Grant Association Directory, 1989

**TABLE 4 Underdeveloped Nations Whose Gross National Product (GNP) Is Less Than The Annual Revenues of U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS (1990)**

| Country GNP (billions \$ Population |                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Bhutan 0.25 1.4                     | Burundi 1.22 5.1      |
| Laos 0.70 3.9                       | Togo 1.26 3.4         |
| Lesotho 0.71 1.7                    | Malawi 1.36 8.0       |
| Chad 0.86 5.4                       | Mozambique 1.49 14.9  |
| Mauritania 0.91 1.9                 | Benin 1.72 4.4        |
| Somalia 1.00 5.9                    | Burkina Faso 1.70 8.5 |
| Yemen 1.03 2.4                      | Mali 1.84 8.0         |
| Central African Republic 1.10 2.9   | Congo 1.91 2.1        |
| Botswana 1.21 1.2                   | Madagascar 1.96 10.9  |

Maurilius 1.96 1.1  
Rwanda 2.14 6.7  
Niger 2.19 7.3  
Zambia 2.20 7.6  
Guinea 2.32 5.4  
Haiti 2.39 6.3  
Jamaica 2.57 2.4  
Papua New Guinea 3.00 3.7  
Nepal 3.24 18.0  
Gabon 3.27 1.1  
Bolivia 3.03 6.9  
Tanzania 3.95 24.7  
Trinidad and Tobago 4.02 1.2  
Honduras 4.13 4.8  
Uganda 4.54 16.2  
Senegal 4.55 7.0  
Costa Rica 4.56 2.7  
El Salvador 4.70 5.0  
Paraguay 4.72 4.0  
Panama 4.88 2.3  
Dominican Republic 4.97 6.9  
Ghana 5.60 14.0  
Ethiopia 5.69 47.4  
Jordan 5.85 3.9  
Sri Lanka 6.97 16.6  
Oman 7.00 1.4  
Uruguay 7.66 3.1  
Guatemala 7.83 8.7  
Kenya 8.29 22.4  
Ivory Coast 8.62 11.2

**Total 362.0**

Figures were not available for Afghanistan, Kampuchea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Angola, Lebanon, Nicaragua and Vietnam. **Source:** *World Development Report 1990: Poverty*, The World Bank (New York, London, Oxford University Press, 1990)

With these massive resources under its control, it is no surprise that the environmentalist movement has been able to set the national policy agenda. There is no trade association in the world with the financial resources and power to match the vast resources of the environmental lobby. In addition, it has the support of most of the news media. Opposing views and scientific refutations of environmental scares are most often simply blacked out.

Where do the environmental groups get their money? Dues from members represent an average of 50 percent of the income of most groups; most of the rest of the income comes from foundation grants, corporate contributions, and U.S. government funds. Almost every one of today's land-trust, environmental, animal-rights, and population-control groups was created with grants from one of the elite foundations, like the Ford foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation. These "seed grants" enable the radical groups to become established and start their own fundraising operations. These grants are also a seal-of-approval for the other foundations.

The foundations also provide funding for special projects. For example, the Worldwatch Institute received \$825,000 in foundation grants in 1988. Almost all of that money was earmarked specifically for the launching of a magazine, *World Watch*, which has become influential among policy-makers, promoting the group's anti-science and anti-population views. The Worldwatch Institute's brochures report that it was created by the Rockefeller Brothers Fund to "alert policy makers and the general public to emerging global trends in the availability and management of resources -- both human and natural".

Foundation grants in the range of \$20 to \$50 million for the environmental cause are no longer a novelty. In July 1990, the Rockefeller Foundation announced a \$50 million global environmental program. The specific purpose of the program is to create an elite group of individuals in each country whose role is to implement and enforce the international environmental treaties now being negotiated.

Kathleen Teltsch reported in the New York times (July 24, 1990):

"As an initial step, the five-year program will assist hundreds of young scientists and policy makers in developing countries to create a worldwide network of trained environmental leaders, who will meet regularly at workshops, sharing information and discussing strategy.

"Through the international network, the foundation wants to encourage efforts to build environmental protection into governments' long-range economic planning. Other major elements would promote the drafting of international treaties to deal with forest, land, and water preservation, and hazardous waste disposal"

The foundations are run by America's top patrician families. These families channel billions of dollars into the organizations and causes they wish to support every year, and thereby exert enormous political clout. By deciding who and what gets funded, they determine the political issues up front in Washington, which are then voted on by Congress. It is all tax free, since the foundations are tax-exempt. The boards of directors of the large foundations are made up of some of the most powerful individuals in this country, and they always overlap with power brokers in government and industry.

One such individual was Thornton F. Bradshaw, who, until his recent death, was chairman and program director of the MacArthur foundation and a trustee of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and the Conservation Foundation. At the same time, Bradshaw was chairman of the RCA Corporation and a director of NBC, the Atlantic Richfield corp., Champion International, and First Boston, Inc. Bradshaw was also a member of the Malthusian Club of Rome and director of the Aspen Institute of Humanistic Studies, organizations that have played a critical role in spreading the "limits to growth" ideology of the environmental movement.

Another individual perhaps better known to readers is Henry A. Kissinger, former U.S. secretary of state and a trustee of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. For years Kissinger was the director of the fund's special Studies Project, which was in charge of special operations.

### **Corporate Contributions**

Another huge source of contributions to the environmental movement is private corporations. Unlike tax-exempt foundations, however, corporations are not required by law to report what they do with their money, so it is difficult for an independent researcher to estimate the level of funding for the environmentalist movement from business and industry. There are watchdog groups, however, that have investigated these money flows and come up with startlingly large figures.

For example, the April 1991 newsletter of the Capital Research Center in Washington, D.C., which monitors trends in corporate giving, scathingly denounces those corporations it has discovered financing the environmentalists. The newsletter states that oil companies "are heavy financial supporters of the

very advocacy groups which oppose activities essential to their ability to meet consumer needs".

Further, it reports, "The Nature Conservancy's 1990 report reflects contributions of over \$1,000,000 from Amoco, over \$135,000 from Arco, over 4100,000 from BP Exploration and BP Oil, more than \$3,200,000 (in real estate) from Chevron, over \$10,000 from Conoco and Phillips Petroleum and over \$260,000 from Exxon".

From the scant information publicly available (largely annual reports from the major environmental groups), one can conservatively estimate that corporations contribute more than \$200 million a year to the environmentalist movement.

This should come as no surprise. Over the past 20 years, giant corporations have discovered that by using environmental regulations they can bankrupt their competition, the small- and medium-sized firms that are the most active and technologically innovative part of the U.S. economy.

Compliance with environmental regulations is also big business. According to official figures from the federal government's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), it costs the U.S. economy \$131 billion today to comply with environmental regulations. That figure will have risen to more than \$300 billion a year by the year 2000. The expenditures are a net drain on the economy, but while the nation is bankrupted, someone is profiting from the services and equipment sold. A look at classified advertisements in the papers today reveals that companies involved in environmental compliance are growing fast. Many of these corporations are contributing to the environmental movement.

### **Funds from the U.S. Government**

There is a third area of funding for the environmental movement: the U.S. government itself. As reported in detail by Peter Metzger, former science editor of the *Rocky Mountain News*, there are now thousands of professional environmentalists ensconced in the U.S. government. These environmentalists channel hundreds of millions of dollars in grants and favors to environmentalists and environmental groups under all kinds of guises. In a 1991 newspaper series, columnist Warren Brookes exposed how the federal Bureau of Land Management [BLM] used the Nature Conservancy as a land broker, giving the antigrowth organization handsome profits.

The EPA doles out huge amounts of money to environmental groups to conduct "studies" of the impact of global warming and ozone depletion. President Bush has made the Global Climate Change program a priority, so while the Space Station, vaccinations for children, and other crucial projects have been virtually eliminated from the budget, \$1.3 billion is available for studies of how man is

fouling the Earth. Similarly, scientists who challenge global warming and ozone depletion as hoaxes do not receive a penny in funding, while those who scream doomsday receive tens of millions in research grants from the "climate change" program.

How much funding do the environmentalists receive from the federal government? Officially, the U.S. government gives away more than \$3 billion a year in grants to support environmental groups and projects. The actual total, however, is impossible to estimate. A top-ranking official of the department of Energy who spent two years attempting to cut off tens of millions of dollars in "pork barrel" grants going to environmentalist groups, discovered that for each grant she was eliminating, environmentalist moles in the department added several new ones. The official resigned in disgust.

The environmentalist capture of Washington, which was consolidated during the Carter administration, produced radical changes in the Washington, D.C. establishment. This process of subversion was described by [Peter] Metzger in a speech given in 1980, titled "**Government-funded Activism: Hiding Behind the Public Interest.**"

"For the first time in history, a presidential administration is funding a political movement dedicated to destroying many of the institutions and principles of American society. Activist organizations, created, trained, and funded at taxpayers' expense, and claiming to represent the public interest, are attacking our economic system and advocating its replacement by a new form of government. Not only is this being done by means already adjudicated as being unconstitutional, but it is being done without the consent of Congress, the knowledge of the public, or the attention of the press.

It all began when President Carter hired individuals prominently identified with the protest or adversary culture... the appointment [by the Carter administration] of several hundred leading activists to key regulatory and policy-making positions in Washington resulted in their use of the federal regulatory bureaucracy in order to achieve their personal and ideological goals.

Already accomplished is the virtual paralysis of new federal coal leasing, conventional electric generating plant licensing in many areas, federal minerals land leasing and water development, industrial exporting without complex environmental hearings, and the halting of new nuclear power plant construction...

The consequences of those sub-cabinet appointees having then made their own appointments, and those having then made theirs, so that now, there are thousands of [environmentalist] representatives in government..."



According to Metzger, this new class,

"enshrined in the universities, the news media, and especially the federal bureaucracy, has become one of the most powerful of the special interests."

### **Two Case Studies**

Let us consider two case studies of how foundation-funded environmentalist organizations have virtually taken over national policy.

The Washington, D.C.-based Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) was created in 1969. The cover story is that it sprang from America's grass roots, after a group of Long Island citizens began having coffee clatches to discuss the threat of toxic chemicals. The truth is that EDF was created by grants from the leading Eastern Establishment foundations and these foundations have continued to support it.

The Ford Foundation gave EDF its seed money in 1969. In 1988, EDF received \$500,000 from the Ford Foundation, \$1,000,000 from the William Bingham Foundation, \$75,000 from the Joyce Foundation, \$150,000 from the Mott Foundation, and \$25,000 from the Carnegie Foundation, among others. Today, EDF has seven offices nationwide, more than 150,000 members, and an annual operating budget of \$17 million.

The EDF made its name in the fight to ban DDT, which it accomplished with the help of Natural Resources Defense Council litigation in 1972 -- and with the cooperation of the EPA's administrator, William Ruckelshaus. Ruckelshaus ignored the scientific evidence presented during seven months of EPA hearings on DDT, and he ignored the decision of the EPA's hearing examiner not to ban DDT; instead, for what he admitted were political reasons, he banned this life-saving insecticide that was turning the tide on malaria. Thus "public perception" became established as more important than scientific evidence in environmental decisions.

In 1986, EDF helped to draft California's first sweeping environmental regulations in the form of the ballot initiative known as Proposition 65, which restricted the use of dozens of chemicals in industry and agriculture and has cost the California economy billions.

EDF's goals for the 1990s include: defending against the so-called greenhouse effect; saving sea turtles and porpoises by shutting down the fishing industry; banning CFCs worldwide by the year 2000; saving the world's rain forests; passing legislation to prevent so-called acid rain; setting aside Antarctica as a permanent wildlife reserve; extending the chemical bans in California's Proposition 65 to the entire nation; and recycling all household and industrial waste material.

The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), one of several of the legal arms of the environmentalist movement, was founded in 1970 with a massive infusion of funds from the Ford Foundation. Together with the Legal Defense Fund of the Sierra Club and the National Audubon Society, the NRDC took to the courts, filing dozens of lawsuits to block dams, shut down nuclear power-plant construction, and derail highway development projects.

The NRDC and its cohorts also targeted federal regulators in the Environmental Protection Agency and other offices, forcing tightened controls on pollution and demanding the enforcement of statutory rules for clean air and rivers. **The Clean Air Act of 1970 was a first fruit of these efforts.**

Who funds these multi-million-dollar court battles? In 1988, the NRDC received grants of \$75,000 from the Educational Foundation of America, \$600,000 from the MacArthur Foundation, \$165,000 from the W. Alton Jones Foundation, and \$850,000 from the Beinecke Foundation.

A good chunk of this money ends up in the expense accounts and salaries of the Eastern Establishment bigwigs who run the environmentalist advocacy groups -- or in the pockets of their lawyers. A 1990 cover story in *Forbes* magazine reports that the organizational network of consumer and environmentalist activist Ralph Nader is worth close to \$10 million and receives ardent support in its anti-industry lawsuits from a circle of plaintiff attorneys with multi-million-dollar annual incomes (see Brimelow and Spencer 1990)

Nader himself lives very well off the publicity stirred up from court cases. "Oh, God, limousines and nothing but the best hotels", *Forbes* quotes a former state Trial Lawyers Association official. "We got quite a bill when he [Nader] was in town". Nader lives in a \$1.5 million townhouse in Washington, D.C. (owned by his sister) and commands up to five-figure fees each for between 50 and 100 speaking appearances per year.

(Photo caption) The National Wildlife Federation's Jay Hair, like other leaders of environmental empires, commands a six-figure salary -- \$200,000. However, his actual income is much higher because it includes earnings from his membership on the boards of corporations and other environmental groups. On average, environmental executives have salaries in the range of \$150,000 to \$200,000 a year, excluding benefits and income from other sources.

Other environmentalist organization leaders also maintain an expensive lifestyle. In August 1983, reporter Nancy Shute gave a colorful description of the environmentalists-turned-establishment who had taken over Washington. Under the headline "Bambi Goes to Washington", Shute writes in *National Review*:

"On December 1, 1982, barely two years after Ronald Reagan's election, hundreds of Washington lawyers and lobbyists munched pears and cheese and sipped Bloody Marys under the sparkling crystal chandeliers at the Organization of the American States (oas.org) headquarters, just two blocks from the White House. The conversation turned to politics, as do all Washington cocktail-party conversations.

"But the women in pearls and men in dark suits who shouted to be heard over the seven piece dance band represented not Exxon or U.S. Steel or General Motors, but the nations' environmental lobby, celebrating the tenth birthday of the Environmental Policy Center, an influential Washington lobbying group and research institute.

"In the 13 years since Earth Day, the environmental presence in the capital has grown from a ragtag band dedicated to saving trees and whales to a formidable Washington institution.

"Much of the environmental windfall has been spent on sleek new offices, on high-profile lobbyists like former senator Gaylord Nelson and Carter Administration Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus... on high-priced economists and lawyers, and on millions of direct-mail pleas for more cash..." [p.924]

These environmentalists are unabashed about their affluence. Their conferences have become notorious for their plush locales (Switzerland, Beverly Hills, Sundance and Aspen, for example).

### **The Campaign against CFCs**

Both the EDF and NRDC played a leading role in the propaganda and legal campaign to ban CFCs.

In June 1974, Sherwood Rowland and Mario Molina's doomsday paper claiming CFCs would deplete the ozone layer was published in *Nature*. At that moment, however, the hottest topic in the news media was that chlorine emissions from the Space Shuttle would wipe out the ozone layer. It was not until September 1974, that articles on the CFCs threat started to appear.

In November 1974, the Natural Resources Defense Council joined the ozone debate, calling for an immediate ban on CFCs. In June 1975, the NRDC sued the Consumer Products Safety Commission for a ban on CFCs used in aerosol spray cans. The lawsuit was rejected by the commission in July 1975, on grounds that there was insufficient evidence that CFCs harm the atmosphere.

At that point, EPA administrator Russell E. Train intervened on behalf of the NRDC and proponents of the ozone depletion theory, calling for all nations to

cooperate in establishing worldwide guidelines on CFCs to avoid environmental disaster. Today Russell E. Train is head of the World Wildlife Fund/Conservation Foundation, a trustee of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, and a top-ranking member of both the Trilateral Commission and the New York Council on Foreign Relations.

For the next two years, debate raged on the future of CFCs, with the NRDC, lavishly funded by the Ford and Rockefeller Foundations, playing a major role. While President Ford's top science advisers said the evidence was still not strong enough for an immediate ban on CFCs, other members of the administration moved to implement such a ban. One of them was Russell W. Peterson, chairman of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, who worked for a ban on the use of CFCs in aerosol cans as a first step toward the total banning of CFCs. Peterson made it clear that it did not matter that there was no scientific evidence against CFCs. According to Sharon Roan in *Ozone Crisis*, Peterson told the press:

"I believe firmly that we cannot afford to give chemicals the same constitutional rights that we enjoy under the law. Chemicals are not innocent until proven guilty" (p. 83).

Peterson today is the head of the National Audubon Society.

In October 1978, CFCs used as propellants in aerosol cans were banned in the United States.

The CFCs issue lay dormant for the next several years, until November 1984, when the NRDC started a new phase on the assault on CFCs with a suit against the EPA. The suit sought to force the EPA to place a cap on overall CFC production, as mandated under the EPA's Phase Two proposals. The NRDC argued that under the Clean Air Act, the EPA was required to regulate CFCs if they were deemed harmful to the environment. The group claimed the EPA had acknowledged this in its 1980 proposed regulations, which had not been implemented during the first four years of the Reagan administration.

As the NRDC relaunched its campaign against CFCs, a major political change was taking place in Washington, D.C. The leading proponents of technology, the space program, and economic development in the Reagan administration had been ousted by a series of media-orchestrated scandals == Interior Secretary James Watt, NASA Administrator James Beggs, and EPA Chief Anne Burford. Burford was replaced by the multimillionaire corporate environmentalist, William Ruckelshaus, his second term as EPA administration.

There was still no credible scientific evidence against CFCs; supposedly this changed in May 1985 with the publication of Joseph Farman's doomsday ozone-hole paper in *Nature* magazine. This article enabled the environmental lobby to start creating hysteria about CFCs once more, which set the wheels into motion that led to the signing of the Montreal Protocol in 1987.

**In September 1986, the DuPont Company announced its support for the banning of CFCs.** By summer 1987, the environmental onslaught against CFCs was in full gear under the leadership of the well-funded NRDC. It was at that moment that the World Resources Institute received a \$25 million grant from the MacArthur Foundation. According to Sharon Roan's book, *Ozone Crisis* (page 204):

"Economist Daniel J. Dudek of the Environmental Defense Fund provided a study on the cost of reducing ozone depletion... At the World Resources Institute and Worldwatch Institute, studies were completed to alert Americans to the effects of various ozone control policies. The Environmental Defense Fund, Friends of the Earth, and Sierra Club initiated public education campaigns and began pressuring industry to own up to its responsibility."

In September 1987, the Montreal Protocol was signed, calling for a 50 percent ban on CFCs by the year 2000.

[CDR Note: In 1995 Arizona State Legislature passed a bill (HB 2236) -- a one pager -- which allowed the possession, use, manufacture, purchase, installation, transportation and sale of chlorofluorocarbons (namely freon), while prohibiting any penalty, fine or retaliatory action against any person or political subdivision (local government) of the state who or which did any of the above. Governor Fife Symington signed the bill into law on April 15, 1995 and very shortly thereafter was out of office on alleged charges of misuse of campaign funds, or some silly nonsense.

According to a report we've obtained, scientific studies *have* debunked the theory that CFC's from freon were responsible for the hole in the ozone layer. The hole is caused from lack of sunlight at the polar areas during the long-night season. When the sun returns, the hole repairs itself. It is a repetitive process. The studies claim that CFCs from volcanoes and other natural phenomena are released into the atmosphere at a much higher rate than those [CFCs] released by freon.

It is most probable that since DuPont's patent on freon was about to expire -- at which time any company could manufacture freon -- the timed release of the ozone-hole scare played a two-fold role; that is, forwarding the environmentalist movement and catering to the interests of the transnational DuPont company. We understand that the new coolant approved for use is also a DuPont

patented product; was never tested for environmental safety; is much less efficient; uses more electricity to cool; is caustic to equipment, reducing the life of equipment; and cannot be used in present equipment so will ultimately cost homeowners and businesses billions to modify or change out equipment.]

### **The First Earth Day**

First demonstrators who put spotted owls first, environmentalists define people as the enemy.

At the same time that the environmental organizations were becoming a well-funded big business, their propaganda output was used to create popular support for the environmentalist cause in the United States. A turning point in the transformation of the environmentalist fringe into a radicalized mass movement was Earth Day 1970.

On April 22, 1970, thousands of college students and curious onlookers turned out to participate in the widely publicized Earth Day festivities in dozens of major U.S. cities. Folk music, antinuclear slogans, "Love Your Mother Planet Earth" posters and college students were everywhere. On the surface it appeared to most observers that the nationwide rallies represented a grass roots movement to protest "the destruction of the environment". Nothing could be further from the truth. The Earth Day publicity stunt was part of a highly coordinated effort to create a climate of sympathy for Malthusian zero growth, where none yet existed in the United States.

Earth Day was partly bankrolled by a \$200,000 personal grant from Robert O. Anderson, at the time the president of Atlantic Richfield Oil Corporation, the president of the Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies, and a personal protégé of University of Chicago zero-growth ideologue Robert Maynard Hutchins. Anderson and the Aspen Institute played a crucial role in the launching of a worldwide environmentalist movement, and Earth Day was a big step along the way.

Coincident with the Earth Day effort, *The Progressive*, a 70-year-old publication of the U.S. branch of the Fabian socialist movement of H.G. Wells, Bertrand Russell, and Julian and Aldous Huxley, devoted its entire issue to a special report on "The Crisis of Survival". Among the environmentalist ideologues who contributed to this special issue were Ralph Nader and Paul Ehrlich. Denis Hayes, a Stanford University graduate who would later become the environmentalist-in-residence at the Worldwatch Institute, wrote the keynote article on Earth Day. He stated:

"April 22 is a tool -- something that can be used to focus the attention of society on where we are heading. It's a chance to start getting a handle on it all; a

rejection of the silly idea that bigger is better, and faster is better, world without limits, amen.

"This has never been true. It presumes a mastery by Man over nature, and over Nature's laws. Instead of seeking harmony, man has sought to subdue the whole world. The consequences of this are beginning to come home. And time is running out."

In 1970, most Americans would have summarily rejected this pessimistic view. But, by the time the organizers of Earth Day 1970 were planning 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the event for 1990, the environmentalist hoax had been sold to the population of the United States. In the months before Earth Day 1990, every elementary and secondary school in the nation was provided with a special Earth Day preparation curriculum from the environmental Protection Agency. EPA spokesmen toured the nation. Television, magazines, and newspapers from the national to local level reported and editorialized on the event. State and town governments promoted it with public funds.

On Earth Day 1990, according to a spokesman for Friends of the Earth (a leading arm of the environmentalist lobby also financed by Robert O. Anderson), "one of the largest demonstrations ever" was held in Washington, D.C. and tens of thousands of people, representing "all types of environmental groups from all over the United States and internationally" were there. Smaller celebrations were held in literally thousands of state capitals, towns, and cities across the United States. A mass movement against science, technology, and economic growth had been consolidated in the United States.

### **Next Comes Genocide**

In 1989, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak estimated that 500 million people in the Third World had starved to death in the decade of the 1980's; current estimates by the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) are that 40,000 children under the age of five starve to death every day. Most of these deaths can be attributed directly or indirectly to debt service and "technological apartheid", policies that prevent modern technologies -- such as water treatment plants, nuclear energy, refrigeration, mechanized agriculture, pesticides, and fertilizers -- from being used in Third World countries. These policies were considered colonialist in past decades; today, they are promoted by environmental groups in industrialized nations, **under the guise of saving the Earth from pollution.**

[CDR Note: See related article: Toxic Wastes 'Recycled' As Fertilizer Threaten U.S. Farms - Food Supply

Many environmentalists have no idea of the consequences of their belief system for the people of the Third World, but it is clear that those at the top of the environmentalist movement are witting in their advocacy of policies that ultimately kill people. We know this is the case because many of the environmentalist policy-makers say so publicly. It is not simply that the ban on CFCs will kill people and that the top environmentalists know that it will kill people.

The fact is that the top ozone depletion propagandists at the World Wildlife Fund, the Club of Rome, the Population Crisis Committee/Draper Fund, and other elite bodies want it to kill people. Depopulation is one of the reasons they devised the ozone hoax in the first place. By scaring the general population with stories of imminent catastrophe, these policy-makers intend to justify adoption of stringent measures that will curtail economic growth and population. The ozone hole is just one of several such scare stories.

On July 24, 1980, the U.S. State Department unveiled the *Global 2000 Report to the President*. It had been in preparation by the White House Council on environmental Quality and the State Department, employing scores of government personnel and hundreds of outside consultants since the early days of the Carter administration -- an administration dominated by elite members of David Rockefeller's Trilateral Commission. The report was a long-inded proposal that "population control" -- a euphemism for killing people -- be made the cornerstone of the policies of all U.S. presidents from that time forward.

Pervading the report and several companion documents were lurid predictions: **crises in water resources**, severe energy shortages, shortfalls in strategically vital raw materials -- all blamed on "population growth".

The report argued that without countervailing action, by the year 2000 there will be 2 to 4 billion people too many. Therefore, the report said, it is required that government implicitly direct all policies domestic and foreign toward the elimination of 2 to 4 billion people by the year 2000.

The rationale for proposing a crime of such great magnitude is the simple -- and totally wrong -- Malthusian ideology that claims population growth inherently exhausts "natural resources" and there are, therefore, "limits to growth", as the Club of Rome has insisted.

In the real world of human production of the means of human existence, there is no correlation between "natural resources" and human population potential, for the simple reason that resources are not really "natural". The resources for human existence are defined by human science and technology, and the development of science and technology defines whole new arrays of



"resources" for the societies that avail themselves of such progress. For example, oil was there "naturally", but it did not exist as a resource for humankind until the technology -- combustion engines, and so on -- existed to make it a resource. Before that, it was a black mud that usually meant ruination of farm fields.

This means two things. First, there are no "limits to growth". There are only limits within the confines of a given array of technology. So, unless scientific and technological progress were stopped dead, there could never be an absolute limit to "resources" for human life. There can never be such a thing as absolute "overpopulation" of the human species.

Second, were modern agricultural and industrial capabilities, even as they exist in industrialized nations today, diffused throughout the Third World, we would discover that not only do we have ample resources for year-2000 population levels, but we also have too few people to operate advanced agroindustrial facilities at optimum capacity. If we took account of in-sight technological advances, we would discover that *underpopulation* is the main problem we face.

The Global 2000 Report, however, assumed no diffusion of modern agroindustrial capabilities to the Third World. Instead, it assumed that the Third World would be denied even available forms of technology.

In addition, it assumed no progress beyond existing scientific and technological arsenals. The over population forecast follows neatly from these assumptions: The report assumes that science and technology have been forced to come to a stop, in order to assert that by the year 2000, there will be 2 to 4 billion more people than the world economy can sustain. The report neglects to point out that if science and technology were not to be forced into stagnation, the globe's population would have much brighter prospects.

In other words, the *Global 2000* Report is simply a statement of policy intent for genocide, not a scientific forecast at all. It reveals in a unique way the depopulation aims of those also behind the ozone-depletion hoax.

By the time *Global 2000* was issued, whole sections of the U.S. government existed solely to implement its recommendation: depopulation. The role of Richard Elliott Benedick, who negotiated the Montreal Protocol for the United States, must be emphasized again. Benedick has spent most of his government career as head of the State Department Population Office, promoting policies to reduce the size of the world's population.

Lest the skeptical reader think we exaggerate, listen to Thomas Ferguson, a Benedick colleague and head of the Latin American desk at Benedick's Office

of Population Affairs. Ferguson made these comments on State Department policy toward the civil war in El Salvador (as reported by *Executive Intelligence Review*, 1981, p. 43):

"Once population is out of control, it requires authoritarian government, even fascism, to reduce it. The professionals are not interested in lowering population for humanitarian reasons... In El Salvador, there is no place for these people -- period. No place.

"Look at Vietnam. We studied the thing. That area was also overpopulated and a problem. We thought that the war would lower rates, and we were wrong. To really reduce population quickly, you have to pull all the males into the fighting and you have to kill significant numbers of fertile age females. You know, as long as you have a large number of fertile females, you will have a problem...

"In El Salvador, you are killing a small number of males and not enough females to do the job on the population. The quickest way to reduce population is through famine, like in Africa, or through disease., like the Black Death.

"What might happen in El Salvador is that the war might disrupt the distribution of food: The population could weaken itself, you could have disease and starvation. Then you can successfully create a tendency for population rates to decline rapidly... but otherwise, people breed like animals."

Ferguson's level of moral depravity is not unique among government policy-makers. Listen to William Paddock, an adviser to the State Department under both Henry Kissinger and Cyrus Vance. In spring 1981, Paddock told a Georgetown University seminar that 3.5 million of El Salvador's 4 million people should be eliminated, and would be, provided that there was "continuous turmoil and civil strife, which is the only solution to the overpopulation problem."

Paddock continued:

"The United States should support the current military dictatorship, because that is what is required... But we should also open up contacts with the opposition, because they will eventually come to power. As we do that, we should work with their opposition, because we will need to bring them to power. That is what our policy is, that is what it must be... an endless cycle."

Readers are encouraged to seek out and read the documentation for themselves in official government documents. For example, National Security Study Memorandum 200: *Implications of Worldwide Population Growth for U.S. Security and Overseas Interests*, a recently declassified memo written by National Security Advisers Brent Scowcroft and Henry Kissinger in 1974, states specifically

that population growth in the developing sector is a *national security threat to the United States*, and must be curtailed as a matter of America's foreign policy. Under the rubric of this document, the United States has worked internationally to cut the growth and overall size of the darker-skinned peoples of the Third World -- an explicitly racist policy.\*

### **Notes**

This policy against the Third World and "less advantaged populations" is being implemented on a scale never seen before but, in fact, it is nothing new. Historian Anton Chaitkin documented recently that the policy-makers gathered around George Bush, the family of the President, and the Anglo-American financial establishment behind the Bush administration, are the same group of people who put the racist Adolf Hitler into power and copied his eugenics policies in practice in the United States. They continue to promulgate the policy of Hitlerite "eugenics" or race purification under the new label of population control and in the name of "saving the environment".

Bush's work for population control goes back to the 1960s, when he was the first congressman to introduce national population-control legislation. Bush was also a conspicuous activist for population reduction when he was U.S. ambassador to the United Nations from 1971 to 1972. In 1972, prodded by Bush and others, the U. S. Agency for International Development (AID) began funding the Sterilization League of America to sterilize nonwhites.

In his introduction to the 1973 book *The World Population Crisis: The U.S. Response*, by Phyllis Piotrow, Bush wrote **that "one of the major challenges of the 1970s... will be to curb the world's fertility"**.

In 1988, U.S. AID made a new contract with the Sterilization League, committing the U.S. government to spend \$80 million over five years. This contract is not listed in the public U.S. AID budgetary literature, yet the group says that 87 percent of its foreign operations are funded by the U.S. government.

The sterilization program is based on deception.

The U. S. AID tells Congress and the public, that since the Reagan and Bush administrations have been opposed to abortions, tax money that would have funded abortions in foreign countries has been diverted to "family planning activities". They fail to explain that in addition to buying 7 billion condoms, the program funds surgical sterilization of growing numbers of the Third World Population.

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# News Media

## Top 10 Major Media Cover-Ups of 2014

**WND's annual review presents news that wasn't 'fit to print'**

WND, January 1, 2015



Faced with political division regarded by some as worse than at any time since the Civil War, a broken economy, unprecedented national debt, abuse of executive power, an out-of-control judiciary and collapsing public morals, American voters overwhelmingly backed the Republican Party in the midterm elections, clearly signaling a desire to return to the nation's founding principles.

Yet before the new Congress could even be seated – with the largest GOP House majority in 70 years and a new Senate majority – Republicans conceded to Democrat desires and passed a \$1.1 trillion spending bill, forgoing opportunities to shut down President Obama's executive amnesty and curb Obamacare.

That “betrayal,” as many conservative activists have called it, is the No. 1 underreported story of 2014, as selected by the WND editors with the help of the news site's readers.

At the end of each year, many news organizations typically present their retrospective replays of what they consider to have been the top news stories of the previous 12 months. WND's editors, however, long have considered it more newsworthy to publicize the most underreported or unreported news events of the year.

WND Editor and CEO Joseph Farah has sponsored “Operation Spike” every year since 1988, and since founding WND in May 1997, has continued the annual tradition.

Here are the 2014 picks:

## **1. Republican betrayal of midterm voters**

[For longtime conservative activist Richard Viguerie](#), the Republican congressional leadership's budget deal with President Obama after historic GOP gains in the 2014 midterm elections was nothing short of a monumental betrayal.

"I don't know any other way to say it than that they lied to the American voters," Viguerie told WND.

A conservative leader for more than 50 years, he often is called the movement's "funding father" because of his innovative work with direct mail fundraising.

"The first impression they made was to betray the voters, betray their landslide victory and surrender," Viguerie said. "They just absolutely surrendered to an exceedingly unpopular president; so, shame on them."

In response, more than half-a-million Americans have joined a WND [campaign to urge GOP members of the House to replace Speaker John Boehner](#)

A letter from each participant in the campaign will go to each Republican member stating that two issues have "prompted Americans to turn in droves to the Republican Party in November 2014."

The issues were Obama's "blatantly unconstitutional executive action to provide amnesty to millions of illegal aliens, and the deliberately deceptive restructuring of America's health-care system through Obamacare, which threatens to unravel the greatest health delivery system in the world."

## **2. Obamacare lies**

By the time videos of the candid admissions of Obamacare architect Jonathan Gruber surfaced, it already was clear to many Americans that Obama wasn't truthful when he promised they could keep their doctor, they could keep their health-care policy, their costs would go down \$2,500 a year and the annual deficit and the overall debt would drop.

Now, here was the mind behind the Affordable Health Care Act admitting not only that Obama's declared promises weren't true but that the crafters of the law knew that the only way the bill could pass would be to mask its features and hide the true intent of its authors.



**Jonathan Gruber**

Despite previous praise of Gruber as the architect of their plan, Obama and fellow Democrats desperately tried to distance themselves from him after the video excerpts were exposed, dismissing him as someone who “never worked on our staff.”

[Obama suggested he barely knew Gruber](#), but a PBS interview shows Gruber [revealing the president was present in sessions in which deception was discussed](#) as a political tool.

[When Gruber was called to testify before a House panel in December](#), Democrats scheduled a press conference at the same time to unveil a highly partisan report of “torture” by the CIA during the George W. Bush administration.

And when establishment media reported Gruber’s testimony, the focus was on his apology for calling Americans “stupid,” as if that were the real offense.

Largely lost in the coverage was the fact that Gruber’s “glib” talk, as he put it to the House panel, made it clear that a small group of highly educated elitists believe it’s necessary to deceive the people, because the people would foolishly reject what’s good for them. The elitists, in their minds, only want the best for the country, and, some day, the people may come to realize the brilliance of their plan and thank them for benevolently rescuing them from their ignorance.



[In the first of at least seven videos that surfaced in 2014](#), Gruber admitted Obamacare “was written in a tortured way to make sure CBO did not score the mandate as taxes” and declared “lack of transparency is a huge political advantage.”

“Basically you know call it the stupidity of the American voter, or whatever, that was really, really critical to get the thing to pass,” he said.

Just before the New Year, [an October 2009 policy brief by Gruber was unearthed](#) in which he admitted the Affordable Care Act would definitely not be affordable. Produced while he was writing the bill and while Obama was declaring premiums would drop dramatically, the brief said Obamacare had no cost controls in it.

Talk-radio host Rush Limbaugh, meanwhile, [saw a major lie at the heart of Obamacare that had gained little notice](#).

He pointed to a Gallup poll that found 70 percent of Americans “remain generally positive about the quality of health care they personally receive, their health-care coverage and what they pay for health care.”



That means, Limbaugh explained, that the stated reason for Obamacare – the claim that the whole health-care system is broken and unfixable – was wrong.

“Everybody’s been sold a bill of goods,” he said. “Most people are and have been very happy with the current health-care system.”

His brother, WND columnist and author David Limbaugh, [wrote that the lies undergirding Obamacare were chronicled years ago](#), noting that before the bill was passed in 2009, the chief actuary of the Medicare program estimated “14 million people would lose their employer coverage under Obamacare, even though many will want to keep it.”

Gruber’s glibness also exposed that fact that the purpose of the “Cadillac tax” on premium health insurance plans was to discourage employers from providing health insurance. The goal would be achieved, Gruber said, by “mislabeling it, calling it a tax on insurance plans rather than a tax on people, when we all know it’s a tax on people who hold those insurance plans.”



Obama had insisted, in a 2009 interview with ABC News, the individual mandate was not a tax. But in 2012, White House attorneys argued before the Supreme Court that it was tax, which was the only way it could comply with the U.S. Constitution.

[WND columnist Jack Cashill](#) recalled Rep. Joe Wilson, R-S.C., was widely reviled for shouting to Obama during the 2009 State of the Union address, “You Lie!” in reaction to the president’s declaration that his proposed health law would not insure illegal aliens.

Cashill noted Wilson “had to feel vindicated when a report surfaced in 2014 that 42 percent of new Medicaid signups were immigrants, legal and otherwise.”

### **3. President Obama’s sleight-of-hand to grant amnesty to millions of illegal aliens**

Everyone knows that after repeatedly insisting he didn’t have the power to change immigration laws and effectively grant amnesty to millions of illegal aliens, President Obama went ahead and signed executive orders doing just that.



Or did he? The reality, as [first reported by WND senior staff reporter Jerome Corsi](#), is that Obama used a sleight-of-hand in an apparent attempt to avoid constitutional conflicts, ordering a series of memoranda instead, including a key memo by Department of Homeland Security Director Jeh Johnson.

[Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., a leading opponent of Obama's immigration policy, caught on to the president's maneuvering](#), ridiculing the administration for not carrying out the action through an executive order.

“I guess they just whispered in the ear of Johnson over at Homeland Security, ‘Just put out a memo. That way we don’t have to enforce the law,’” Sessions said:

As a result of the president's use of a memo instead of an official order, the senator observed: "We don't even have a really significant, direct, legal direction that we can ascertain, precisely what the president is doing. It's a stunning event in my view."

Sessions believes the result was "the creation of a new, alternative immigration system" despite the fact the president "is not empowered to do that."

He noted the president had publicly acknowledged more than 20 times in recent years that he did not have the constitutional authority to unilaterally implement amnesty. As the senator read excerpts of Obama's own words, members of the audience laughed aloud at how much those words differed from the president's actions.

The president should simply uphold the Constitution as it is, Sessions said, "not as he wishes it would be."

#### **4. President Obama's 'enemies list'**

In 2013, the Obama administration drew heat for seizing two months of telephone records of reporters and editors at the Associated Press. Then came the revelation of extensive Obama Justice Department spying on Fox News reporter James Rosen, including tracking his movements and seizing two days of his personal emails.

This year, an explosive new book by former CBS News reporter Sharyl Attkisson put more of the pieces together, presenting evidence that the Obama White House, not unlike the notorious Nixon administration, has an "enemies list" of reporters and activists who threaten its agenda.

Attkisson, who has [filed a lawsuit against the Obama administration](#), said in an interview an internal email indicates "reporters who were working with leakers in government agencies or perceived as enemies of the White House are being targeted."

[Attkisson's complaint](#) alleges the Department of Justice and the White House monitored her because of her investigations into the Fast and Furious scandal.

In her book, "Stonewalled," she said she obtained information from a government-linked source that the FBI, among other agencies, "had hacked into both her personal and work computers over a lengthy period of time."

Attkisson, who has won an Emmy and the Edward R. Murrow award for investigative reporting, said both her CBS computer and personal iMac were

repeatedly hacked and its files accessed, including one on Benghazi. She said “the interlopers were able to co-opt my iMac and operate it remotely, as if they were sitting in front of it.”

The Fast and Furious gun-running scandal produced another member of Obama's enemies list.

[The Justice Department's inspector general found](#) that a high-ranking Obama political appointee destroyed the credibility and career of John Dodson, a special agent for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives who infuriated his superiors by alerting Congress about the scheme.

[WND CEO Joseph Farah saw Obama developing an enemies list](#) at the beginning of his administration. Austan Goolsbee, then chairman of Obama's Council of Economic Advisers, let it slip that he knew more than he should about the tax structure of Koch Industries, one of the primary funders of tea-party activity, including Dick Arney's FreedomWorks.

Three years later came the revelation that in the heat of his re-election campaign, Obama's Internal Revenue Service was impeding the fundraising of conservative and tea-party political action groups by targeting their applications for tax-exempt status with intensive scrutiny.

## **5. Racial strife created by Obama administration**

As an African-American who rose to the pinnacle of his profession as director of pediatric neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Dr. Ben Carson is in a position to assess racial relations in America, and he thinks that despite the hope of a great leap forward with the election of Barack Obama in 2008, [relations actually have gotten worse](#).



**Al Sharpton and President Obama**

"I actually believe that things were better before this president was elected. And I think that things have gotten worse because of his unusual emphasis [on race]," he told radio host Hugh Hewitt.

Carson, regarded as a possible 2016 presidential candidate, cited, among other examples, Obama's pre-judgment of the police incident with black Harvard professor Henry Louis Gates incident, the Trayvon Martin case and the effort of progressives to "manipulate, particularly minority communities, to make them feel that they are victims."

The president "absolutely" plays the race card, he said.

[WND columnist Larry Elder pointed to Attorney General Eric Holder's insertion into the Ferguson, Missouri, case](#) before a grand jury eventually chose to bring no charges against police officer Darren Wilson for the death of black teen Michael Brown.

Holder told a group of black leaders in Ferguson: "I am the attorney general of the United States. But I am also a black man. I can remember being stopped on the New Jersey Turnpike on two occasions and accused of speeding. ... I remember how humiliating that was and how angry I was and the impact it had on me."

Elder pointed out the long-believed claim of "racism" by officers on the New Jersey Turnpike had been investigated and debunked twice.

The columnist noted that more than 20 years ago, black liberal Harvard sociologist Orlando Patterson said: "The sociological truths are that America, while still flawed in its race relations ... is now the least racist white-majority society in the world; has a better record of legal protection of minorities than any other society, white or black; offers more opportunities to a greater number of black persons than any other society, including all those of Africa."

Holder, however, Elder wrote, sees an America mired in the 1950s when it comes to race.

[In another column](#), Elder offered a summation of how many blacks who once had high hopes for their future under Barack Obama now assess their situation.

A black 82-year-old grandmother, a lifelong Democrat, called C-SPAN to explain why she "voted straight Republican" in the midterm election.

"I have noticed ... what the Democratic Party has done to my people," she said. "Unemployment is high in the black community – we are double with unemployment – than it is anywhere else. ... And I'm not talking about the people that need help – because with so many people getting help that doesn't need help, it prevents the people that really need help from getting it.

"I hear my people calling in all the time saying that every time you say something against the ideology of President Obama, that you're doing it because he is black," she continued. "We need to stop that foolishness.

"This man is destroying this country, and it's what he intended to do. He said he was going to transform America, and that's what he's doing."

In the wake of the murder of two New York City police officers in December, [a former NYPD officer who also served as a Secret Service agent for President Obama didn't mince words.](#)

Dan Bongino blasted New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, Obama, Holder and activist Al Sharpton as race "hustlers" who are partly to blame for the assassination.

"The people who have made their careers off of political division and implying racism where it doesn't exist, No. 1, have really destroyed credibility in actual cases of racism that should be investigated, should be pursued to every extent legally possible, and then secondly, they've incited people," Bongino said in a Fox News interview. "Yes, I do put some of this on them."

He noted that de Blasio, in his speech following the death of Eric Garner, who died of a heart attack after a police officer held him around his neck because he was resisting arrest, emphasized historical examples of racism in America.

Bongino acknowledged the history but argued that in "the context of a police-involved incident, the Garner incident ... there's zero evidence whatsoever that that incident had any element of racism in it at all."

"Oddly enough," Bongino said, "he's implying that all police officers, all, were judging people on the color of their skin. And then he's telling people to go out and judge police officers on the color of their uniform?"

"I mean, this is not leadership, these people have no credibility anymore."

[WND's Gina Loudon, who went to Ferguson for a week to report,](#) found that within days of the death of Michael Brown, leftist activists from outside of Ferguson set up a protest campaign office in the city, which enduring days of

looting and violence both after the shooting and after the grand jury cleared the officer.

“Almost immediately, what started as ‘peaceful protests’ escalated into rampant looting,” she wrote. “The local state senator, a black Democrat, took to the airwaves demanding justice. She would later make the ominous promise that violence would ensue were Officer Darren Wilson not charged and convicted – he wasn’t, and it did.”

## **6. Militarization and nationalization of local police**



The Ferguson riots drew attention to the Pentagon's 1033 program to help arm local law enforcement agencies with surplus military equipment. Ferguson also prompted a major surge in distribution of lethal firearms, with [the federal government shipping nearly 4,000 more assault rifles to local law enforcement agencies in the subsequent three months.](#)

Trade shows enable communities to obtain unused military vehicles and weapons, including the [Alameda County Sheriff's Office and Military Police Regimental Association trade show](#) in Oakland, California, and the [Military Police Expo](#) in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Oakland was the site of citizen and police turmoil during the Occupy protests, while the Missouri site is about 150 miles west of Ferguson.

Critics cite studies such as a newly released University of California at Berkeley [examination of 192 protests held in 2011](#) concluding that when officers use aggressive tactics, protesters reacted aggressively. Even the uniforms officers used could be a cause for violence, the study suggests.

And John Whitehead, president of the Rutherford Institute, who has sued police departments for SWAT tactics, [wrote that incidents of misuse of military equipment “are no longer warning signs of a steadily encroaching police state.”](#) “The police state has arrived,” he said.



“For those like myself who have studied emerging police states, the sight of a city placed under martial law – its citizens under house arrest (officials used the Orwellian phrase ‘shelter in place’ to describe the mandatory lock-down), military-style helicopters equipped with thermal imaging devices buzzing the skies, tanks and armored vehicles on the streets, and snipers perched on rooftops, while thousands of black-garbed police swarm the streets and SWAT teams carry out house-to-house searches – leaves us in a growing state of unease,” he wrote.



[WND's first reports on the militarization of local police date to within months of the news site's launch in 1997](#), when founder and CEO Joseph Farah wrote of a training session for armed federal officers for the Environmental Protection Agency.

Describing a new multi-million-dollar training facility that was schooling thousands of federal employees, he wrote: “Critics of the growing militarization of the federal government will also take no comfort in the fact that the center's program was designed with the help of a team of experts from the U.S. military.”

The warnings now are being echoed by activists from both ends of the political spectrum.

[Former Democrat congressman Dennis Kucinich, a self-described progressive, wrote in the left-leaning Huffington Post](#) that the militarization of police needs to be reined in.

“We are at a moment of national crisis in the way our domestic law enforcement is being conducted,” he wrote. “The killing of an unarmed civilian by a law enforcement officer is, sadly, not unique. But the police response to the protests has provided a powerful cautionary moment for America. The militarization of local police has led to the arrival today in Ferguson of the actual military, the National Guard.”

Whitehead said “a police state does not come about overnight.”

“It starts small, perhaps with a revenue-generating red light camera at an intersection. When that is implemented without opposition, perhaps next will be surveillance cameras on public streets. License plate readers on police cruisers. More police officers on the beat. Free military equipment from the federal government. Free speech zones and zero-tolerance policies and curfews. SWAT team raids. Drones flying overhead,” he wrote.

“No matter how it starts, however, it always ends the same ... all-out tyranny.”

## **7. Muslim persecution of Christians in the Middle East**



At the beginning of 2014, [Open Doors' World Watch List monitoring persecution of Christians found the number of Christian martyrs was twice as high in 2013 as the year before](#). Islamic governments and groups once again were responsible for the vast majority of deaths and persecution around the world.

In the Middle East in 2014, the rise of ISIS, the self-declared “Islamic State,” in Syria and Iraq spelled disaster for Christians. An estimated 12 million Christians live in the Middle East, but that number has been thought to have decreased drastically since the ISIS summer takeover of nearly half of Iraq, including the city of Mosul, which had been home to Christians for 2,000 years.

ISIS has executed hundreds, perhaps thousands, of Christians throughout Iraq and forced many to flee the country.

A joint conference between the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem and the World Jewish Congress in Jerusalem was held to discuss the dire situation for Christians.

Father Gabriel Nadaf, who has campaigned for Christian Arab rights and for local Christians to support Israel, told the United Nations Human Rights Council in September that across the Middle East in the last decade, an estimated 100,000 Christians have been murdered each year.



“That means every five minutes a Christian is killed because of his faith,” he said.

“Those who can escape persecution at the hands of Muslim extremists have fled. ... Those who remain, exist as second if not third-class citizens to their Muslim rulers.”

In Egypt, Coptic Christians have been targeted by violence from the Muslim Brotherhood and Salafi groups. There have been reports of church burnings and killings of Christians.

In Syria, al-Qaida-linked rebels have threatened to kill Christians who do not join the fight against President Bashar Al-Assad.

Iran has persecuted Christians relentlessly, as well, recently making headlines for burning the lips of a Christian man caught eating during the Ramadan fast.



On Christmas Day in Iran, [nine Christians were arrested in a raid on a house church meeting](#) and transferred to an unknown location.

[In October, ISIS declared through its propaganda booklet “Dabiq” that its No. 1 enemy is Christianity.](#)

The cover photo shows a black ISIS flag flying over the Vatican. The booklet describes the terrorist army’s desires to conquer Rome and “break the cross.”

According to some Islamic traditions, the Islamic prophet Muhammad predicted that the occupation of Istanbul, Jerusalem and Rome would pave the way for the Islamic messiah or mahdi.

[In August, Rep. Trent Franks, R-Ariz., who leads the International Religious Freedom Caucus in the House, blasted President Obama](#) and his administration

for playing politics with Christian persecution and failing to prevent a handful of terrorists from growing into the powerful ISIS army now rampaging across Iraq.

Pointing out the extreme dangers Christians face worldwide, he said Obama administration officials “only respond when the politics become so antithetical to them that they have to.”

Franks cited the case of Meriam Ibrahim, who was sentenced to die for her Christian faith in Muslim Sudan but later released. He also noted Saeed Abedini, the American pastor imprisoned in Iran; the Boko Haram Islamic jihadists in Nigeria; the Muslim Brotherhood persecution of Christians in Egypt; and ISIS.

“The bottom line is if you don't have religious freedom, there's no hope for any other kind of freedom,” Franks said. “Religious freedom's the cornerstone of all other freedoms.”

[A report in late December by a British-based Syrian activist group](#) found ISIS had killed 1,878 people in Syria during the previous six months, the majority of them civilians.

## **8. New scientific findings that further undermine global warming fraud**

President Obama believes “global warming,” now more commonly referred to as “climate change,” is the “one issue that will define the contours of this century more dramatically than any other.”



Pope Francis plans to publish an encyclical on “climate change” that will inspire action at the 2015 United Nations meeting in Paris. He contends “climate change, the loss of biodiversity and deforestation are already showing their devastating effects in the great cataclysms we witness.”

But scientific findings continue to refute the widespread claim that the “debate is over” and there is a “consensus” among scientists that mankind is destroying the planet.

Former congressional aide Marc Morano, executive director of ClimateDepot.com, summed it up in a Dec. 30 Fox News interview.

“The pope has picked a contentious scientific issue which – now going on almost two decades of no global warming, sea ice recovering, sea level rise actually decelerating,” he said. “On every metric from polar bears on down, the global warming narrative has weakened. And to now have the pope jump on that bandwagon would sow confusion among Catholics.”

Indeed, the Remote Sensing Systems, which provide data to NASA, NOAA and the National Science Foundation, show the global mean surface temperature of the Earth has not risen for 18 consecutive years despite a 9 percent increase in CO<sub>2</sub>.

The “scare” of global warming from the use of carbon fuels and other human activities “is over,” contend scientists at the Chicago-based [Heartland Institute](#).

“This extends the so-called ‘pause’ in global warming to a new record, one not predicted by the climate models of the United Nations’ International Panel on Climate Change,” the organization said.



Craig Idso, senior fellow in environment for the Heartland Institute and co-editor of the Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change, a counterpart to the U.N.’s IPCC, said it’s “time for global warming diehards to face the facts.”

“Think about that. Over this time period the air’s CO<sub>2</sub> content has risen some 40 parts per million, which represents fully one-third the total global CO<sub>2</sub> increase

since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, yet contrary to model projections, planetary temperatures have failed to rise," Idso said.

Skeptics of the theory that humans are causing catastrophic global warming are often derided as "deniers," akin to deniers of the World War II Holocaust. But Idso said the supporters of "climate change" need to "stop denying the models have got global temperature projections wrong."

"Stop denying CO2 has a lower climate sensitivity than you have been claiming. Stop denying the societal benefits of continued fossil fuel use. It's not too late to make a course correction and support sound science," he said.

Tom Harris, executive director of the International Climate Science Coalition, pointed out that in 2008, the NOAA "State of the Climate" report specified exactly what observations would indicate whether the models are reliable or not: Fifteen years of no warming.

In 2009, he noted, climate scientist Phil Jones agreed, telling a colleague in one of the infamous leaked Climategate emails: "Bottom line: the 'no upward trend' has to continue for a total of 15 years before we get worried.'"

Alan Caruba of the National Anxiety Center said that after 18 years of observing no increase in average global temperature, it's bad enough that the IPCC and its defenders won't concede they were wrong, and the media won't report it.

"But the worst of this 18-year anniversary of the lack of warming is the fact we have a president, a secretary of state and others in the Obama administration who continue not only to proclaim warming – now called climate change – but suggesting that it is the greatest threat to the nation and the world," he said. "The absurdity of this should hold them up to ridicule, but these pronouncements are published without criticism."

Scientist Art Robinson has spearheaded [the Petition Project](#), which has gathered the signatures of more than 30,000 scientists who agree that there is "no convincing scientific evidence that human release of carbon dioxide, methane, or other greenhouse gases is causing or will, in the foreseeable future, cause catastrophic heating of the Earth's atmosphere and disruption of the Earth's climate."

Robinson, who has a Ph.D. in chemistry from Cal Tech, where he served on the faculty, co-founded the Linus Pauling Institute with Nobel-recipient Linus Pauling, where he was president and research professor. He later founded the Oregon Institute of Science and Medicine.

He told WND that weather does change over time and that the global system goes through cycles, some slightly warmer and some slightly cooler than others.

Right now it's cooler, he said.

## **9. The agenda of Common Core**

[There's a battle over the federal Common Core State Standards Initiative](#) for public schools, with supporters labeling opponents "right-wing nuts" and "black helicopter" types.

But the ad hominem attacks only reinforce the claim of opponents that Common Core is the product of progressive elitists who want to put all children under control of federal government bureaucrats. The opponents point to many other examples, such as the liberal think-tank Center for American Progress discounting them as only a "tiny minority," claiming such views should be ignored because "the children belong to all of us."

An election in Indiana in 2012, however, demonstrated the scope of the opposition when conservative activists in the Republican-majority state helped a liberal, union-supported opponent of Common Core defeat an incumbent Republican who favored the standards as state educational superintendent.

As WND reported in a four-part, in-depth series, the opposition from teachers, states, parents and students has made the term Common Core toxic.

Funded with \$350 million from the Department of Education, 45 states have adopted the standards, motivated by "Race to the Top" grants and waivers from No Child Left Behind. Yet while President Obama devoted almost a tenth of his State of the Union speech to education – touting his administration's takeover of the student loan business and the restoration of cuts to education – he didn't breathe a word about Common Core.

Common Core is the brainchild of the National Governors Association, the Council of Chief State School Officers and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

As [WND reported](#), to understand why the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers have been pushing for a set of national educational standards, it is instructive to recall that the NGA authored President George H.W. Bush's AMERICA 2000 education goals, an effort to line up America's education policies with the World Declaration on Education for All, a set of global education goals from a 1990 U.N.-sponsored summit. Former

President Bill Clinton's education reform agenda, Goals 2000, incorporated the same goals, as did George W. Bush's No Child Left Behind Act.

In every presidential reform program, there has been one common thread: America must prepare its students to be good workers to ensure that America can compete in the global economy.

The goal is not to ensure America's children are prepared to live full and meaningful lives as virtuous citizens who love God and their country. Children are viewed as future workers who are essential to the country's economic advancement. Therefore, it is the government – not parents – who should determine how they should be educated.

[The battle over Common Core has now spread to 30 states](#), where legislation has been or will be introduced to delay implementation, abolish the Core Standards or, at a minimum, set up a task force to study the issue before full implementation takes place.

"Common Core is part of the agency to keep true reform from happening in this county," said Dr. Terrence Moore, author of "The Story Killers: A Common Sense Case Against the Common Core."

Asked who will benefit, he said, "The people who are not going to profit and thrive are the children. School will become even more boring than it is, and they will be unable to think or have any cultural heritage or moral inheritance to draw upon in order to grow and thrive."

Instead, Moore said, those who will profit are the progressives pushing this program.

[More and more people are joining the fight against it](#) as parents and concerned citizens realize what's at stake is the complete makeover of America's schools in the image of Common Core. And in all likelihood, homeschools and private schools will eventually be required to follow the national standards.

[Governors in Oklahoma, South Carolina, Indiana and Louisiana have taken steps to distance themselves from Common Core](#), either by working with their state legislatures or by taking unilateral action.

Gov. Bobby Jindal filed a lawsuit against the Obama administration in federal court alleging the Department of Education illegally manipulated grant money and regulations to force states to adopt the Common Core standards.

Some of the problems reported by parents include political and “inappropriate assignments,” advertising inside of tests, the elimination of input from local school boards and [the development of a database detailing private information on every student](#).

The 400 individual data points for each student include health conditions, religion, voting status, income, likes and dislikes.

The information, “through a complicated network of contracts and agreements, can then be shared with the federal government, contractors, researchers and other outside agencies.”

Former congressman and WND columnist Tom Tancredo [wrote that defeating Common Core is “a necessary first step](#) because this battle to preserve our country’s heritage must be fought and won on a local and state level, not as a battle over federal dollars used to bribe states into following federal mandates.”

He noted that even the Republican National Committee has adopted a resolution calling for the rejection of the Common Core standards, and pundits called it “toxic” for candidates in the 2014 midterm elections.

[The Cardinal Newman Society, an organization promoting “faithful Catholic education,”](#) said Common Core is “nothing short of a revolution in how education is provided, relying on a technocratic, top-down approach to setting national standards that, despite claims to the contrary, will drive curricula, teaching texts, and the content of standardized tests.”

“At its heart, the Common Core is a woefully inadequate set of standards in that it limits the understanding of education to a utilitarian ‘readiness for work’ mentality,” the organization said.

[One of North Carolina's largest school districts condemned the College Board's new Advanced Placement history curriculum](#), which has direct ties to Common Core, calling it a deeply biased, inaccurate and revisionist version of American history.

David Coleman, known as the architect of Common Core and its chief pitchman, is the president of the College Board, a private company based in New York that owns the SAT and ACT exams as well as the Advanced Placement, or AP, exams and curriculum.

“Coleman is now re-writing every College Board product to align with Common Core,” said Meg Norris, a retired public-school teacher in Hall County, Georgia, and an anti-Common Core activist in that state.



The College Board not only owns the AP curriculum but it administers the AP standardized tests nationwide to K-12 students, measuring their readiness to attend college.

[WND long has reported](#) the true unemployment rate is in double-digits when the number of workers who are working part-time or have dropped out of the labor force are taken into account.

The unavoidable truth is that more than 93 million Americans 16 and older have not participated in the labor force this year.

According to John Williams, an economist known for arguing the government reports manipulated “shadow statistics” of economic data for political purposes, decreases in the unemployment rate as reported by the BLS have become virtually “meaningless.”

Williams argues the real unemployment rate for November, for example, was 23 percent.

Williams has contended the Obama administration intentionally manipulates unemployment numbers to understate the economic pain still being caused by an economic recovery that is anemic, at best, in terms of jobs creation.

In his monthly subscription newsletter [ShadowStats](#), Williams explained precisely how the Obama administration methodology for calculating the monthly unemployment rate differs from traditional economic calculations used by previous administrations.

“The broad economic outlook has not changed, despite the heavily distorted numbers that continue to be published by the BLS,” Williams wrote. “The unemployment rates have not dropped from peak levels due to a surge in hiring; instead, they generally have dropped because of discouraged workers being eliminated from headline labor-force accounting.”

Williams recreates a ShadowStats Alternative unemployment rate reflecting methodology that includes “long-term discouraged workers” that the Bureau of Labor Statistics in 1994 under the Clinton administration removed from those considered “unemployed” in any of the government’s unemployment measures.

In August 2013, [the House Ways and Means Committee documented](#) that seven of every eight new employees under Obama have been part-time employees,



as approximately 90 percent of all jobs created in the U.S. economy since 2009 have been part time.

In December, billionaire real-estate mogul Donald Trump dismissed the Obama administration's employment figures as "phony" in an interview on the Fox News morning show "Fox and Friends." Trump affirmed that the administration is regarding people who give up looking for a job as employed.

"The unemployment numbers in this country are so false. Everybody knows it. Everybody laughs about it," he said. "But the president gets away with it; and other politicians get away with it."

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## Archaeology

### **Congress passes law to curb manufacturing of fake coins**

By [Geoff Earle](#), New York Post, December 25, 2014

<http://nypost.com/2014/12/25/congress-passes-law-to-curb-manufacturing-of-fake-coins/>



WASHINGTON – Fake antique gold and silver US coins – many purporting to be more than 200 years old — are flooding the US resale market from China, and Congress just passed a law to do something about it.

The legislation breezed through the Senate in the final days of the session, and was one of the last bills President Obama signed into law before jetting to Hawaii.

With the market for rare and antique coins booming – and the biggest coin markets in New York — forgers have mastered the art of creating nearly exact replicas of valuable collectors' items, with enough precision to fool the experts.

Sometimes forgers manufacture the fakes out of real gold or silver. Other times they insert less precious materials like titanium inside the coin, but manage to duplicate the exact weight of precious metals.

“They’re very deceptive,” said former Rep. Jimmy Hayes (R-La.), a lobbyist who helped push through the bill. “I assure you there’s no way to tell if it’s good or not. You’ll never suspect.”

Hayes said a typical Chinese forger might spend \$30 making a fake rare coin that can go for \$1,200.

Hayes knows something about the value of real antique coins. He sold his own childhood coin collection for \$1.2 million to finance a run for Congress in the 1990. He says now it would be worth about \$60 million.

The new law makes it illegal to sell imitation coins unless they are clearly marked as a “copy.” It makes it a crime to aid the manufacturer, importer, or seller of forged items.

And if special collection certificates get faked as part of a scheme, the owner of the trademarks on the certificates are entitled to seek damages.

Individuals can file civil lawsuits against sellers of fake coins, buttons, and posters to try to recoup costs.

New York is the center of the trade in rare coins. Stores like Heritage Auctions and Stack’s Bowers on W. 57th St. hold major monthly trade shows where the items change hands.

The most expensive coin to sell at auction was a 1794 Flowing Hair silver dollar that went for \$10 million at Stack’s in 2013.

The fraudsters are taking a toll on pawn shops. The average mom-and-pop dealer loses \$3,500-\$4,500 when the fall for fake coins, said Doug Davis, a longtime police officer who runs the Numismatic Crime Information Center.

A group called the Gold and Silver PAC spent some coin of its own to help get its priority bill across the finish line. The PAC made \$72,000 in campaign contributions in 2013 and 2014, according to the Center for Responsive Politics web site.

Recipients from the last two election cycles included sponsor G.K. Butterfield (D-N.C.), who got \$5,000, Sen. Ed Markey (D-Mass.), who got \$10,000, Rep. Steve Scalise (R-La.), who got \$7,000, and Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.) got \$5,000. According to the PAC's web site: "After the bill had been stalled in the Senate for over a year, Legislative Consultant Jimmy Hayes and Gold & Silver PAC Chairman Barry Stuppler met Barry's Congressman, Henry Waxman (D-CA) to ask Rep. Waxman to help get this bill moving in the Senate."

"With Waxman's efforts combined with our friends in the Senate on the Commerce Committee did the trick. Two months later the bill was passed without any opposition."

Cops are on the lookout for a man who has been passing fake coins in a forged coin spree across Colorado, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, and other states.

He pedaled a rare 1822 dime and what he said was an 1893 "Morgan" silver dollar to a Colorado coin shop in November, according to an alert circulated to law enforcement and shops around the country.

"We've probably got six or seven offenses related to him. He's buying them from some Internet site I'm sure — They're all Chinese fakes – counterfeits," Davis, of the coin information center, told the Post.

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## **Archaeologists discover mysterious metal linked to lost city of Atlantis**

*[Meghan DeMaria](#), The Week, January 8, 2014*

<http://theweek.com/article/index/274668/speedreads-archaeologists-discover-mysterious-metal-linked-to-lost-city-of-atlantis>

Divers have recovered 39 ingots, which would have been used as decorations, on the sea floor near Sicily. Archaeologists believe they may have belonged to a ship lost in the sixth century.

The ingots are made of orichalcum, a brass-like cast metal the ancient Greeks believed was from the lost city of Atlantis and was used at Poseidon's temple. The metal lumps were found in the shipwreck of a vessel that sunk 2,600 years ago, likely on its way to Sicily from either Greece or Asia Minor.

"Nothing similar has ever been found," Sebastiano Tusa, Sicily's superintendent of the Sea Office, [told Discovery News](#). Previously, researchers only knew orichalcum from ancient texts and ornamental objects. The metal is mentioned in the writings of Plato from the fourth century B.C.E. — he described Atlantis as flashing "with the red light of orichalcum," adding that its value was second only to gold.

Tusa's team plans to excavate the entire cargo from the shipwreck, which he hopes will give archaeologists "precious information on Sicily's most ancient economic history."

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## **Gold ring found in Swansea field declared treasure**

BBC NEWS Wales, 22 December 2014

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-30575459>



**The outer surface of the decorative mourning ring is engraved with a trellis-style pattern**

A 17th Century gold ring found by a metal-detecting enthusiast has been declared treasure.

Ron Pitman, 71, stands to earn a "finders fee" for the discovery at Pennard, Swansea, in October 2010.

It bears the inscription "prepared bee to follow me," is 81% gold and 9% silver and dates back around 300 years.

The ring was found 13cm (5in) below the surface of a field used to grow maize that had since been ploughed and rolled, Swansea Coroners Court heard.

In a report to the hearing, Dr Mark Redknapp, acting keeper of archaeology and numismatics at the National Museum and Gallery in Cardiff, said: "Such rings can be difficult to date but the decoration and sentiments in this case suggests a 17th rather than 18th Century date."

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## **Thousands of ancient coins discovered in Buckinghamshire field**

BBC News, 2 January 2015

Paul Coleman: "If you look at the two kings that we know are in the hoard anyway, Canute and Ethelred II, they very rarely drop below £200 per coin"

Metal detector enthusiasts in Buckinghamshire have uncovered what is thought to be one of biggest hoards of ancient coins ever found in Britain.

Paul Coleman from the Weekend Wanderers Detecting Club discovered more than 5,000 coins buried inside a lead bucket two feet under a field near Aylesbury.

The hoard contains specimens dating back to the 11th Century - the late Anglo Saxon, early Norman period.

The coins will now be examined by the British Museum.

Mr Coleman, from Southampton, was taking part in a dig in the Padbury area on 21 December when he found the 5,251 coins depicting the heads of kings Ethelred the Unready and Canute.



**The 11th Century coins had been left in a "sealed" lead container**





The heads of Ethelred the Unready and Canute can be seen on the coins

A spokesman for the national club said those on the dig had "agreed this was the most exciting day of their detecting lives".

"Without a doubt this is the best find ever made in the Weekend Wanderers Detecting Club's 25-year history," he said.

'Dream' find

Peter Welch, who was at the dig, said Mr Coleman had seen some fragments of lead, picked off the top one and saw the "layers of coins".

"He didn't touch them, he knew it was important," he said.



**Members of the Weekend Wanderers Detecting Club gathered to witness the find**



**The hoard has been taken to the British Museum**



**A coroner will now decide if the hoard is "treasure"**

Mr Welch, who was immediately notified, said he was "shell shocked" when he realised "it was real".

"There was general silence and a sharp intake of breath of the people watching," he said.

"This is something you dream of witnessing, let alone digging up.

"They looked almost uncirculated, like they were straight from a mint."

The old Buckingham mint would have been within a day's walking distance so a possible link with that will be explored, he said.

The coins have been taken to the British Museum and a coroner must now rule if they are "treasure" under the Treasure Act.

A museum could then buy them with the proceeds being split between the landowner and the finder.

The largest UK hoard of Anglo Saxon treasure was found in a field near Lichfield in Staffordshire in July 2009, by metal detector enthusiast Terry Herbert.

The 7th Century hoard of 1,600 items including sword pommels, helmet parts and processional crosses [was valued at £3.285m.](#)

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## Anglo Saxons

- ❖ Anglo-Saxon refers to settlers from the German regions of Angeln and Saxony who began attacking Roman Britain in AD410
- ❖ The continental invaders were generally called "Saxons" by their neighbours. England is still called "Sasana" in Gaelic
- ❖ By AD500, many had settled in England east of a line from the Humber to the Isle of Wight
- ❖ The Anglo-Saxons had their own religious beliefs, but the arrival of Saint Augustine in AD597 converted most of the country to Christianity
- ❖ The Anglo-Saxon period lasted about 600 years and ended in 1066 with the Norman Conquest

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## **'My friends call me The Magnet', Treasure hunter reveals ancient find**

Rachel Massie BBC Scotland reporter

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-30551671>



**Alistair McPherson made the find in a field**

"Several of my friends call me The Magnet."

Metal detectorist Alistair McPherson has a nose for finding treasure.

"I seem to have a third sense when it comes to fields", he said.

Together with a team of archaeologists, Mr McPherson discovered a hoard of Roman and Pictish silver in a farmer's field. It has been hailed as the most northern of its kind in Europe.

Until now, the specific location of the discovery in March 2013 has been a closely guarded secret.

But BBC Scotland can reveal it was found at Gaulcross, near Fordyce, in Aberdeenshire.

Mr McPherson explained how he found it.

"I had a really good feeling about this. I was working with Oskar, the archaeologist who told me that this is an area he wanted to search.

"I searched for three quarters of an hour - nothing. So I went about 50 yards and bang - I got a Roman coin."

The coin was the first of many finds for the team.



It has been described as an important find

More than 100 pieces of silver were unearthed, including coins, brooches and bracelets. Most of the objects were found in pieces, or folded in to small parcels.

The hoard is now being researched and catalogued by experts at National Museums Scotland.

Dr Martin Goldberg, senior curator of early historic collections, said: "It's going to allow us to understand other hoards that are already in the National Collection.

"It sits in to a nice gap between two existing hoards and so we can look at silver as a sequence of how it's being used and recycled over several centuries."

This has been described as an important find, especially for the Northern Picts Project, based at the University of Aberdeen.

Dr Gordon Noble, senior lecturer in department of archaeology, said: "The north east of Scotland is very rich in its heritage and we've been working on a number of Pictish sites, including our work at Rhynie, which appears to be an early royal centre of the Picts.

"At Rhynie, we're actually finding metal working moulds, exactly the kind of items that would be used to make some of the items that we've found in the hoard here."



**Mr. McPherson says it has been a rewarding experience**

"We're a very new department at Aberdeen, we're only seven years old." said Dr Noble. "We're only just beginning to examine the heritage in the area. So undoubtedly, there will be more finds like this."

The team has returned to Gaulcross several times since the initial discovery in 2013. They want to be certain that no remaining metal pieces have been unearthed after the field has been ploughed.

Mr McPherson said: "I've spent a year in this field. I've had 10-hour searches and I'm quite positive there's just nothing left to find."

He said it has been a rewarding experience.

"The best memory I have is finding the lunar pendant. The coins are not personal. But to actually find something that somebody wore - a personal item - that's exciting.

"To actually find something personal that's 900 years old is brilliant."

Elements of the hoard will be on display for the first time at the University of Aberdeen from 20 January to 31 May.

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# Sue and Settle

## CONSERVATION NORTHWEST V. SHERMAN

**(Environs' can no longer sue and settle to take our land)**

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington John C. Coughenour, District Judge, Presiding Argued and Submitted October 9, 2012—Seattle, Washington

Filed April 25, 2013 Before: Alex Kozinski, Chief Judge, A. Wallace Tashima and Milan D. Smith, Jr., Circuit Judges.

Opinion by Judge Tashima

### **SUMMARY\***

The panel reversed the district court's order approving a consent decree arising from a settlement between environmental groups and federal agencies concerning changes to the Survey and Manage Standard of the Northwest Forest Plan.

The panel held that it was an abuse of discretion for the district court to approve the consent decree in its current form. The panel held that a district court abuses its discretion when it enters a consent decree that permanently and substantially amends an agency rule that would have otherwise been subject to statutory rulemaking procedures.

The panel concluded that because the consent decree allowed for substantial, permanent amendments to the Survey and Manage Standard of the Northwest Forest Plan, it impermissibly conflicted with laws governing the process for such amendments. Finally, the panel held that the issue of whether the Oregon and California Railroad and Coos Bay Wagon Road Grants Land Act precluded application of the Survey and Manage Standard to certain timberlands was not adequately raised below, and thereby waived.

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# Finance

## “It’s Like Giving a Thief the Key to Your Home”

by [Nick Giambruno](#), Senior Editor | January 07, 2015

<https://us-mg5.mail.yahoo.com/neo/launch?.rand=365o7cuedg1h6#6991734313>



I recently spoke with radio host Andy Duncan. We discussed how leaving all of your savings under the control of a bankrupt government is like giving a thief the key to your home, and how international diversification is the solution.

**Andy Duncan:** Today my guest is Nick Giambruno, Senior Editor at Doug Casey’s [InternationalMan.com](#) site. We’ll be talking about international diversification, crisis investing, and how to internationalize your health care.

What’s the basic process for how people should do that, and why should they do that?

**Nick Giambruno:** In short, internationalization is prudent because it frees you from absolute dependence on any one country, and when you achieve that freedom, it becomes very difficult for any particular government to control you. It’s all about making the most of your personal freedom and financial opportunity in the world.

You should think of international diversification in two ways.

- ❖ It unlocks investment and speculative opportunities that are only available outside of your own country.



- ❖ As an insurance policy. You have health insurance, fire insurance, and so forth. Internationalization is insurance against an out-of-control government, against the political risk that comes from your home government.

Many people know of the general investment benefits of not having your whole portfolio in one asset class. This diversification concept also applies to political risk, and it's this risk that few people think about diversifying. And it's a risk that's unfortunately growing these days, especially in Western countries with deteriorating fiscal situations. It's these countries that have debt loads and future spending commitments that all but guarantee that they will eventually try to grab as much purchasing power or wealth as they can get away with. This risk is particularly acute in the US due to the obscene spending on welfare and warfare with money the government doesn't have.

We just have to take a look at history to see what kind of actions governments which get into these precarious situations might take—[capital controls](#), wealth confiscations, currency devaluations, one-off emergency taxes, bail-ins, nationalization of retirement accounts, and other measures. Historically, these things are the norm when a government gets desperate enough.

It's exactly for this reason why spreading your political risk beyond a single jurisdiction is the single most important thing you can do. If you leave all of your savings under a bankrupt government's control, it's like giving a thief the key to your home.

It's also important to emphasize that in order to be effective, the destructive measures desperate government take have to be sudden and come as a surprise attack. Just like what we saw in [Cyprus](#) in early 2013, where, on a seemingly ordinary Saturday morning, Cypriots awoke to a new reality and found that their banks had been indefinitely closed. They couldn't access their accounts online, capital controls had been put into place, and their savings were no longer safe, and it came as a total surprise to most people—it had to in order to be effective, and that's the whole point.

The critical lesson here is that it's much better to be a year early in your preparation than even a minute too late. When you start to see the writing on the wall, you know it's time to start putting some of these international diversification strategies into practice.

To me the financial direction of the US government and most Western governments is crystal clear—the window of opportunity to protect yourself from

the inevitable destructive measures is still open, but it does appear to get smaller with each passing week.

One last point I'd like to emphasize here is that there's a misperception that international diversification—like getting an [offshore bank account](#) or [storing some gold abroad](#)—is illegal or somehow not allowed, but that's not true at all. There are many things that you can do to protect yourself that are legal and often can be done without having to even leave your own home.

**Andy:** We had the Polish government take the people's pensions, and various other governments have done similar things. I think people get the idea of storing their gold in [Singapore](#) or somewhere. Do you think people should also consider diversifying their citizenship, getting foreign residency and a [second passport](#) too?

**Nick:** Absolutely. But first, let's just talk about what Poland did. Poland was a recent country to nationalize their citizens' retirement savings. And this is a particularly scary thing. How it usually happens is that a government will forcibly convert the assets held in retirement accounts into "safer assets" such as government bonds. And naturally the politicians will sell this as something that's for the people's own good, but really it's a way for bankrupt governments to finance themselves by dumping their unwanted debt onto seniors and savers. But fortunately, if you act before this happens, there are ways you can structure your IRA and your retirement savings to hold assets that aren't easily confiscated, like physical gold held in foreign storage locations, foreign real estate, and so forth. So [internationalizing your retirement savings](#) is definitely an important component of international diversification.

The other point you touched on is second passports, and that's another critical component as well. Unfortunately, there are no solutions to a second passport that are at the same time easy, fast, legitimate, and cheap, but it certainly doesn't lessen the need to have one.

**Andy:** If US citizens were thinking of maybe going for their residency rather than their second passport, where is a good place for them at the moment to get their residency?

**Nick:** Generally speaking, it's not ideal to get residency in another country unless you are eyeing eventual naturalization and to get a citizenship. This is because when you get residency in another country, you typically get sucked into their tax system. So it's usually much better to be treated as a tourist rather than a cow to be milked when you become a tax resident.

That said, if you intend to get a second passport, one of the ways you can do that is to become naturalized in another country after spending a certain amount of years as a permanent resident of that country. So that's one reason to get residency in a foreign country.

One country that is particularly attractive for this purpose right now is [Panama](#). Panama is the easiest country in the world for Americans and most Europeans to obtain permanent residency with an eye toward eventual naturalization and a second passport.

**Andy:** We've heard from people like Dr. Elizabeth Vliet and Dennis Miller that Obamacare could make future health choices very difficult for Americans. Can you outline for us how people might want to protect their future health through the process of international diversification?

**Nick:** International diversification can help you diversify your medical care choices. One thing that is particularly helpful is to have some capital or some savings located outside of the United States should you need to pay for medical services in different countries. So that's another important reason why you should internationalize some of your savings or get a foreign bank account is so that you can pay for medical care abroad should you need to do that should options be restricted or otherwise unavailable in the US.

**Andy:** Moving on to international investment opportunities, Baron Rothschild once said that when there's blood in the street there's money to be made. You mentioned Cyprus. How can people make money out of Cyprus at the moment?

**Nick:** Cyprus is a place where there was a blood-in-the-streets type situation with their financial crisis, bank deposit bail-in, and capital controls. But this isn't necessarily a bad thing from the perspective of someone looking for crisis investments.

Baron Rothschild might have been an unsavory character in a number of ways, but he was absolutely correct when he said the time to buy is when the blood is in the streets—and this statement perfectly captures the essence of crisis investing. With Cyprus, Doug Casey and I were there scoping out opportunities on the Cyprus Stock Exchange, which is remarkably cheap. There are still companies that are producing earnings, paying dividends, have very low debt, lots of cash—cash not held in Cyprus, by the way—but that are trading for remarkable discounts, and these crisis-driven bargains are exactly why Doug and I went there.



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## **China offers to help Russia...and wean the world off the dollar**

By Joe Belfiglio, 

It's been a tough year for Russia. The sliding ruble, plunging oil prices and economic sanctions have all cut a swathe through the economy. China, Russia's biggest economic partner is [now offering to help](#). Think of it as an olive branch filled with yuan leaves.

Henry Blodget says this is an example of the changing global economy: "The world is realigning. This is the big picture. China is getting stronger and stronger. Russia is in trouble." Don't tell that to Russian President Vladimir Putin. Putin doesn't consider his country's current economic state as a crisis and he remains defiant that the Ruble will bounce back.

China and Russia are both trying to decrease dependence on the U.S. dollar in international trading. In October, the countries agreed on a \$24 billion currency swap to strengthen the ruble and make trading easier between the two partners.

Perhaps, not looking to offend Putin, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi says they would only help Russia, if they needed it and that he believes Russia has the wherewithal to get out from under its problems. Blodget disagrees and sees some bumpy roads ahead: "You're going to get destabilization. China and Russia are cozying up. China is playing it both ways. Saying not too much help here and keeping their options open."

China and Russia both need each other. Earlier this year China signed a 30-year \$400 billion deal to buy Russian gas and shore up their energy supplies. Western economic sanctions placed on Russia after its meddling in the Ukraine have also forced the country to import more from China. China's exports to Russia are up over 10% from last year.

Russia's struggles are also a prime opportunity for China to showcase its economic prowess. China's buying power and global emergence is altering the global landscape. "This idea that the U.S. and Europe control the whole world is starting to change," says Blodget. Look for China to continue to find ways to assert its economic power in the coming year.

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# United Nations Agenda 21

## Overlords of Chaos

[http://www.overlordsofchaos.com/html/new\\_order\\_of\\_barbarians.html](http://www.overlordsofchaos.com/html/new_order_of_barbarians.html)

**More information discussing the subject can be found at the internet address listed above.**

Unfortunately for the people of the world everything is going according to the New World Order Plan. But what is this New World Order Plan? In a nutshell the Plan is this. **The Dark Agenda of the secret planners of the New World Order is to reduce the world's population to a "sustainable" level "in perpetual balance with nature" by a ruthless Population Control Agenda via Population and Reproduction Control. A Mass Culling of the People via Planned Parenthood, toxic adulteration of water and food supplies, release of weaponised man-made viruses, man-made pandemics, mass vaccination campaigns and a planned Third World War.** Then, the Dark Agenda will impose upon the drastically reduced world population a global feudal-fascist state with a World Government, World Religion, World Army, World Central Bank, World Currency and a micro-chipped population. In short, to kill 90% of the world's population and to control all aspects of the human condition and thus rule everyone, everywhere from the cradle to the grave

### **Is there a Power, a Force or a Group of Men Organizing and Redirecting Change?**

There has been much written, and much said, by some people who have looked at all the changes that have occurred in American society in the past 20 years or so, and who have looked retrospectively to earlier history of the United States, and indeed, of the world, and come to the conclusion that there is a conspiracy of sorts which influences, indeed controls, major historical events, not only in the United States, but around the world. This conspiratorial interpretation of history is based on people making observations from the outside, gathering evidence and coming to the conclusion that from the outside they see a conspiracy. Their evidence and conclusions are based on evidence gathered in retrospect. Period.

I want to now describe what I heard from a speaker in 1969 which in several weeks will be 20 years ago. The speaker did not speak in terms of retrospect, but rather predicting changes that would be brought about in the future. The speaker was not looking from the outside in, thinking that he saw conspiracy, rather, he was on the inside, admitting that, indeed, there was an organized power, force, group of men, who wielded enough influence to determine major events involving countries around the world. And he predicted, or rather expounded on, changes that were planned for the remainder of this century. As you listen, if you can recall the situation, at least in the United States in 1969 and the few years thereafter, and then recall the kinds of changes which have occurred between then and now, almost 20 years later, I believe you will be impressed with the degree to which the things that were planned to be brought about have already been accomplished. Some of the things that were discussed were not intended to be accomplished yet by 1988 but are intended to be accomplished before the end of this century. There is a timetable; and it was during this session that some of the elements of the timetable were brought out.

Anyone who recalls early in the days of the Kennedy Presidency. . the Kennedy campaign. . when he spoke of "progress in the decade of the '60s"; that was kind of a cliché in those days - "the decade of the '60s." Well, by 1969 our speaker was talking about the decade of the '70s, the decade of the '80s, and the decade of the '90s. So that... I think that terminology that we are looking at. . . looking at things and expressing things, probably all comes from the same source. Prior to that time I don't remember anybody saying "the decade of the '40s and the decade of the '50s." So I think this overall plan and timetable had taken important shape with more predictability to those who control it, sometime in the late '50s. That's speculation on my part. In any event, the speaker said that his purpose was to tell us about changes which would be brought about in the next 30 years or so . . . so that an entirely new world-wide system would be in operation before the turn of the century. As he put it:

**"We plan to enter the 21st Century with a running start. Everything is in place and nobody can stop us now . . ."**

He said – as we listened to what he was about to present – he said:

**"Some of you will think I'm talking about Communism. Well, what I'm talking about is much bigger than Communism!"**

At that time he indicated that there is much more cooperation between East and West than most people realize. In his introductory remarks he

commented that he was free to speak at this time because now, and I'm quoting here:

**" ... everything is in place and nobody can stop us now."**

That's the end of that quotation. He went on to say that most people don't understand how governments operate and even people in high positions in governments, including our own, don't really understand how and where decisions are made. He went on to say that... he went on to say that people who really influence decisions are names that, for the most part, would be familiar to most of us, but he would not use individuals' names or names of any specific organization. But, that if he did, most of the people would be names that were recognized by most of his audience. He went on to say that they were not primarily people in public office, but people of prominence who were primarily known in their private occupations or private positions. The speaker was a doctor of medicine, a former professor at a large Eastern university, and he was addressing a group of doctors of medicine, about 80 in number. His name would not be widely recognized by anybody likely to hear this, and so there is no point in giving his name. The only purpose in recording this is that it may give a perspective to those who hear it regarding the changes which have already been accomplished in the past 20 years or so, and a bit of a preview to what at least some people are planning for the remainder of this century so that we – or they – would enter the 21st Century with a flying start. Some of us may not enter that Century. His purpose in telling our group about these changes that were to be brought about was to make it easier for us to adapt to these changes. Indeed, as he quite accurately said, they would be and he hopes that we, as sort of his friends, would make the adaptation more easily if we knew somewhat beforehand what to expect.

**"People will have to get used to change . . ."**

Somewhere in the introductory remarks he insisted that nobody have a tape recorder and that nobody take notes, which for a professor was a very remarkable kind of thing to expect from an audience. Something in his remarks suggested that there could be negative repercussions against him if his... if it became widely known what he was about to say to... our group... if it became widely known that he spilled the beans, so to speak. When I heard that, first I thought maybe that was sort of an ego trip, somebody enhancing his own importance. But as the revelations unfolded, I began to understand why he might have had some concern about not having it widely known what was said, although this... although this was a fairly public forum where he was speaking, [where the] remarks were delivered. But, nonetheless, he asked that no notes be taken... no tape recording be used –

suggesting there might be some personal danger to himself if these revelations were widely publicized. Again, as the remarks began to unfold, and I saw the rather outrageous things that were said – at that time they certainly seemed outrageous -- I made it a point to try to remember as much of what he said as I could, and during the subsequent weeks and months and years, to connect my recollections to simple events around me, both to aid my memory for the future in case I wanted to do what I'm doing now - record this. And also, to try to maintain a perspective on what would be developing, if indeed, it followed the predicted pattern - which it has!

At this point, so that I don't forget to include it later, I'll just include some statements that were made from time to time throughout the presentation... just having a general bearing on the whole presentation. One of the statements was having to do with change. People get used ... his statement was:

**"People will have to get used to the idea of change, so used to change, that they'll be expecting change. Nothing will be permanent."**

This often came out in the context of a society of... where people seemed to have no roots or moorings, but would be passively willing to accept change simply because it was all they had ever known. This was sort of in contrast to generations of people up until this time where certain things you expected to be, and remain in place as reference points for your life. So change was to be brought about, change was to be anticipated and expected, and accepted, no questions asked. Another comment that was made from time to time during the presentation was:

**"People are too trusting. People don't ask the right questions."**

Sometimes, being too trusting was equated with being too dumb. But sometimes when ... when he would say that and say, "People don't ask the right questions," it was almost with a sense of regret, as if he were uneasy with what he was part of, and wished that people would challenge it and maybe not be so trusting.

### **The Real and the "Stated" Goals**

Another comment that was repeated from time to time ... this particularly in relation to changing laws and customs ... and specific changes ... he said:

**"Everything has two purposes. One is the ostensible purpose which will make it acceptable to people; and second, is the real purpose**

**which would further the goals of establishing the new system and having it."**

Frequently he would say:

**"There is just no other way. There's just no other way!"**

This seemed to come as a sort of an apology, particularly when ... at the conclusion of describing some particularly offensive changes. For example, the promotion of drug addiction which we'll get into shortly.

### **Population Control**

He was very active with population control groups, the population control movement, and population control was really the entry point into specifics following the introduction. He said the population is growing too fast. Numbers of people living at any one time on the planet must be limited or we will run out of space to live. We will outgrow our food supply and we will over-pollute the world with our waste.

### **Permission to Have Babies**

People won't be allowed to have babies just because they want to or because they are careless. Most families would be limited to two. Some people would be allowed only one, and the outstanding person or persons might be selected and allowed to have three. But most people would [be] allowed to have only two babies. That's because the zero population growth [rate] is 2.1 children per completed family. So something like every 10th family might be allowed the privilege of the third baby. To me, up to this point, the word "population control" primarily connoted limiting the number of babies to be born. But this remark, about what people would be "allowed" and then what followed, made it quite clear that when you hear "population control" that means more than just controlling births. It means control of every endeavor of an entire... of the entire world population; a much broader meaning to that term than I had ever attached to it before hearing this. As you listen and reflect back on some of the things you hear, you will begin to recognize how one aspect dovetails with other aspects in terms of controlling human endeavors.

### **Redirecting the Purpose of Sex: Sex without Reproduction and Reproduction without Sex**

Well, from population control, the natural next step then was sex. He said sex must be separated from reproduction. Sex is too pleasurable, and the urges are too strong, to expect people to give it up. Chemicals in food and in the water supply to reduce the sex drive is not practical. The strategy then

would be not to diminish sex activity, but to increase sex activity, but in such a way that people won't be having babies.

### **Contraception Universally available to All**

And the first consideration then here was contraception. Contraception would be very strongly encouraged, and it would be connected so closely in people's minds with sex, that they would automatically think contraception when they were thinking or preparing for sex. And contraception would be made universally available. Nobody wanting contraception would be... find that they were unavailable. Contraceptives would be displayed much more prominently in drug stores, right up with the cigarettes and chewing gum. Out in the open, rather than hidden under the counter where people would have to ask for them and maybe be embarrassed. This kind of openness was a way of suggesting that contraceptions ... that contraceptives are just as much a part of life as any other items sold in the store. And, contraceptives would be advertised. And, contraceptives would be dispensed in the schools in association with sex education!

### **Sex Education as a Tool of World Government**

The sex education was to get kids interested early, making the connection between sex and the need for contraception early in their lives, even before they became very active. At this point I was recalling some of my teachers, particularly in high school and found it totally unbelievable to think of them agreeing, much less participating in, distributing of contraceptives to students. But, that only reflected my lack of understanding of how these people operate. That was before the school-based clinic programs got started. Many, many cities in the United States by this time have already set up school-based clinics which are primarily contraception, birth control, population control clinics. The idea then is that the connection between sex and contraception introduced and reinforced in school would carry over into marriage. Indeed, if young people – when they matured – decided to get married, marriage itself would be diminished in importance. He indicated some recognition that most people probably would want to be married ... but that this certainly would not be any longer considered to be necessary for sexual activity.

### **Tax Funded Abortion as Population Control**

No surprise then, that the next item was abortion. And this, now back in 1969, four years before Roe vs. Wade. He said:

**"Abortion will no longer be a crime. Abortion will be accepted as normal"**



... and would be paid for by taxes for people who could not pay for their own abortions. Contraceptives would be made available by tax money so that nobody would have to do without contraceptives. If school sex programs would lead to more pregnancies in children that was really seen as no problem. Parents who think they are opposed to abortion on moral or religious grounds will change their minds when it is their own child who is pregnant. So this will help overcome opposition to abortion. Before long, only a few die-hards will still refuse to see abortion as acceptable, and they won't matter anymore.

### **Encouraging Homosexuality. Sex, Anything Goes**

Homosexuality also was to be encouraged.

**"People will be given permission to be homosexual."**

That's the way it was stated. They won't have to hide it. And elderly people will be encouraged to continue to have active sex lives into the very old ages, just as long as they can. Everyone will be given permission to have sex, to enjoy however they want. Anything goes. This is the way it was put. And, I remember thinking, "how arrogant for this individual, or whoever he represents, to feel that they can give or withhold permission for people to do things!" But that was the terminology that was used. In this regard, clothing was mentioned. Clothing styles would be made more stimulating and provocative. Recall back in 1969 was the time of the mini skirt, when those mini- skirts were very, very high and revealing. He said:

**"It is not just the amount of skin that is exposed that makes clothing sexually seductive, but other, more subtle things are often suggestive,"**

... things like movement, and the cut of clothing, and the kind of fabric, the positioning of accessories on the clothing.

**"If a woman has an attractive body, why should she not show it?"**

... was one of the statements.

There was not detail on what was meant by "provocative clothing," but since that time if you watched the change in clothing styles, blue jeans are cut in a way that they're more tight-fitting in the crotch. They form wrinkles. Wrinkles are essentially arrows. Lines which direct one's vision to certain anatomic areas. And, this was around the time of the "burn your bra" activity. He indicated that a lot of women should not go without a bra. They need a bra to be attractive, so instead of banning bras and burning them,

bras would come back. But they would be thinner and softer allowing more natural movement. It was not specifically stated, but certainly a very thin bra is much more revealing of the nipple and what else is underneath, than the heavier bras that were in style up to that time.

Technology. Earlier he said ... sex and reproduction would be separated. You would have sex without reproduction and then technology was reproduction without sex. This would be done in the laboratory. He indicated that already, much, much research was underway about making babies in the laboratory. There was some elaboration on that, but I don't remember the details, how much of that technology has come to my attention since that time. I don't remember ... I don't remember in a way that I can distinguish what was said from what I subsequently have learned as general medical information.

### **Families to Diminish in Importance**

Families would be limited in size. We already alluded to not being allowed more than two children. Divorce would be made easier and more prevalent. Most people who marry will marry more than once. More people will not marry. Unmarried people would stay in hotels and even live together. That would be very common - nobody would even ask questions about it. It would be widely accepted as no different from married people being together. More women will work outside the home. More men will be transferred to other cities, and in their jobs, more men would travel. Therefore, it would be harder for families to stay together. This would tend to make the marriage relationship less stable and, therefore, tend to make people less willing to have babies. And, the extended families would be smaller, and more remote. Travel would be easier, less expensive, for a while, so that people who did have to travel would feel they could get back to their families... not that they were abruptly being made remote from their families. But one of the net effects of easier divorce laws combined with the promotion of travel, and transferring families from one city to another, was to create instability in the families. If both husband and wife are working and one partner gets transferred the other one may not be easily transferred. So one either keeps his or her job and stays behind while the other leaves, or else gives up the job and risks not finding employment in the new location. Rather a diabolical approach to this whole thing!

### **Euthanasia and the "Demise Pill"**

Everybody has a right to live only so long. The old are no longer useful. They become a burden. You should be ready to accept death. Most people are. An arbitrary age limit could be established. After all, you have a right to only so many steak dinners, so many orgasms, and so many good pleasures in life. And after you have had enough of them and you're no longer productive, working, and contributing, then you should be ready to step aside for the

next generation. Some things that would help people realize that they had lived long enough; he mentioned several of these... I don't remember them all... here are a few: Use of very pale printing ink on forms that people... are necessary... to fill out, so that older people wouldn't be able to read the pale ink as easily and would need to go to younger people for help. Automobile traffic patterns - there would be more high-speed traffic lanes. . traffic patterns that would ... that older people with their slower reflexes would have trouble dealing with and thus, lose some of their independence.

### **Limiting access to affordable Medical Care makes Eliminating the Elderly Easier**

A big item - [that] was elaborated at some length - was the cost of medical care would be burdensomely high. Medical care would be connected very closely with one's work, but also would be made very, very high in cost so that it would simply be unavailable to people beyond a certain time. And unless they had a remarkably rich, supporting family, they would just have to do without care. And the idea was that if everybody says:

**"Enough! What a burden it is on the young to try to maintain the old people ... then the young would become agreeable to helping Mom and Dad along the way, provided this was done humanely and with dignity. And then the real example was - there could be like a nice, farewell party, a real celebration. Mom and Dad had done a good job. And then after the party's over they take the "demise pill."**

### **Planning the Control over Medicine**

The next topic is Medicine. There would be profound changes in the practice of medicine. Overall, medicine would be much more tightly controlled. The observation was made:

**"Congress is not going to go along with national health insurance. That [in 1969, he said] is now, abundantly evident. But it's not necessary. We have other ways to control health care."**

These would come about more gradually, but all health care delivery would come under tight control. Medical care would be closely connected to work. If you don't work or can't work, you won't have access to medical care. The days of hospitals giving away free care would gradually wind down, to where it was virtually non-existent. Costs would be forced up so that people won't be able to afford to go without insurance. People pay... you pay for it, you're entitled to it. It was only subsequently that I began to realize the extent to which you would not be paying for it. Your medical care would be paid for by others. And therefore you would gratefully accept, on bended knee, what

was offered to you as a privilege. Your role being responsible for your own care would be diminished. As an aside here – this is not something that was developed at this time ... I didn't understand it at the time -as an aside, the way this works, everybody's made dependent on insurance. And if you don't have insurance then you pay directly; the cost of your care is enormous. The insurance company, however, paying for your care, does not pay that same amount. If you are charged, say, \$600 on your part, they pay \$300 or \$400. And that differential in billing has the desired effect: It enables the insurance company to pay for that which you could never pay for. They get a discount that's unavailable to you. When you see your bill you're grateful that the insurance company could do that. And in this way you are dependent, and virtually required to have insurance.

### **The whole billing is Fraudulent**

Anyhow, continuing on now... access to hospitals would be tightly controlled. Identification would be needed to get into the building. The security in and around hospitals would be established and gradually increased so that nobody without identification could get in or move around inside the building. Theft of hospital equipment, things like typewriters and microscopes and so forth would be "allowed" and exaggerated; reports of it would be exaggerated so that this would be the excuse needed to establish the need for strict security, until people got used to it. And anybody moving about in a hospital would be required to wear an identification badge with photograph and ... telling why he was there ... employee or lab technician or visitor or whatever. This is to be brought in gradually - getting everybody used to the idea of identifying themselves- until it was just accepted. This need for ID to move about would start in small ways: hospitals, some businesses, but gradually expand to include everybody in all places! It was observed that hospitals can be used to confine people ... for the treatment of criminals. This did not mean, necessarily, medical treatment. At that ... at that time, I did not know the word "Psycho-Prison" as in the Soviet Union, but without trying to recall all the details, basically, he was describing the use of hospitals both for treating the sick and for confinement of criminals for reasons other than the medical well-being of the criminal. The definition of criminal was not given.

### **Elimination of Private Doctors**

The image of the doctor would change. No longer would he be seen as an individual professional in service to individual patients. But the doctor would be gradually recognized as a highly skilled technician ... and his job would change. The job is to include things like executions by lethal injection. The image of the doctor being a powerful, independent person would have to be changed. And he went on to say:

**"Doctors are making entirely too much money. They should advertise like any other product."**

Lawyers would be advertising too. Keep in mind; this was an audience of doctors being addressed by a doctor. And it was interesting that he would make some rather insulting statements to his audience without fear of antagonizing us. The solo practitioner would become a thing of the past. A few die-hards might try to hold out, but most doctors would be employed by an institution of one kind or another. Group practice would be encouraged, corporations would be encouraged, and then once the corporate image of medical care ... as this gradually became more and more acceptable, doctors would more and more become employees rather than independent contractors. And along with that, of course, unstated but necessary, is the employee serves his employer, not his patient. So that's ... we've already seen quite a lot of that in the last 20 years. And apparently more on the horizon. The term HMO was not used at that time, but as you look at HMOs you see this is the way that medical care is being taken over since the National Health Insurance approach did not get through the Congress. A few die-hard doctors may try to make a go of it; remaining in solo practice, remaining independent, which, parenthetically, is me. But they would suffer a great loss of income. They'd be able to scrape by, maybe, but never really live comfortably as would those who were willing to become employees of the system. Ultimately, there would be no room at all for the solo practitioner, after the system is entrenched.

### **New Difficult to Diagnose and Untreatable Diseases**

Next heading to talk about is Health & Disease. He said there would be new diseases to appear which had not ever been seen before. Would be very difficult to diagnose and be untreatable- at least for a long time. No elaboration was made on this, but I remember, not long after hearing this presentation, when I had a puzzling diagnosis to make, I would be wondering, "Is this ... was what he was talking about? Is this a case of what he was talking about?" Some years later, as AIDS ultimately developed, I think AIDS was at least one example of what he was talking about. I now think that AIDS probably was a manufactured disease.

### **Suppressing Cancer Cures as a Means of Population Control**

He said:

**"We can cure almost every cancer right now. Information is on file in the Rockefeller Institute, if it's ever decided that it should be released. But consider - if people stop dying of cancer, how rapidly we would become overpopulated. You may as well die of cancer as something else."**

Efforts at cancer treatment would be geared more toward comfort than toward cure. There was some statement ultimately the cancer cures which were being hidden in the Rockefeller Institute would come to light because independent researchers might bring them out, despite these efforts to suppress them. But at least for the time being, letting people die of cancer was a good thing to do because it would slow down the problem of overpopulation.

### **Inducing Heart Attacks as a Form of Assassination**

Another very interesting thing was heart attacks. He said:

**"There is now a way to simulate a real heart attack. It can be used as a means of assassinating."**

Only a very skilled pathologist, who knew exactly what to look for at an autopsy, could distinguish this from the real thing. I thought that was a very surprising and shocking thing to hear from this particular man at that particular time. This, and the business of the cancer cure, really still stand out sharply in my memory, because they were so shocking and, at that time, seemed to me out of character. He then went on to talk about nutrition and exercise, sort of in the same framework. People would not have to ... people would have to eat right and exercise right to live as long as before. Most won't. This, in the connection of nutrition, there was no specific statement that I can recall as to particular nutrients that would be either inadequate or in excess. In retrospect, I tend to think he meant high salt diets and high fat diets would predispose toward high blood pressure and premature arteriosclerotic heart disease. And that if people who were too dumb or too lazy to exercise as they should then their dietary... their circulating fats go up and predispose to disease.

And he said something about diet information -about proper diet- would be widely available, but most people -particularly stupid people, who had no right to continue living anyway- they would ignore the advice and just go on and eat what was convenient and tasted good. There were some other unpleasant things said about food. I just can't recall what they were. But I do remember of ... having reflections about wanting to plant a garden in the backyard to get around whatever these contaminated foods would be. I regret I don't remember the details ... the rest of this ... about nutrition and hazardous nutrition.

With regard to Exercise. He went on to say that more people would be exercising more, especially running, because everybody can run. You don't need any special equipment or place. You can run wherever you are. As he put it, "people will be running all over the place." And in this vein, he pointed

out how supply produces demand. And this was in reference to athletic clothing and equipment. As this would be made more widely available and glamorized, particularly as regards running shoes, this would stimulate people to develop an interest in running and- as part of a whole sort of public propaganda campaign- people would be encouraged then to buy the attractive sports equipment and to get into exercise.

Again... well in connection with nutrition he also mentioned that public eating places would rapidly increase. That ... this had a connection with the family too. As more and more people eat out, eating at home would become less important. People would be less dependent on their kitchens at home. And then this also connected to convenience foods being made widely available -things like you could pop into the microwave. Whole meals would be available pre-fixed. And of course, we've now seen this ... and some pretty good ones. But this whole different approach to eating out and to previously prepared meals being eaten in the home was predicted at that time to be brought about -convenience foods. The convenience foods would be part of the hazards. Anybody who was lazy enough to want the convenience foods rather than fixing his own also had better be energetic enough to exercise. Because if he was too lazy to exercise and too lazy to fix his own food, then he didn't deserve to live very long.

This was all presented as sort of a moral judgment about people and what they should do with their energies. People who are smart, who would learn about nutrition, and who are disciplined enough to eat right and exercise right are better people -and the kind you want to live longer.

### **Education as a Tool for Accelerating the onset of Puberty and Evolution**

Somewhere along in here there was also something about accelerating the onset of puberty. And this was said in connection with health, and later in connection with education, and connecting to accelerating the process of evolutionary change. There was a statement that:

**" ... we think that we can push evolution faster and in the direction we want it to go."**

I remember this only as a general statement. I don't recall if any details were given beyond that.

### **Blending all Religions .... The Old Religions will have to Go**

Another area of discussion was Religion. This is an avowed atheist speaking. And he said:



**"Religion is not necessarily bad. A lot of people seem to need religion, with it's mysteries and rituals – so they will have religion."**

But the major religions of today have to be changed because they are not compatible with the changes to come. The old religions will have to go. **Especially Christianity.** Once the Roman Catholic Church is brought down, the rest of Christianity will follow easily. Then a new religion can be accepted for use all over the world. It will incorporate something from all of the old ones to make it more easy for people to accept it, and feel at home in it. Most people won't be too concerned with religion. They will realize that they don't need it.

### **Changing the Bible through Revisions of Key Words**

In order to do this, the *Bible* will be changed. It will be rewritten to fit the new religion. Gradually, key words will be replaced with new words having various shades of meaning. Then, the meaning attached to the new word can be close to the old word. And as time goes on, other shades of meaning of that word can be emphasized, and then gradually that word replaced with another word. I don't know if I'm making that clear. But the idea is that everything in Scripture need not be rewritten, just key words replaced by other words. And the variability in meaning attached to any word can be used as a tool to change the entire meaning of Scripture, and therefore make it acceptable to this new religion. Most people won't know the difference; and this was another one of the times where he said:

**"... the few who do notice the difference won't be enough to matter."**

### **The Churches will Help**

Then followed one of the most surprising statements of the whole presentation: He said:

**" ... some of you probably think the churches won't stand for this [and he went on to say] The churches will help us!"**

There was no elaboration on this; it was unclear just what he had in mind when he said, "the churches will help us!" In retrospect, I think some of us now can understand what he might have meant at that time. I recall then only of thinking, "no they won't!" and remembering our Lord's words where he said to Peter, "Thou art Peter and upon this rock I will build my Church, and gates of Hell will not prevail against it." So ... yes, some people in the churches might help. And in the subsequent 20 years we've seen how some people in churches have helped. But we also know that our Lord's Words will stand, and the gates of Hell will *not prevail*.

### **Restructuring Education as a Tool of Indoctrination**

Another area of discussion was Education. And one of the things in connection with education that I remember connecting with what he said about religion was – in addition to changing the *Bible* – he said that the classics in Literature would be changed. I seem to recall Mark Twain's writings was given as one example. But he said, the casual reader reading a revised version of a classic would never even suspect that there was any change. And, somebody would have to go through word by word to even recognize that any change was made in these classics; the changes would be so subtle. But the changes would be such as to promote the acceptability of the new system.

### **More Time in Schools, but they "Wouldn't Learn Anything."**

As regards education, he indicated that kids would spend more time in schools, but in many schools they wouldn't learn anything. They'll learn some things, but not as much as formerly. Better schools in better areas with better people -their kids will learn more. In the better schools, learning would be accelerated. And this is another time where he said:

### **"We think we can push evolution."**

By pushing kids to learn more, he seemed to be suggesting that their brains would evolve, that their offspring would evolve -sort of pushing evolution- where kids would learn and be more intelligent at a younger age. As if this pushing would alter their physiology. Overall, schooling would be prolonged. This meant prolonged through the school year. I'm not sure what he said about a long school day, I do remember he said that school was planned to go all summer, that the summer school vacation would become a thing of the past. Not only for schools, but for other reasons. People would begin to think of vacation times year round, not just in the summer. For most people, it would take longer to complete their education. To get what originally had been in a bachelor's program would now require advanced degrees and more schooling. So that a lot of school time would be just wasted time. Good schools would become more competitive. I inferred when he said that that he was including all schools -elementary up through college- but I don't recall whether he said that. Students would have to decide at a younger age what they would want to study and get onto their track early, if they would qualify. It would be harder to change to another field of study once you get started. Studies would be concentrated in much greater depth, but narrowed. You wouldn't have access to material in other fields, outside your own area of study, without approval. This seem to be more ... where he talked about limited access to other fields ... I seem to recall that as being more at the college level, high school and college level, perhaps. People

would be very specialized in their own area of expertise. But they won't be able to get a broad education and won't be able to understand what is going on overall.

### **Controlling who has Access to Information**

He was already talking about computers in education, and at that time he said anybody who wanted computer access, or access to books that were not directly related to their field of study would have to have a very good reason for so doing. Otherwise, access would be denied.

### **Schools as the Hub of the Community**

Another angle was that the schools would become more important in people's overall life. Kids in addition to their academics, would have to get into school activities unless they wanted to feel completely out of it. But spontaneous activities among kids -the thing that came to my mind when I heard this was sandlot football and sandlot baseball teams that we worked up as kids growing up. I said the kids wanting any activities outside of school would be almost forced to get them through the school. There would be few opportunities outside.

Now the pressures of the accelerated academic program, the accelerated demands, where kids would feel they had to be part of something – one or another athletic club or some school activity -these pressures he recognized would cause some students to burn out. He said:

**" ... the smartest ones will learn how to cope with pressures and to survive. There will be some help available to students in handling stress, but the unfit won't be able to make it. They will then move on to other things."**

In this connection, and later on in the connection with drug abuse and alcohol abuse, he indicated that psychiatric services to help would be increased dramatically. In all the pushing for achievement, it was recognized that many people would need help, and the people worth keeping around would be able to accept and benefit from that help, and still be super-achievers. Those who could not would fall by the wayside and therefore were sort of dispensable -"expendable" -I guess is the word I want. Education would be lifelong. Adults would be going to school. There'll always be new information that adults must have to keep up. When you can't keep up anymore, you're too old. This was another way of letting older people know that the time had come for them to move on and take the demise pill. If you get too tired to keep up with your education, or you got too old to learn new information, then this was a signal – you begin to prepare to get ready to step aside.

### **Some Books would just Disappear from the Libraries**

In addition to revising the classics, which I alluded to awhile ago -with revising the Bible, he said:

**"... some books would just disappear from the libraries."**

This was in the vein that some books contain information or contain ideas that should not be kept around. And therefore, those books would disappear. I don't remember exactly if he said how this was to be accomplished. But I seem to recall carrying away this idea that this would include thefts. That certain people would be designated to go to certain libraries and pick up certain books and just get rid of them. Not necessarily as a matter of policy – just simply steal it. Further down the line, not everybody will be allowed to own books. And some books **nobody** will be allowed to own.

### **Changing Laws**

Another area of discussion was laws that would be changed. At that time a lot of States had blue laws about Sunday sales, certain Sunday activities. He said the blue laws would all be repealed. Gambling laws would be repealed or relaxed, so that gambling would be increased. He indicated then that governments would get into gambling. We've had a lot of state lotteries pop up around the country since then. And, at the time, we were already being told that would be the case.

**"Why should all that gambling money be kept in private hands when the State would benefit from it?"**

... was the rationale behind it. But people should be able to gamble if they want to. So it would become a civil activity, rather than a private, or illegal activity. Bankruptcy laws would be changed. I don't remember the details, but just that they would be changed. And I know subsequent to that time they have been. Antitrust laws would be changed, or be interpreted differently, or both. In connection with the changing anti-trust laws, there was some statement that in a sense, competition would be increased. But this would be increased competition within otherwise controlled circumstances. So it's not a free competition. I recall of having the impression that it was like competition but within members of a club. There would be nobody outside the club would be able to compete. Sort of like teams competing within a professional league ... if you're the NFL or the American or National Baseball Leagues, you compete within the league but the league is all in agreement on what the rules of competition are -not a really free competition.

### **Encouragement of Drug Abuse to create a Jungle Atmosphere**

Drug use would be increased. Alcohol use would be increased. Law enforcement efforts against drugs would be increased. On first hearing that, it sounded like a contradiction. Why increase drug abuse and simultaneously increase law enforcement against drug abuse? But the idea is that, in part, the increased availability of drugs would provide a sort of law of the jungle whereby the weak and the unfit would be selected out. There was a statement made at the time:

**"Before the earth was overpopulated, there was a law of the jungle where only the fittest survived."**

You had to be able to protect yourself against the elements and wild animals and disease. And if you were fit, you survived. But now we've become so civilised -we're over civilized- and the unfit are enabled to survive, only at the expense of those who are more fit. And the abusive drugs then, would restore, in a certain sense, the law of the jungle, and selection of the fittest for survival. News about drug abuse and law enforcement efforts would tend to keep drugs in the public consciousness. And would also tend to reduce this unwarranted American complacency that the world is a safe place, and a nice place.

### **Alcohol Abuse**

The same thing would happen with alcohol. Alcohol abuse would be both promoted and demoted at the same time. The vulnerable and the weak would respond to the promotions and, therefore, use and abuse more alcohol. Drunk driving would become more of a problem; and stricter rules about driving under the influence would be established so that more and more people would lose their privilege to drive.

### **Restrictions on Travel**

This also had connection with something we'll get to later about overall restrictions on travel. Not everybody should be free to travel the way they do now in the United States. People don't have a need to travel that way. It's a privilege! It was a kind of a high-handed way it was put. Again, much more in the way of psychological services would be made available to help those who got hooked on drugs and alcohol. The idea being, that in order to promote this -drug and alcohol abuse to screen out some of the unfit people who are otherwise pretty good- would also be subject to getting hooked. And if they were really worth their salt they would have enough sense to seek psychological counseling and to benefit from it. So this was presented as sort of a redeeming value on the part of the planners. It was as if he were saying:

**"... you think we're bad in promoting these evil things -but look how nice we are- we're also providing a way out!"**

### **The Need for More Jails, and Using Hospitals as Jails**

More jails would be needed. Hospitals could serve as jails. Some new hospital construction would be designed so as to make them adaptable to jail-like use.

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***AT THE ABOVE LINK EACH OF THE FOLLOWING TITLES ARE HOT LINKS TO A LARGER ARTICLE. JUST CLICK ON THE TITLE AND THE COMPUTER WILL TAKE YOU THERE.***

### **Reflexive Law: How Sustainable Development Has Conned Us All**

By Patrick Wood – Reflexive law was first suggested in 1983 by a German legal scholar, and has since been adopted as the legal framework to implement Agenda 21 and Sustainable Development throughout the world. Reflexive law is destroying all concepts of the traditional Rule of Law upon which Western civilization was founded.

### **Regionalism – The Blueprint for Your Serfdom**

By Michael Shaw – Did you know that some of your local elected representatives are enabling a shadow government to evolve? These people promote the reinvention of government through their support of, and appointments to, "regional" boards that act like soviet councils. These councils are funded to implement Agenda 21. Federal tax dollars fuel their appeal, but your city and county representatives do not have to go along.

### **Transforming Your Town: Facilitated Meetings Coming Your Way**

By Andrea Sanchez – Community visioning workshops do little to address the most predominant issues facing our neighborhoods, but go a long way toward padding the pockets of a select few. Businesses and residents sense something is wrong and are rightfully wary. They will find the strings attached to the plans untenable. Watch for these meetings. It is time to point our elected officials in the direction of true representation and transparency.

### **Common Core: Brave New Schools**

By Cherie Zaslowsky – The much touted Common Core Standards (CCS) Initiative that is being pushed as a silver bullet to improve our schools is not simply the latest fad in education: CCS is actually an unprecedented program that would radically alter our entire K-12 educational system, affecting content (i.e. curriculum), delivery (largely via computer), testing (also via computer), teacher evaluations (connected to test scores), as well as creating an intrusive database of sensitive information from student “assessments.”

### **The Dark Side of Sustainable Development and the Regional One Bay Area Plan**

By Heather Gass – Over the past few years, I and many others in the San Francisco Bay Area have been fighting against a plan that seeks to socially re-engineer our lives: the One Bay Area Plan. Over the next 25 to 30 years it will transform the lives of over 9 million people in 9 counties by creating high density stack-and-pack housing next to mass transit, all in the name of saving the planet by reducing GHGs (Green House Gases). Never mind that global warming has already been debunked by thousands of scientists not on the UN's payroll. The sky is *not* falling, but our rights *are* being systematically eroded.

### **A Time to Sue: Regionalism Challenged**

By Freedom Advocates – The plot to transform the San Francisco Bay Area is largely unknown by the residents living there and overwhelmingly opposed by those who do know. The global boiler plate program called One Bay Area (OBA) or Plan Bay Area will roll out across the nation on a grand scale. OBA involves more than \$250,000,000,000 (over a quarter of a trillion dollars).

### **Green Cities, Cool Mayors = Red Ink, Dead Culture**

By Kathleen Marquardt – At the U.S. Conference of Mayors in San Francisco on June 5 (World Environment Day), 2005, two documents – the “Green Cities Declaration” and the “Urban Environmental Accords” – were presented. Every mayor in attendance signed them. Because of that, every citizen in America is threatened.



## **Abusing the System Through NGOs and CSOs**

By Maryetta Ables – Everyone knows what a lobbyist is, but do you know what an “Adviser” is in Washington, D.C.? No matter whom we elect, no matter the person or party, if we don’t shine the light on who really is writing policy, we are in for a rude awakening.

## **Understanding Unalienable Rights**

By Michael Shaw – Why do we use the term unalienable instead of inalienable? Inalienable rights are subject to changes in the law such as when property rights are given a back seat to emerging environmental law or free speech rights give way to political correctness. Whereas under the original doctrine of unalienable rights, these rights cannot be abridged.

## **Iclei Primer: Your Town and Freedom Threatened**

By Freedom Advocates – Right now, in your town and neighborhood, policies are being implemented that will ultimately eliminate your freedoms and destroy your way of life. You need to know what's going on to stop this process. Many town officials are selling us out to global regional development with help from the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI): Local Governments for Sustainability. **ICLEI is used as one of the mechanisms to undo the political recognition of unalienable rights.**

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## **Seven Reasons Why Plan Bay Area is Illegal & Bad Policy for California**

[Timothy V. Kassouni](#), Kassouni Law, December 17, 2014

<http://www.kassounilaw.com/2014/12/plan-bay-areas-sustainable-communities-strategy/>

[Plan Bay Area](#) is a monumental land use document prepared by the [Metropolitan Transportation Commission](#) (MTC), and the [Association of Bay Area Governments](#)(ABAG), for the ostensible purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 15 percent by the year 2035, as required by former Governor Schwarzenegger’s Senate Bill 375. [Kassouni Law](#) is currently litigating the legality of this plan in Alameda County Superior Court, and a final decision is expected within the next several weeks. These are the top seven reasons why the plan is a bad idea:

### **1) The plan violates equal protection.**

One provision of the plan allows developers of low income housing a free pass when it comes to complying with the myriad and wildly expensive California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process. However, there is no difference between the environmental impact of a low income project, and a non-low income project. This is a classic example of an equal protection violation, and punishes property owners who do not wish to pander to MTC and ABAG projects designed to coerce large swaths of people into high density parcels. Conversely, property owners who wish to use their land for Plan Bay Area projects are given preferential treatment by skirting California's environmental regulations.

## **2) The plan will increase housing costs.**

One of the main features of the Plan is the diversion of the populace and new development into densely populated areas in the Bay Area. Much of the undeveloped land under Plan Bay Area will remain just that, undeveloped to reduce drive times. This artificially caps continued land development for residential use which will drive the cost of already expensive Bay Area housing even higher.

## **3) The plan is not feasible, therefore illegal.**

According to an independent study commissioned by the MTC and ABAG, the plan cannot come close to its greenhouse reduction target. It will fail unless substantial legislative changes are made, including the abolishment of Proposition 13, which was enacted in 1978 to help ensure that property taxes do not increase exponentially as the cost of real estate increases, and which also requires a 2/3 vote to increase taxes. Plan Bay Area recognizes the need for increased taxation to pay for its implementation and thereby seeks to abolish Prop 13 for more revenue. It is highly unlikely that legislative changes of this type will be enacted, as Proposition 13 continues to retain the support of Californians. Simply put, in California, it is illegal to implement laws that are incapable of successful outcomes and Plan Bay Area will be unsuccessful if MTC and ABAG are not able to fund Plan Bay Area's implementation by increasing taxes and gutting Prop 13.

## **4) Even if implemented, the plan will have no effect on the environment.**

Assuming that MTC's and ABAG's independent study was wrong and the Plan hit its target, it would only reduce global greenhouse gas emissions by less than one-half of one percent, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. A miniscule drop in global emissions which would do nothing to affect climate change.

## **5) The plan has the practical effect of taking away local autonomy over the land use process.**

The California Constitution has a provision commonly known as the “home rule” guaranty, which grants cities and counties complete autonomy over the [land use](#) process, including the preparation of general plans, zoning ordinances, and issuance of building permits. The Plan usurps this local autonomy by cutting off billions of dollars of federal funding unless these local governments rezone property and force most construction into priority development areas to create high population density land parcels. However the United States Supreme Court has likened ultimatums of this sort to a “gun to the head.” Our State Constitutional framework should not be upended with extortion tactics.

## **6) The plan replaces local government with rule by unelected bureaucrats.**

Our state is premised upon local government, wherein the voters of cities and counties can decide issues of land use free from state interference. The plan, however, was drafted and enacted by a handful of unelected bureaucrats who have been given the power to decide what is best for the Bay Area and its residents.

## **7) The plan is an outmoded solution.**

Other than the movement of residents into small parcels, the plan offers antiquated solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Far less costly, and more in keeping with the culture of the Bay Area the plan should have accounted for advances in technology. Technology limits the need to drive and will continue to do so exponentially with more advancement thereby exponentially reducing emissions. The reader of Plan Bay Area is left scratching his/her head wondering if this plan is a dinosaur of a 1950's land planning commission when moving populations would have been the only solution. One is left to ponder, are Bay Area residents giving up their civil liberties when they have many alternative and viable options to reduce greenhouse gas emissions?

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# Update on the Lawsuit to Stop the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) from Taking Away Local Control



[http://www.freedomadvocates.org/?wysija-page=1&controller=email&action=view&email\\_id=23&wysijap=subscriptions&user\\_id=6569](http://www.freedomadvocates.org/?wysija-page=1&controller=email&action=view&email_id=23&wysijap=subscriptions&user_id=6569)

Judge Grillo's **tentative ruling is against local autonomy**, however, the Judge is in possession of the information he requested at the hearing and has not yet made a final ruling. Anticipation builds as to what the Superior Court will do.

On Friday November 7, Alameda County Superior Court Judge Evelio Grillo issued a *tentative* ruling denying Petitioners' request for the issuance of a writ of mandate halting implementation of the One Bay Area Plan in the matter of the Association of Bay Area Governments' (ABAG) restructure of local government

On Monday November 10, a hearing was held to discuss this *tentative* ruling. Petitioners' counsel focused on the statutory requirement that the **Sustainable Communities Strategy** be "feasible". The definition of feasible includes the requirement that **greenhouse gas reduction** be achieved within a reasonable period of time. In its briefing, ABAG never presented a feasible plan nor addressed the issue of the timing for their "Strategies" implementation. Currently, ABAG merely *concludes* the project is feasible despite the fact that *their* planning consultant offered no evidence to support ABAG's conclusion. ABAG recites a number of new laws will have to be passed before the Plan can be fully implemented. This list includes gutting Proposition 13, the California property tax limitation enacted by voters in the '70s. Is that feasible? ABAG offers no timetable for a feasible plan designed to transform the Bay Area in accordance with the "Strategies" law itself.

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# Global Climate Change

## '97% Of Climate Scientists Agree' Is 100% Wrong

Alex Epstein, Forbes, January 6, 2015

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/alexepstein/>

If you've ever expressed the least bit of skepticism about environmentalist calls for making the vast majority of fossil fuel use illegal, you've probably heard the smug response: "97% of climate scientists agree with climate change"—which always carries the implication: Who are you to challenge them?

The answer is: you are a thinking, independent individual—and you don't go by polls, let alone second-hand accounts of polls; you go by facts, logic and explanation.

Here are two questions to ask anyone who pulls the 97% trick.

### **1. What exactly do the climate scientists agree on?**

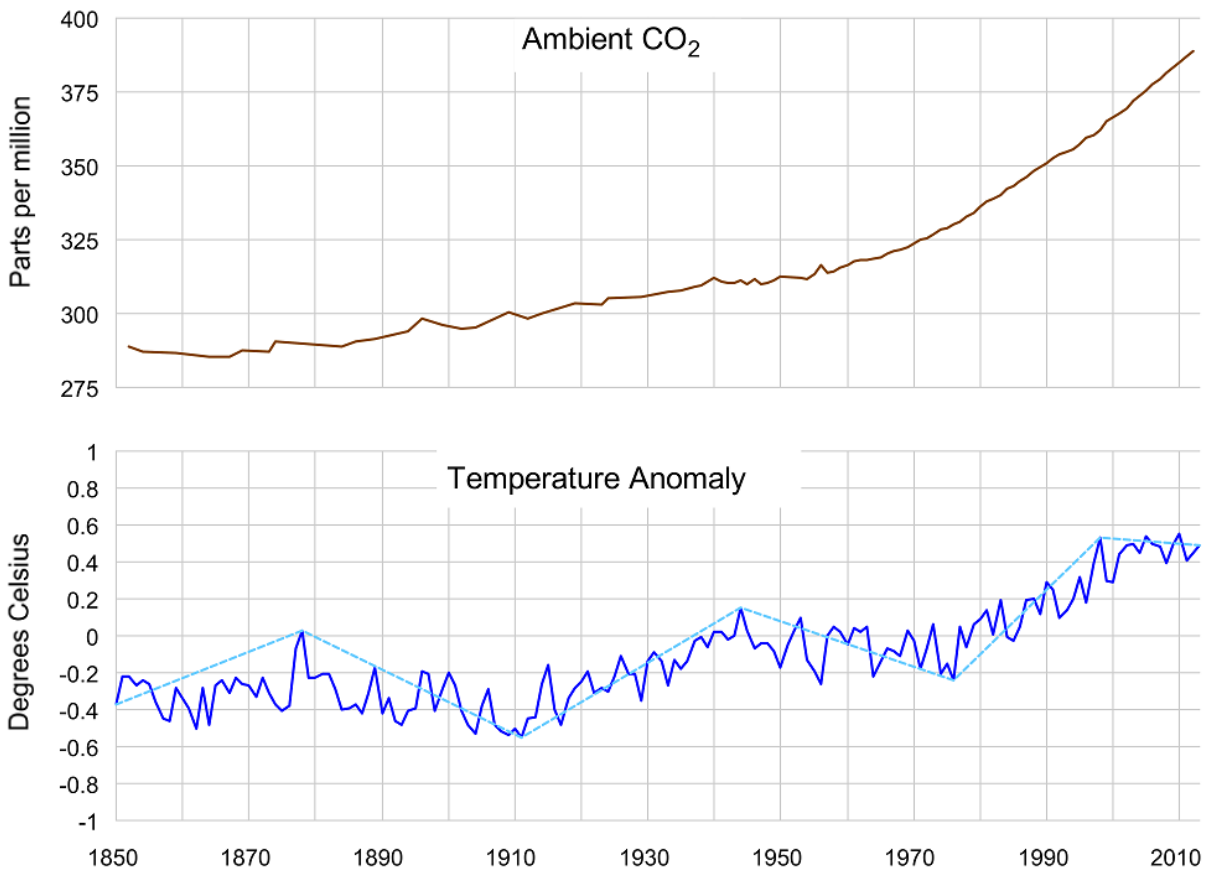
Usually, the person will have a very vague answer like "climate change is real."

Which raises the question: What is that supposed to mean? That climate changes? That we have some impact? That we have a large impact? That we have a catastrophically large impact? That we have such a catastrophic impact that we shouldn't use fossil fuels?

What you'll find is that people don't want to define what 97% agree on—because there is nothing remotely in the literature saying 97% agree we should ban most fossil fuel use.

It's likely that 97% of people making the 97% claim have absolutely no idea where that number comes from.

If you look at the literature, the specific meaning of the 97% claim is: 97 percent of climate scientists agree that there is a global warming trend and that human beings are the main cause—that is, that we are over 50% responsible. The warming is a whopping 0.8 degrees over the past 150 years, a warming that has tapered off to essentially nothing in the last decade and a half.

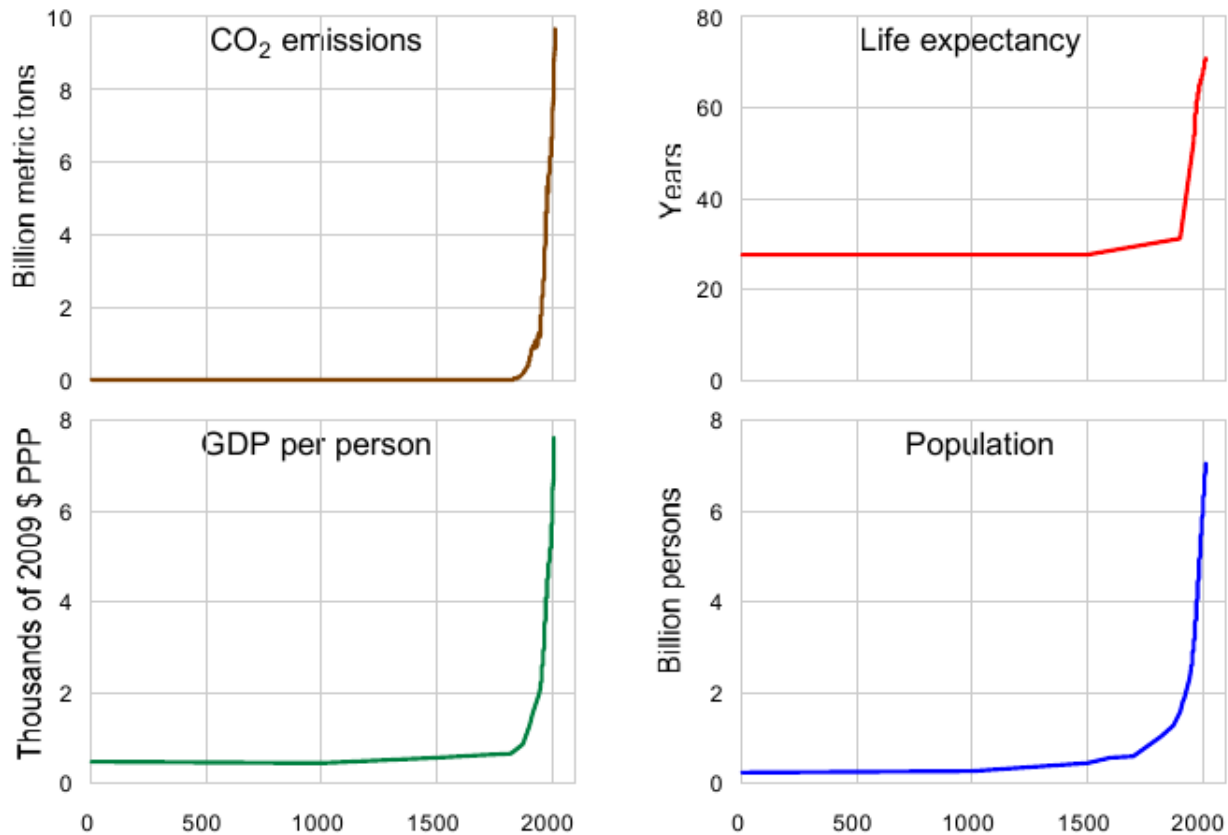


Even if 97% of climate scientists agreed with this, and even if they were right, it in no way, shape, or form would imply that we should restrict fossil fuels—which are crucial to the livelihood of billions.

Because the actual 97% claim doesn't even remotely justify their policies, catastrophists like President Obama and John Kerry take what we could generously call creative liberties in repeating this claim.

On his Twitter account, President Obama tweets: "Ninety-seven percent of scientists agree: #climate change is real, man-made and dangerous." Not only does Obama sloppily equate "scientists" with "climate scientists," but more importantly he added "dangerous" to the 97% claim, which is not there in the literature.

This is called the fallacy of equivocation: using the same term ("97 percent") in two different ways to manipulate people.



John Kerry pulled the same stunt when trying to tell the underdeveloped world that it should use fewer fossil fuels:

And let there be no doubt in anybody's mind that the science is absolutely certain. . . 97 percent of climate scientists have confirmed that climate change is happening and that human activity is responsible. . . . they agree that, if we continue to go down the same path that we are going down today, the world as we know it will change—and it will change dramatically for the worse.

In Kerry's mind, 97% of climate scientists said whatever Kerry wants them to have said.

Bottom line: What the 97% of climate scientists allegedly agree on is very mild and in no way justifies restricting the energy that billions need.

But it gets even worse. Because it turns out that 97% didn't even say that.

Which brings us to the next question:

## **2. How do we know the 97% agree?**

To elaborate, how was that proven?



Almost no one who refers to the 97% has any idea, but the basic way it works is that a researcher reviews a lot of scholarly papers and classifies them by how many agree with a certain position.

Unfortunately, in the case of 97% of climate scientists agreeing that human beings are the main cause of warming, the researchers have engaged in egregious misconduct.

One of the main papers behind the 97 percent claim is authored by John Cook, who runs the popular website [SkepticalScience.com](http://SkepticalScience.com), a virtual encyclopedia of arguments trying to defend predictions of catastrophic climate change from all challenges.

Here is Cook's summary of his paper: "Cook et al. (2013) found that over 97 percent [of papers he surveyed] endorsed the view that the Earth is warming up and human emissions of greenhouse gases are the main cause."

This is a fairly clear statement—97 percent of the papers surveyed endorsed the view that man-made greenhouse gases were the main cause—main in common usage meaning more than 50 percent.

But even a quick scan of the paper reveals that this is not the case. Cook is able to demonstrate only that a relative handful endorse "the view that the Earth is warming up and human emissions of greenhouse gases are the main cause." Cook calls this "explicit endorsement with quantification" (quantification meaning 50 percent or more). The problem is, only a small percentage of the papers fall into this category; Cook does not say what percentage, but when the study was publicly challenged by economist David Friedman, one observer calculated that only 1.6 percent explicitly stated that man-made greenhouse gases caused at least 50 percent of global warming.

Where did most of the 97 percent come from, then? Cook had created a category called "explicit endorsement without quantification"—that is, papers in which the author, by Cook's admission, did not say whether 1 percent or 50 percent or 100 percent of the warming was caused by man. He had also created a category called "implicit endorsement," for papers that imply (but don't say) that there is some man-made global warming and don't quantify it. In other words, he created two categories that he labeled as endorsing a view that they most certainly didn't.

The 97 percent claim is a deliberate misrepresentation designed to intimidate the public—and numerous scientists whose papers were classified by Cook protested:

“Cook survey included 10 of my 122 eligible papers. 5/10 were rated incorrectly. 4/5 were rated as endorse rather than neutral.”

**Dr. Richard Tol**

“That is not an accurate representation of my paper . . .”—

**Dr. Craig Idso “**

Nope . . . it is not an accurate representation.”—

**Dr. Nir Shaviv**

“Cook et al. (2013) is based on a strawman argument . . .”—

**Dr. Nicola Scafetta**

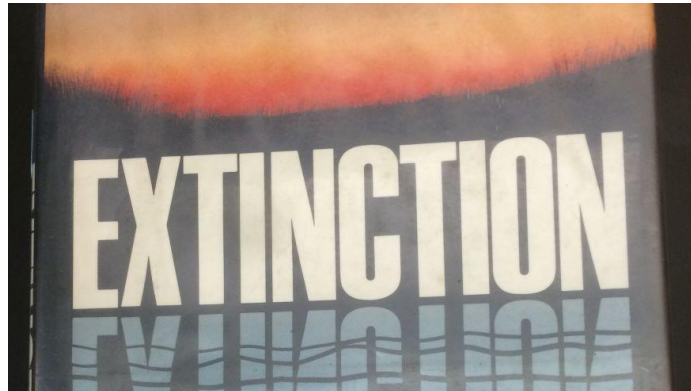
Think about how many times you hear that 97 percent or some similar figure thrown around. It's based on crude manipulation propagated by people whose ideological agenda it serves. It is a license to intimidate. It's time to revoke that license.

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## **Botched environmental predictions for 2015**

By [Maxim Lott, FoxNews.com](#), January 01, 2015

<http://www.foxnews.com/science/2014/12/31/botched-environmental-predictions-for-2015/>



**The cover of Paul Ehrlich "Extinction"**

You've heard the warnings: Global warming could doom humanity. Overpopulation and deforestation will destroy the planet. We're going to run out of energy.

It isn't happening right now, experts say, but it could happen in a few decades.

Yet, decades ago, experts warned that many catastrophes would happen now – by the year 2015. Yet they have not. FoxNews.com found five predictions that went astray.

### **1) UN overestimated global warming by 2015**

Two decades ago, the UN came up with several models that [all predicted](#) that by 2015, the Earth would have warmed by at least a degree Fahrenheit. Yet in the last two decades, there has instead been [virtually no warming](#) according to satellite temperature measurements.

Most climate scientists say this is just a temporary pause and that warming will soon pick up again, though some [say](#) they now expect to see less warming in the future due to the pause.

### **2) All Rainforest Species Will Be Extinct**

Dr. Paul Ehrlich, the President of the Center for Conservation Biology at Stanford University, got famous for his 1968 book “the Population Bomb” which predicted that increasing human populations would spell doom.

One part of that doom, he warned in his 1981 book “Extinction,” was that all rainforest species would likely soon go extinct due to environmental destruction.

“Half of the populations and species in tropical moist forests would be extinct early in the next century [the 2000s] and none would be left by 2025,” he warns on page 291. He added that that his model indicated that, on the upper bound, complete extinction would occur as soon as 2010.

Elsewhere in the book, he also wrote that his model's assumptions were “more realistic” than those typically used and that “unless appropriate steps are taken soon... humanity faces a catastrophe fully as serious as an all-out thermonuclear war.”

Ehrlich did not respond to a request for comment Wednesday morning.

### **3) Oil will run out by 2015**

A Pennsylvania state government “[Student and Teacher Guide](#)” reads: “Some estimates of the oil reserves suggest that by the year 2015 we will have used all of our accessible oil supply.”

Yet the Earth still has oil: at least 1.6 trillion gallons of proven reserves, [according to](#) the Energy Information Administration, a US government agency. In fact, proven reserves have more than doubled over the last couple decades, as technological innovation made more oil accessible.

The guide is on the [website](#) of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Department spokesman Eric Shirk told FoxNews.com that the prediction was “obviously wrong” but added that the guide mostly consists of practical information on how to recycle oil that is still current.

#### **4) Arctic sea ice will disappear by 2015.**

“Peter Wadhams, who heads the Polar Ocean Physics Group at the University of Cambridge... believes that the Arctic is likely to become ice-free before 2020 and possibly as early as 2015,” Yale Environment 360 reported in 2012.

Yet [government data](#) shows that arctic sea ice has increased since then. At its lowest point during 2014, sea ice covered about 1.7 million square miles -- an area nearly half the size of the United States.

Wadhams did not respond to a request for comment Wednesday morning.

#### **5) Looking to the future: A billion people could die from climate change by 2020**

Dr. John Holdren, who currently serves as the White House Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, made dire predictions about global warming in the 1980s.

Paul Ehrlich cites Holdren in his 1987 book “The Machinery of Nature”, noting that: “As University of California physicist John Holdren has said, it is possible that carbon dioxide climate-induced famines could kill as many as a billion people before the year 2020.”

Holdren told FoxNews.com that he does not view that as a prediction.

“As accurately reflected in the quoted passage, my statement in the 1980s about potential impacts of climate change on food production by 2020 was not a ‘prediction’ or a ‘forecast.’ It was, precisely, a statement about what ‘is possible,’ ” he wrote in an email to FoxNews.com.

There are also still five more years left for the scenario to occur.

“It is a bit too soon, on the eve of 2015, to make any firm pronouncements about what will or will not happen by 2020,” Holdren wrote.

He added that new regulations are the best way to avoid catastrophe.

"I very much hope, of course, that nothing as dire as a famine killing a billion people will happen as a result of climate change by 2020, or ever. But the prospects for permanently avoiding such an outcome... will be greatly improved if this country follows through on the sensible measures in the President's Climate Action Plan," he wrote.

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## **1 year from now, freedom dies worldwide**

**Exclusive: Lord Monckton warns of 'greater threat to liberty than fascism or communism'**



[Lord Monckton](#), WND Commentary, December 14, 2014

<http://www.wnd.com/2014/12/1-year-from-now-freedom-dies-worldwide/>

**Christopher Monckton of Brenchley, high priest of climate skepticism, advised Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, wrote leaders for the Yorkshire Post, was editor of the Catholic paper The Universe, managing editor of the Telegraph Sunday Magazine, assistant editor of Today, and consulting editor of the Evening Standard. He invented the million-selling "Eternity Puzzles," "Sudoku X" and a promising treatment for infections. See [the Science & Public Policy Institute](#).**

After the usual impeccably choreographed all-night "negotiation," delegates of almost 200 nations at the latest annual U.N. climate yak-fest – this time in Lima, Peru – reached the usual agreement not to agree on anything except that the process by which they profit must continue.

Not one delegate made any mention of the fact that every single one of the mad scientists' predictions about the global warming and consequent planetary doom has failed to happen.

Notwithstanding record increases in CO2 concentration, global temperature has stubbornly failed to rise at all for 18 years, two months and counting.

The rate of warming in the 25 years since the first report on the subject in 1990 by the U.N.'s climate panel has been less than half what its useless computer models then predicted.

Sea level is not really rising at all. Global sea ice is at a record high extent. There have been fewer tornadoes in the U.S. in the past three years than since records began. The area of the world under drought has fallen for 30 years. There is no

increase in the intensity, frequency or duration of flooding, nor in tropical cyclones, nor in hurricanes, nor in typhoons.

In short, the climate is behaving much as usual. As many records for extreme cold are being set as for extreme heat. Not so long ago, for the first time in recorded history, all 50 states of the U.S. – including Hawaii – had snow on the ground at least somewhere.

Not one of these inconvenient truths has been uttered by any of the national negotiating delegates. They are locked in a time warp, isolated from all reality. And the cost is staggering.

Even Australia – whose prime minister has rightly described catastrophic manmade global warming as “cr-p” – has donated \$200 million to a U.N. slush fund, the “Green Climate Fund,” which will make the bureaucrats rich and the rest of us poor.

For and on behalf of the bankrupt United Kingdom, the Children’s Coalition has pledged \$1.1 billion to the same slush fund.

The United States is spending hundreds of billions on making non-existent global warming go away.

Why?

As Ayn Rand foresaw in her towering philosophical novel, “Atlas Shrugged,” the “looters,” as she so aptly described the rapacious left, would strive and strive until they had robbed almost all of us of our ability to think.

Independent thought would be banned. Adherence to the party line would be mandatory. Anyone who thought for himself would become an outcast and would eventually be punished and, if possible, killed.

The truth is that the state-run schools are places not of thought but of indoctrination. Once upon a time, everyone who aspired to a higher education would be taught first grammar, then logic, then rhetoric, so that he could not be easily fooled.

Not anymore. However fancy and expensive the “education” received by the useless negotiators in Lima, not one of them has been taught how to think. Otherwise, surely someone would have broken ranks, firmly, and spoken up as I did at the Doha climate conference two years ago.

I pointed out, mildly, that there had been no global warming for 16 years.

Was there an outburst of spontaneous cheering at the news that there is no climate “crisis” after all? No. Instead, I was booed and jeered at and banned for life.

Why?

No one wants his gravy train tipped into the gulch. That's why. Also, the delegates were afraid – afraid of someone who, in a dictatorship, was willing to speak out and tell the truth, knowing that there was a risk he could end up in jail.

The forces of darkness, however much they lie, however much they sneer at those of us who tell the truth, are more terrified of the truth than of anything else.

In their consciences (for they still have them, deeply buried somewhere), they know the truth. They know that the money they are squandering to enrich the U.N. and its pampered Fauntleroyes should really be spent on electrifying Africa, India and China. That would do more for the global environment than anything.

But no. They will not do the obvious until everything more profitable to them has been tried.

I have already noted in this column the paramount importance of ensuring the inclusion in the Paris Treaty next December of a get-out clause allowing any nation to resile from its obligations on giving a few months' notice.

I now propose a further modest measure, which you may like to draw to the attention of your senators (without a two-thirds majority of whom no treaty can bind the United States).

All obligations under the Paris Treaty should lapse if at any time at least three of the five principal global-temperature datasets (HadCRUT, GISS, NCDC, RSS and UAH) show no global warming for at least 20 years.

At present, the RSS dataset shows no warming for 18 years and two months. The others would have shown no warming for 14 years, but the three terrestrial datasets have been tampered with this year to show more warming than has actually happened. However, there is a limit to the possibility of tampering, because the satellites of RSS and UAH are watching.

In the Scottish Parliament a couple of days ago, I asked three representatives of the “renewable-electricity” lobby what contingency plans they had if there was not a lot more global warming.



One looked me in the eye and said that his organization – a consultancy group – maintained a business-as-usual scenario in its modeling. The other two would not look me in the eye. Instead, each of them made a declaration of faith in the new religion and in the holy books of IPeCaC. I was sharp with the pair of them.

We must now make the unthinking governing class aware of its obligation to require the modelers to model the possibility of little or no further global warming. By this gentle step, we shall hope to bring our rulers back to sanity on this question.

In the meantime, 60 percent of Scotland's once-beautiful landscape now has wind farms on it. Tourism is likely to collapse if this goes on. Even in my beloved Rannoch, which has been spared the attentions of the racketeers so far, there will soon be windmills many hundreds of feet high.

I have told the chairman of the Renewables Committee of the Scottish Parliament that I should like to address it and let it hear the other side of the case. He did not seem keen. For our biggest problem from now on will be to convince the global governing class to admit it was wrong and change its mind, before any more trillions are squandered.

And that won't be easy. For governments can never be wrong, and global tyranny – which is what we'll get if we don't look sharp in the next 12 months – will always have the power to force us to accept that it is right, whether we like it or not.

Freedom is our birthright. The forthcoming climate treaty – if the failed Copenhagen draft of five years ago is any guide – may yet prove a greater threat to liberty than fascism or communism. For it is the same threat writ global, albeit with the jackboots and guns very carefully hidden – for now.

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# Some Useful FACTS about Global Warming and Climate Change

Alan Caruba, [Tea Party Nation Forum](#), September 23, 2014



Thanks to Sunday's Climate March in New York and Tuesday's Climate Summit at the United Nations, Americans and others will have been deluged with the lies that have been told to sustain this greatest of all hoaxes.

Here are the known facts. Use them to protect yourself against the Green assault the truth:

- ❖ Both the Earth and the Sun pass through natural cycles. The Sun is currently in a cycle of lower radiation as signaled by fewer sunspots representing magnetic storms.
- ❖ There is currently no global warming. The Earth has been in a cooling cycle for 19 years. No child who has passed through K-12 classes in school has experienced a single day of "global warming."
- ❖ Not one computer model that predicted increased warming has been accurate.
- ❖ Carbon dioxide, (CO<sub>2</sub>) blamed for global warming, is not a "pollutant" despite a Supreme Court decision stating this. Our exhaled breath contains about 4% of CO<sub>2</sub>.
- ❖ How can carbon dioxide be called a "pollutant" when it is directly responsible for the growth of all vegetation on the planet? Without CO<sub>2</sub> there would not be a single blade of grass or a redwood tree. Or the animal life that depends on vegetation; wheat and rice, for example, as food.
- ❖ There is zero evidence that carbon dioxide generated by human activities is causing catastrophic climate change. Climate is measured in centuries or shorter periods of many decades in order to determine its cycles. The weather is what is occurring where you reside and it changes every day.
- ❖ At 78% nitrogen is the most abundant gas in the Earth's atmosphere. It is an essential building block of amino acids present in all proteins. It is a very stable, unreactive gas. Oxygen is the second most abundant gas-of-life in

the atmosphere at 21%. Water vapor is the third most abundant gas-of-life in the atmosphere; it varies up to 5%. It reduces incoming solar radiation by day and reduces surface cooling at night. Carbon dioxide is *the least abundant* gas in the atmosphere at 0.04%.

- ❖ The assertion that 97% of scientists believe that climate change is man-made and an urgent problem is a fiction. In May [Joseph Bast](#), president of The Heartland Institute, cited the Zimmerman/Doran survey in which, out of 3,146 respondents, only 79 listed climate science as an area of expertise. Hardly 97%. "Surveys of meteorologists repeatedly find a majority oppose the alleged consensus," noted Bast.
- ❖ In February, Patrick Moore, a Canadian ecologist, a co-founder of Greenpeace, a militant environmental group which he left in 1986, told members of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee "There is no scientific proof that human emissions of carbon dioxide are the dominant cause of the minor warming of the Earth's atmosphere over the past 100 years."
- ❖ Not only is the Earth not warming, but Heartland Institute analyst, Peter Ferrara, notes that "If you look at the record of global temperature data, you will find that the late 20<sup>th</sup> Century period of global warming actually lasted about 20 years, from the late 1970s to the late 1990s. Before that, the globe was dominated by about 30 years of global cooling, giving rise in the 1970s to media discussions of the return of the Little Ice Age (circa 1450 to 1850), or worse."
- ❖ The cooling of the Earth has led to a dramatic increase in both Arctic and Antarctic ice, up 50% since 2012.
- ❖ One result of the false claims about carbon dioxide has been the Obama administration's policies such as the refusal to permit the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline to import oil from Canada to U.S. refineries. The Environmental Protection Agency's absurd restrictions on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions have forced the closure of many coal-fired plants that are needed to provide low cost electrical energy. The administration has long wanted to impose a "carbon tax" on all energy use in America, a punishing and needless expense.
- ❖ **The Obama administration's climate policies are entirely political in nature.** It has announced that the EPA's process of setting new rules affecting power plants will be delayed until after the November 4 midterm elections. It is extending the public comment period until December 1. The growing discontent over similar climate and environmental policies was evident when leaders of the European Union announced it was moving away from green policies that had driven up the cost of electricity across the continent.

In a world threatened by the rise of radical Islamism, by the outbreak of diseases like Ebola, and other actual problems to be addressed, the notion that thousands would march in the belief that they and the entire rest of the Earth's population have any effect on the climate is appalling.

**What is perhaps most sad and most reprehensible are the host of world leaders who continue to maintain the lie of global warming or the misrepresentation of climate change to impose a tax on an essential element of the Earth's atmosphere.**

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## **The People Have Spoken, This is the Most Brazen Lie of 2014**

[Emily Atkin](#), ClimateProgress.org, December 18, 2014

Earlier this year, readers of the Tampa Bay Times' fact-checking project PolitiFact were asked to vote on what they believe was the year's biggest lie. And as of Wednesday, the [results are in](#): "Climate change is a hoax" was the overwhelming choice.

Over nine other options, almost 32 percent of the PolitiFact's 14,467 poll voters chose the "hoax" claim, which was the title of a [video released this summer](#) by failed congressional candidate Lenar Whitney. Whitney, who proclaimed herself as one of the [most conservative members](#) of Louisiana's state Legislature, released a 5-minute tirade against climate scientists and the existence of global warming. To prove her point, Whitney stated that the earth is getting colder, that there is a record amount of sea ice in the Arctic, and that climate scientists have been proven to actively falsify their data.

Shortly after the video was released, PolitiFact [rated the claims](#) within it as "Pants on Fire" — the site's highest possible rating of fabrication. It noted [NASA data](#) which shows that 12 of the past 15 years have been the hottest years on record; that Arctic sea ice has [significantly decreased](#) over the long-term despite a few short-term increases; and that the climate science "scam" she cited was proven false by [several investigations](#).

In addition, there is an [overwhelming consensus](#) among actively publishing climate scientists that human-made carbon emissions are causing most of the global warming we see in the atmosphere and oceans.

Though Whitney's claims were some of the most brazen in nature this year, she was far from the only political figure to claim climate change is a hoax. In fact, the [incoming chairman](#) of the Senate's Environment and Public Works Committee, Sen. James Inhofe (R-OK), is one of Congress' [most outspoken](#) climate deniers, sometimes refuting climate change science by [citing the bible](#).

In the outgoing Congress, 17 out of 22 Republican members of the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee — or [77 percent](#) — deny that climate change is occurring or that humans are the cause.

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## **Global Warming Skeptics Rushed From Stage at UN Conference**

NewsMax, December 21, 2014

<https://us-mg6.mail.yahoo.com/neo/launch?.rand=00ag2jh5s896g#1820292309>

Former NASA astronaut Walt Cunningham and two other global warming skeptics were removed from the stage by United Nations officials while delivering a presentation at a U.N. conference on climate change.

Cunningham and two representatives of the Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow (CFACT) — executive director Craig Rucker and director of communications Marc Morano — were given 30 minutes for their talk at the United Nations Conference on Climate Change in Lima, Peru, on December 11.

But they were abruptly told they had to "wrap up" their talk after 18 minutes to accommodate U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, who wanted the stage for a photo op.

Kerry was attending the conference to promote a new U.N. climate treaty. He has declared that climate change "may be, in fact, the most serious challenge we face on the planet."

After the three skeptics left as requested, the room remained empty for at least 35 minutes, Climate Depot reported.

"This is an outrage," said Rucker. "We are one of the few skeptical voices of reason here at the conference. **To interrupt our press conference and abruptly end our press conference smacks of a cheap form of censorship.**"

"This was particularly obnoxious as the room remained vacant for quite a while after we left."

Cunningham, who flew into space with the Apollo 7 mission in 1968, told the U.N. before his removal: "CO<sub>2</sub> is not a pollutant. Earth's climate history indicates CO<sub>2</sub> is not a major factor in climate change. **The U.N. has twisted science in order to enrich itself and inflate its own importance.**"

Cunningham, author of a pamphlet titled "Global Warming: Facts Versus Faith," also stated that **climate alarmism is "one of the biggest frauds in the field of science."**

Rucker said: "It is mind-boggling that as the world rushes toward adopting a climate agreement, the alleged scientific 'consensus' behind global warming is being blown apart.

**"With Antarctic sea ice at record high numbers, polar bears thriving, and no global warming for 18 years and two months, you would think there would be a need to pause and reconsider the evidence for a climate catastrophe."**

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## **Exposed EPA Memo: Tie Fighting Global Warming to Americans' 'Personal Worries'**

Michael Bastasch, The Daily Caller, 01/26/2015

<http://dailycaller.com/2015/01/26/exposed-epa-memo-tie-fighting-global-warming-to-americans-personal-worries/>

An Environmental Protection Agency [memo sent to top officials](#) implored the agency to build up support for its agenda by tying its regulatory agenda to the "personal worries" of Americans.

"Polar ice caps and the polar bears have become the climate change 'mascots,' if you will, and personify the challenges we have in making this issue real for many Americans," [reads a memo sent around to top agency officials in March 2009](#), just months after President Barack Obama took office.

"Most Americans will never see a polar ice cap, nor will most have the chance to see a polar bear in its natural habitat," the memo reads. "Therefore, it is easy to detach from the seriousness of this issue. Unfortunately, climate change in the

abstract is an increasingly — and consistently — unpersuasive argument to make.”

“However, if we shift from making this about the polar caps and about our neighbor with respiratory illness we can potentially bring this issue home to many Americans,” the memo adds. “There will be many opportunities to discuss climate-related efforts this year. As we do so, we must allow the human health argument to take center stage.”

The EPA memo even says to use people’s children as a way to build up support for their efforts to fight global warming and ramp up clean air and water regulations.

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## **EPA Admin Claims Climate Change Could Destroy Winter Sports Right Before Snowstorm Hits New England**

**EPA ABUSE**.com

The Truth About the EPA , January 28, 2015 [Comments \(11\)](#)



Last week in Aspen, Colo., the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Gina McCarthy, spoke about how climate change could permanently impact winter sports. Just days prior, the Senate almost unanimously acknowledged climate change was real.

McCarthy addressed a crowd of about two dozen people Friday at the base of Aspen Mountain during the [Winter X-Games](#) with SkiCo CEO Mike Kaplan. Olympic athletes Alex Deibold and Gretchen Bleiler were also present, the [Aspen Daily News](#) reported.

McCarthy lauded Kaplan’s company for their efforts to reduce their carbon footprint and tackle climate change. “It’s a big, base-bottom deal for our economy,” she said. “So let’s get off our butts, let’s work together, let’s start taking action. These guys are going to reach the young people. I’m going to



keep yapping at the older ones, and someone's going to get the middle, and we are going to make things happen."

"We need to take action, not tomorrow, but today," McCarthy continued. "Climate change does threaten skiing, it does threaten snowboarding, it does threaten winter recreation as we know it."

McCarthy's statements were sandwiched between two key events. Last Wednesday, the Senate [voted 98-1](#) that "climate change is real and not a hoax" as part of an amendment to the Keystone XL pipeline bill. Only Sen. Roger Wicker, R-Miss., voted no.

The other event was snowstorm Juno, which swept through the northeast Monday and Tuesday, particularly in Long Island, N.Y., and New England, with accumulations over two feet, according to [The Weather Channel](#). Travel bans were lifted and public transit was restored in New Jersey and New York City Tuesday after forecasts were overstated in those areas, [WABC-TV](#) noted.

Still, along with schools and stores [shutting down](#), mail service in Connecticut, Rhode Island, parts of Massachusetts, and Long Island was cancelled Tuesday as a result, [The Associated Press](#) reported.

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## **On Migrating Moose and Migrating Temperature Trends**

**Guest essay by [Jim Steele](#), What's Up With That, January 15, 2015**

Director emeritus Sierra Nevada Field Campus, San Francisco State University and author of [Landscapes & Cycles: An Environmentalist's Journey to Climate Skepticism](#)

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2015/01/15/on-migrating-moose-and-migrating-temperature-trends/>



The biggest threat to the integrity of environmental science is bad science, exaggeration and fear mongering. The recent hype about declining moose

populations is just one more example of global warming advocates hijacking and denigrating ecological science. All organisms act locally, yet global warming advocates quickly characterize any local wildlife declines as the dastardly work of global warming.

In northeastern Minnesota, moose populations reached an historic high abundance of 8,840 in 2006, and then rapidly declined to 4,230 in 2012. Most recently in a 2013-2014 survey, estimates dropped to 2,760 moose. Cause for alarm? Perhaps. But moose are a species known to naturally exhibit booms and busts when their habitat can no longer sustain a rapidly growing population. Instead of deeper discussions on the ecological complexities, but reminiscent of the fearful headlines that "[children will no longer know what snow is](#)", the [National Wildlife Federation](#) (NWF) bellowed "People never forget seeing their first moose. But **due in part to the effects of climate change, it could well be their last**. Moose are being hurt by overheating, disease and tick infestation – all tied to warming temperatures." And to magically save the moose, the NWF encourages you to sign their petition to the EPA to curb CO2 emissions, and for just \$20 to \$50 you can adopt a moose from the NWF. Presumably the \$50 moose is in its prime and carries fewer ticks.

The Audubon Society similarly published [Mysterious Moose Die-Offs Could be Linked to Global Warming](#) and climate scientists like [Michael Mann](#), who has hitched his scientific status to "dire predictions", wrongly connect declining moose populations to rising CO2. There are so many reasons to be revolted by their fear mongering and its denigration of ecological science, it's hard to know where to start. For instance, the greatest spike in moose mortality happens in March at the end of severe winters. Milder winters can be beneficial. While alarmists blame moose deaths on "global warming", the rapid decline in northeastern Minnesota has happened in a region experiencing bouts of record breaking low temperatures. Nearby International Falls, MN broke its record January low of -37°F set in 2010, by dropping to -41°F in 2014, which followed December's record setting 8 days with a temperature of less than -30°F. Averaging local temperatures is likely as useless as referring to the global temperature.

Furthermore moose die-offs are not global. Adjacent habitat in [southern Ontario](#), moose are stable or increasing. Estimates of moose populations have traditionally been based hunters' harvest and in Scandinavia, the annual harvest was less than 10,000 in the early 1900s. After a century of global warming the moose population reached an all time high with annual harvests [increasing 20-fold to 200,000](#). Similarly in the 1900s, moose from British Columbia [expanded into Alaska](#) and multiplied as the climate warmed. In New England, moose were more abundant than deer when the Pilgrims arrived. But due to deforestation for farmland and overhunting, moose have been absent from Massachusetts and

Vermont for 200 years. In 1901 less than 20 moose were believed to inhabit New Hampshire. But in contrast to fearful [global warming theory and species range](#), since 1980 moose have migrated south from New Hampshire into [Massachusetts](#) and [Connecticut](#), despite temperatures that average 4 to 6° F warmer.

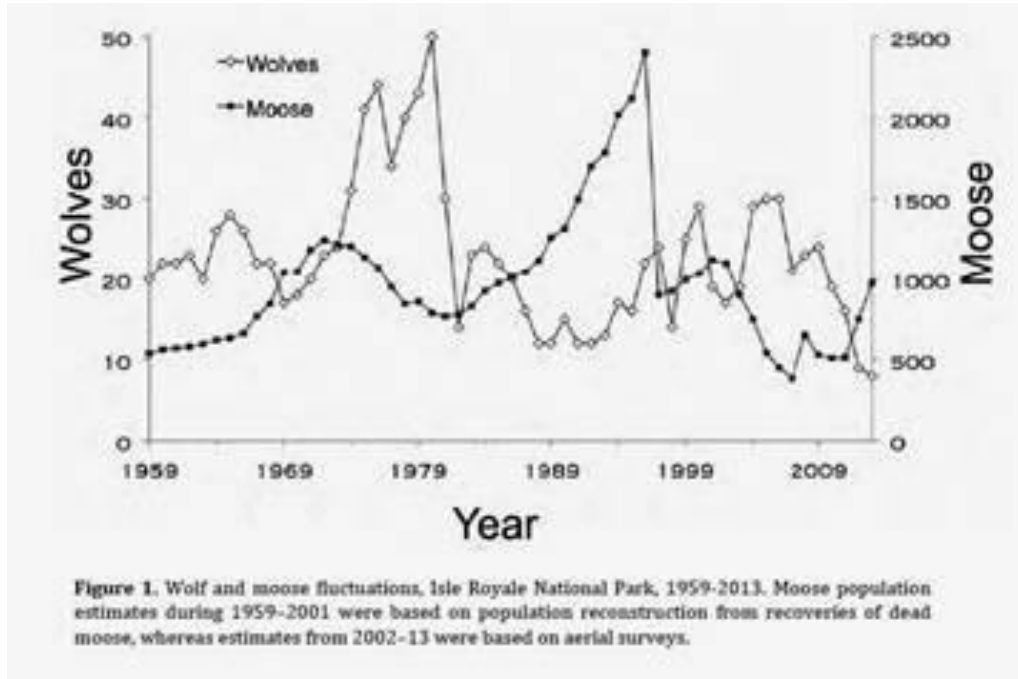
Scandinavian biologists suspect the moose population may begin to decline, but their reasons illustrate the complex ecology. Increasing moose densities strain food supplies resulting in lower body mass, lower reproductive success, and lower resiliency. Moose thrive on vegetation common in regenerating forests that have been cleared by insect outbreaks, fires or logging. Scandinavia's 20<sup>th</sup> century increased logging has now peaked and will decline, and so will moose lose habitat as closed forest canopies reclaim the landscape . Except in eastern Finland, depredation by wolves has been minimal, but wolf populations are now rebounding.

The [best studied moose population](#) exists just east of Minnesota's northeast border on Isle Royale in Lake Superior and illustrates the boom and bust nature of moose populations. As moose populations globally expanded in the 1900s, they soon colonized Isle Royale around 1912 and rapidly grew to over 3000 by early 1930s. Rapid population growth diminished food supplies and a starvation crash happened in 1934. Extensive forest fires in 1936 increased their preferred vegetation and feasting on young vegetation in a regenerating forest, the population rebounded until it peaked as it increasingly suffered from winter starvation. To add another factor governing moose population in the 1940s wolves colonized Isle Royale.



Virtually every college ecology text discusses the predator-prey interactions illustrated by the wolves and moose of Isle Royale. As observed [elsewhere in the Great Lakes region](#), moose populations remained low until they began increasing in the 1950s. As seen in the diagram below, moose populations rose but also ebbed and flowed inversely with wolf populations. In contrast to suggestions that global warming is killing moose, during the rapid warming from

the 80s to 90s, Isle Royale moose doubled their population, approaching a peak not observed since the 1930s, then suddenly crashing to just 500 in 1997. Moose have slowly rebounded since 2007 and are now at levels 50% higher than the 1950s.



In response to the dramatic decline of moose in northeastern Minnesota, over 100 moose were equipped with radio-collars that could alert biologists to the moose's impending death, allowing [biologists to account for the deaths of 35 calves and 19 adults](#).

- 16 calves (46%) were killed by wolves
- 13 calves (37%) calves died due to mother abandonment. Eleven were caused when the mothers abandoned the calf during the act of attaching the collars, 2 were abandoned later.
- 4 calves (11%) were eaten by bears
- One calf drowned and 1 calf died of unknown causes.
- Of the 19 adults, 10 (53%) were killed directly or indirectly by wolves.

Oddly given those results, biologist received a new \$750,000 grant to study the effects of "global warming" on declining moose. I suspect it is politically more convenient to blame declining moose on global warming rather than to blame

natural boom and busts, rebounding wolf populations, or researcher induced casualties.

Similar fear mongering blamed global warming for recent declines in New Hampshire's moose. On a [PBS Newshour](#), the interviewer interspersed interviews with researchers and Eric Orff of the National Wildlife Federation who insinuated that its all about climate change. Like debunked claims of [Parmesan that global warming](#) is killing animals in the south, Orff highlighted dwindling moose populations on the southern end of their range, concluding, "we need to put this earth on a diet of carbs, carbon, and bring back winter." But New Hampshire's average temperature has little meaning. Moose can respond to temperature changes by moving to different microclimates. Between a gravel road, open shrub lands, ponds, and closed canopies of deep evergreen forest, temperatures will vary by 20° to 40°F. A mosaic of habitats is more critical than a 1° degree change in average temperature.

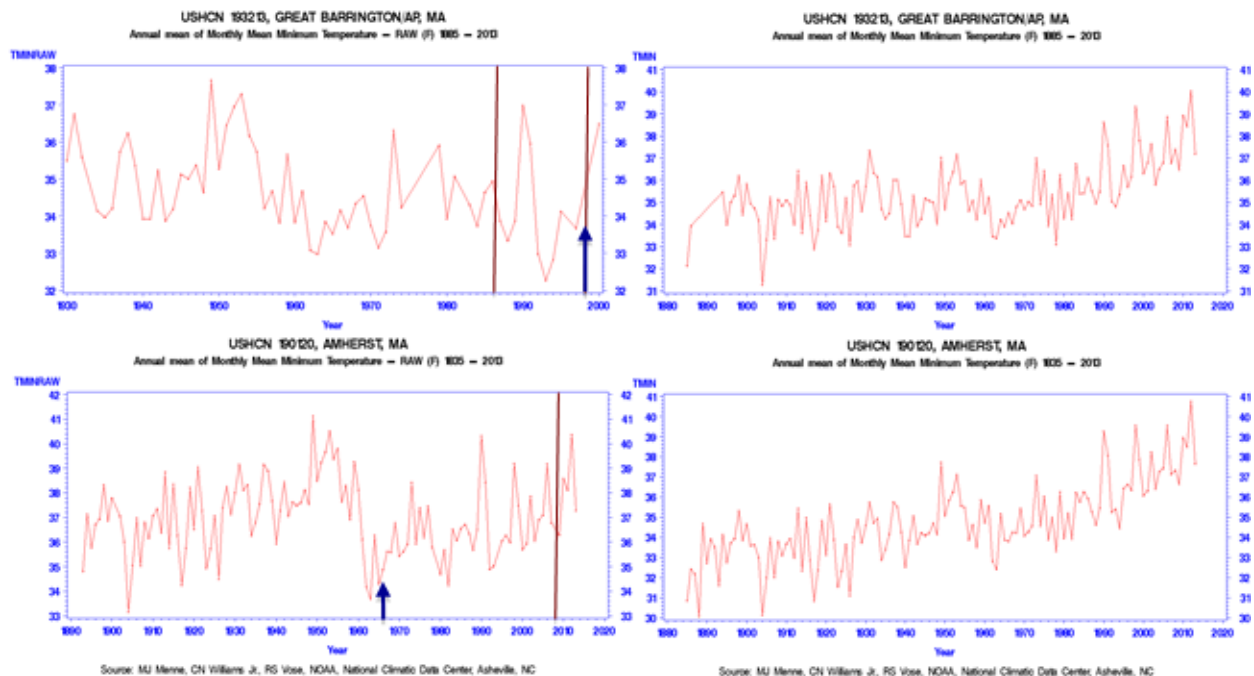
In addition, Orff failed to mention that moose have been migrating from New Hampshire southward and thriving where climates averaged 4°F to 6°F warmer and winters are much milder. Orff also failed to inform the public about normal population boom and busts. New Hampshire's moose population stagnated at fewer than 15 individuals since the mid 1800s and did not begin to rebound until the 1970s. As the climate warmed numbers exploded, by 1988 growing to 1600, and then 7500 by the late 1990s. That increase resulted in more moose-car collisions and a public clamor for increased moose hunts. Perhaps because the public would be less likely to "adopt a moose" that needed to be hunted, Orff failed to mention that according to [Fish and Game](#) about half of New Hampshire's recent population drop from 7500 to 4000 moose was due to a public safety management decision to increase hunting.

New Hampshire's remaining decline has been blamed on moose ticks, which some suggest have increased due to milder winters. Perhaps. But moose also [survive better during milder winters](#). On average moose are covered with 30,000 ticks and each tick can lay a thousand eggs. When moose populations explode so do the ticks. Unprecedented tick abundance coincides with unprecedented moose populations. Besides biologists have observed such parasite-driven booms and busts for over a century.

Growing up in Massachusetts, moose were unheard of so far south. We travelled north to Baxter State Park in Maine to canoe the streams with hopes of seeing moose. Moose are indeed sensitive to warmer temperatures, so why would moose migrate southward to a warmer region that was also experiencing rapid "global warming". Homogenized data suggested a rapid warming trend but as an ecologist, I knew homogenized temperatures are worthless for wildlife studies because the process eliminates natural temperature variations and alters the

actual mean temperatures. However I also understood that trends determined from raw data can suffer from changes in instrumentation and/or changes in location.

I first looked at minimum temperatures for the only 2 USHCN weather stations in western Massachusetts where moose populations had been thriving since the 1980s. Both stations exhibited peak warming around the 1950s in the raw data, but after homogenization, that peak was lowered. For Amherst the peak dropped by 4°F. Onto the graphs downloaded January 10 from the USHCN, I superimpose changes in instrumentation (designated by the vertical red lines) and changes in location (designated by the blue arrows). But those changes did not logically or intuitively explain the newly fabricated warming trend or the cooling of the 1950s peak. (raw data on left, homogenized on right)

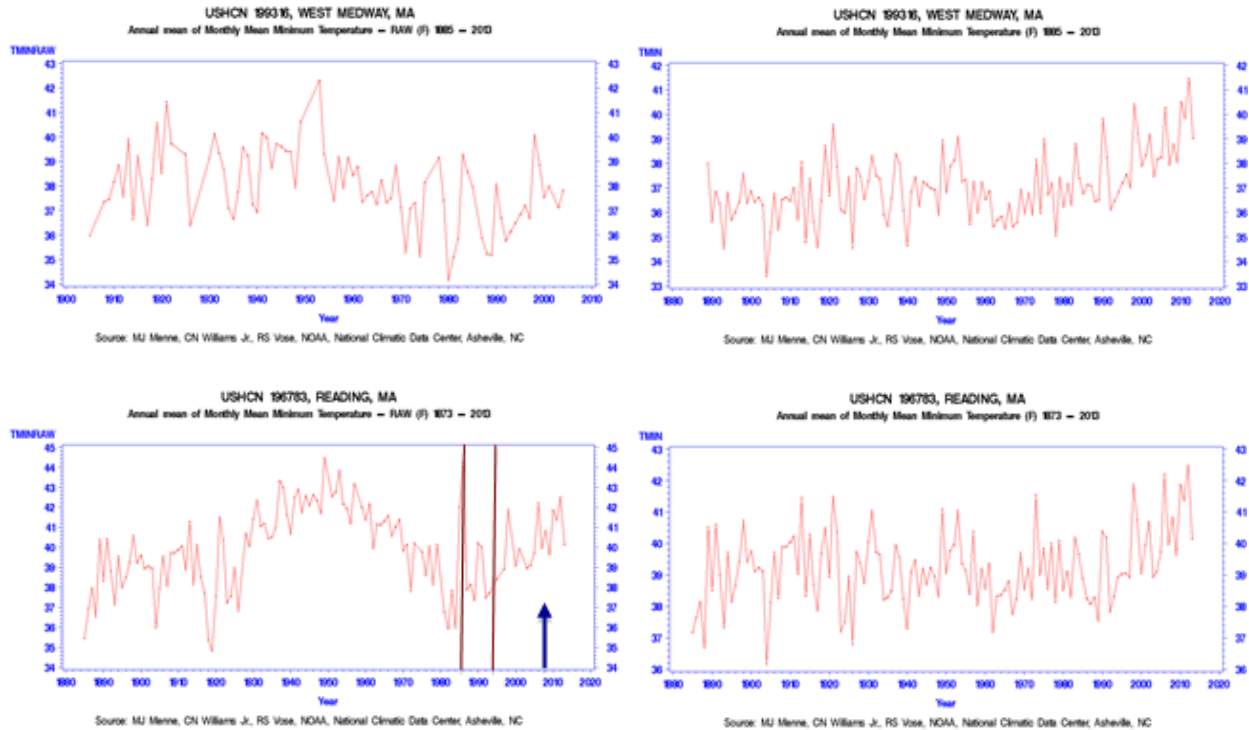


So I looked for a USHCN station with no such changes. Only one Massachusetts station, West Medway (below), had not moved and did not change thermometers. I assumed it would serve as the best standard with which to constrain any trend adjustments at other stations. Yet West Medway was also homogenized (below on right) creating the same virtual warming trend. More importantly, West Medway's raw minimum temperature trend had the same basic curve as the 2 western stations.

The homogenization process for both NOAA and BEST creates a "regional expectation" based on similarities among neighboring stations, which in turn guides their temperature adjustments. But if USHCN stations are deemed to be



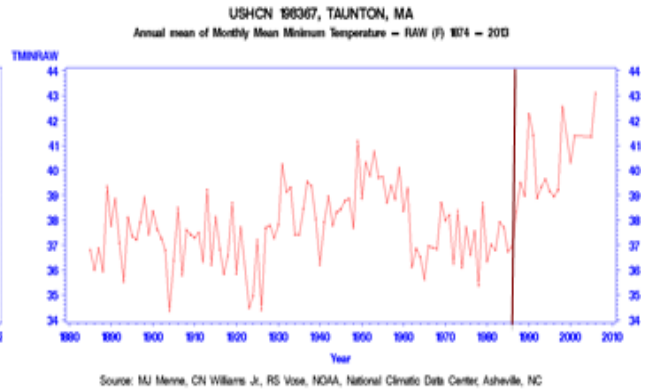
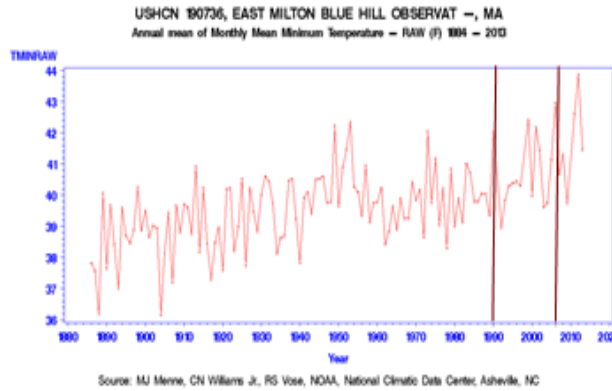
of the highest quality with the fewest gaps and relocations, what data (likely much less reliable) was being used to re-create West Medway's warming trend. If West Medway's raw data shared similar trends with nearby stations, wouldn't Medway's trend be a reliable "regional expectation"? More troubling, the homogenization process undeservedly altered observed temperature peaks. Like Amherst, homogenization lowered West Medway's 1950's peak by 3 to 4°F, a lowering that was also applied to many other stations such as the Reading station (raw data left, homogenized right).



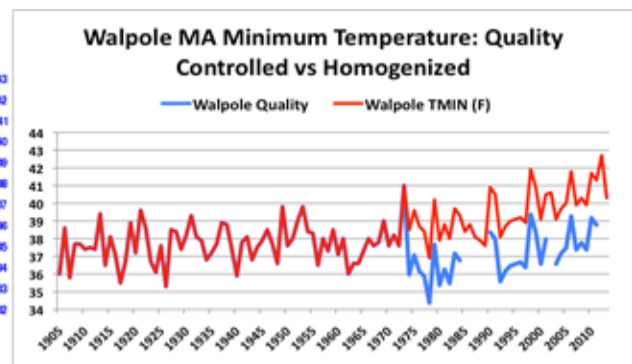
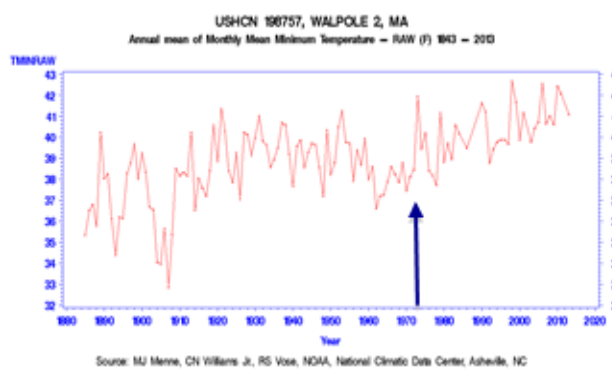
So I was curious how the raw data from West Medway's nearby USHCN stations compared and affected the regional expectation. The Blue Hill Observatory (below left) sits just 28 miles east of West Medway and is a historical landmark that has not moved. Its trend agrees with West Medway, peaking in around 1950 and then cooling until 1980. However after 1980, due to changes in instrumentation, it is not clear how much of the exaggerated rising trend is due to climatic factors (natural or CO2) or the result of a warming bias caused by new instruments.

Taunton (below right) is located 29 miles southeast of West Medway. It too exhibits a peak around 1950 and a cooling trend to 1980. However once again the cause of the subsequent warming trend is obscured by the change in the measuring system. However there was one nearby station, Walpole, that maintained the same equipment.





Walpole (below) is situated just 12 miles east of West Medway and just west of the Blue Hill observatory. But Walpole exhibited a warming trend more similar to Massachusetts' homogenized trend. Of which of those stations should anchor a "regional expectation"? Walpole's raw data had an odd curve not shared by most of the other stations. Although all stations experienced a warming spike during the 1972-74 El Nino/La Nina event, that peak was typically a degree lower than the 1950s. However Walpole reported an unusually higher 70s peak suggesting that after 1950 the weather station had moved to a warmer microclimate. But the [NOAA's metadata](#) did not specifically mention any relocation. Thinking I had missed that information, I rechecked. Although a relocation was not specifically mentioned, the GPS coordinates revealed a significant move in 1973. Yet comparing the raw data (below left) to the homogenized data (below right red), Since 1915 Walpoles raw data remained un-homogenized. Did the warming bias from the 1980s instrumental changes, create a confirmation bias for Walpole?

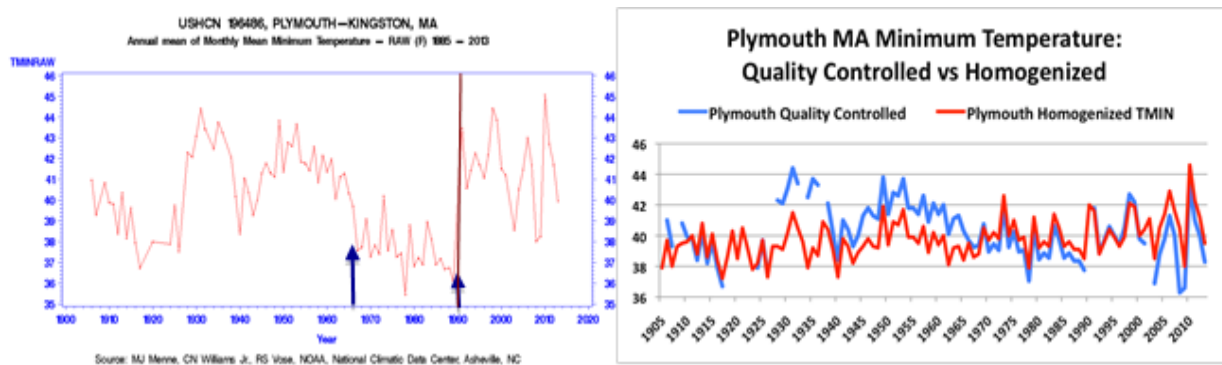


What I assume is a most reasonable method to quality control for a location change, I compared the differences between West Medway (the only unaltered site) and Walpole's minimum temperatures before and after Walpole's location change. Between 1905-1973 Walpole averaged 0.3596 +/-

1.07°F warmer than Plymouth. Walpole could vary between 2° cooler one year to 4.6° warmer another. This great variability is natural and expected. Depending on how far east winter storm tracks travel up the east coast, the battle line between cold arctic air masses to the west and warm Atlantic air to the east causes significant temperature changes. Depending on the depth and extent of the cold air mass, the overriding warm Atlantic air can cause different parts of the state to simultaneously experience rain, freezing ice, sleet and snow.

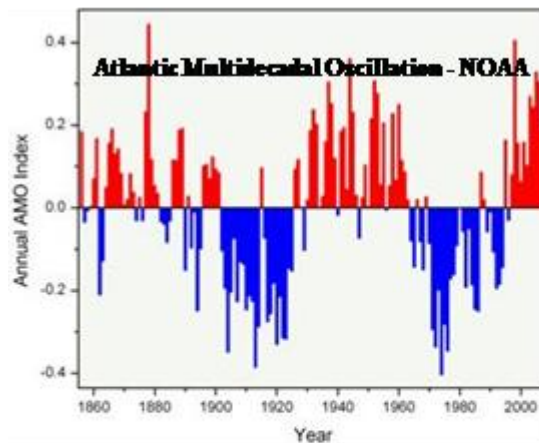
After the station moved, between 1974-2004 Walpole temperatures averaged 2.89 +/- 1.29F warmer than Medway, but with similar year-to-year variability ranging between 1.5 cooler one year to 4.5 warmer another. It is impossible to adjust for such local variations. But to extract a climate trend, it is reasonable to subtract the difference in mean temperatures before and after the relocation. So I subtracted 2.53 F (2.89-0.35) from all Wapole temperatures after 1973 to create my “quality controlled” trend (blue) and plotted that against the USHCN homogenized trend (red in graph above right). Unsurprisingly Walpole’s “quality controlled” data and West Medway’s raw data exhibit very similar trends with peaks and valleys coinciding with the Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation (AMO).

So I more carefully checked the data from Plymouth about 52 miles to the southeast. Unfortunately data from the Plymouth weather station does not extend back to the landing of the Pilgrims, which marked the beginning of the end for moose in Massachusetts. But after adjusting for Plymouth’s 2 obvious location changes, in 1966 and 1990 (blue arrows), Plymouth’s “quality controlled” data revealed a trend very similar to West Medway and a “regional expectation” related to the AMO. Most interesting, once Plymouth’s location change was accounted for there was no instrumental warm bias. As discussed by [Davey and Pielke](#), a warming bias [is] often associated with MMTS temperature instruments, because new instruments and a new location happened simultaneously. Insignificant location changes could cause a warming bias when weather stations were moved closer to a building and subjected to a warmer micro-climate.



It is highly likely that due to its effect on storm tracks and competing air masses, the AMO can explain most of the east coast's temperature trends in a manner similar to how the Pacific Decadal Oscillation controls the USA's west coast trends as published by [Johnstone 2014](#). Unfortunately this relationship has been obscured by a highly questionable homogenization process.

To be clear, I am not suggesting a conspiracy of data manipulation by climate scientists. I am arguing that the homogenization process is ill-conceived and erroneously applied. Many local dynamics are overlooked by a one-size fits all digital make over. Monthly homogenization can amplify those mistakes and has changed trends from one year to the next ([as discussed for Death Valley](#)). Homogenization has failed to adjust for documented location changes, yet created adjustments to untainted data where none were needed. Before we conclude that global warming is killing moose and creating unusually warmer winters, we need examine more closely local dynamics and their relationship to landscape changes and natural ocean cycles much more closely. Understanding local micro-climates are more important that a nebulous global climate. While it may be wise to think globally all organisms react locally, as do all weather stations.



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## Birth control access key means of reaching climate goals



REUTERS

, Laurie Goering, February 3, 2015

<https://news.yahoo.com/birth-control-access-key-means-reaching-climate-goals-144129672.html>

LONDON (Thomson Reuters Foundation) - In Pakistan, where just a third of married women use contraception, half of all pregnancies - 4.2 million each year - are unintended, according to the Washington-based Population Reference Bureau.

At the same time, the rising population in Pakistan – and elsewhere around the world - is creating more climate-changing emissions and putting more people in the path of extreme weather, food and water shortages, and other climate change pressures.

That suggests that giving more women who want it access to birth control to limit their family size – in both rich and poor countries – could be a hugely effective way to curb climate change and to build greater resilience to its impacts, according to population and climate change researchers and policy experts.

"We're not talking about population control. We're talking about giving people the choice to limit their family size and all the good things that go on from that" such as better health and education, said Baroness Jenny Tonge, chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Population, Development and Reproductive Health, during an event at the UK Parliament Monday on linking population and climate issues.

Bringing together two politically contentious concerns – climate change and managing population growth – in an effort to build effective policy has been far from easy.

"They're both sensitive and it's difficult to make headway on either, much less both together," admitted Jason Bremner, a demographer and associate vice president of the Population Reference Bureau.

Still, an international coalition of experts on climate change, family planning and development aid are now pushing for universal access to family planning to be recognized as a part of "climate-compatible development" and included in new **U.N.-backed Sustainable Development Goals set to be agreed in September.**

Some countries, such as Ethiopia, already have included family planning among the activities they want to undertake on climate change, using international climate finance, according to an analysis by the **London-based Population and Sustainability Network**.

"They themselves identified population as a factor making it more difficult for them to adapt. We in the north are worried about, 'Is it fair to make this connection?' when people in the south are already making it," said Karen Newman, coordinator of the network.

Population growth has an impact on climate-related pressures as diverse as land availability, access to water, deforestation and migration, which often occurs "to coastal areas where vulnerability to climate change is very high", said Newman, a sexual and reproductive health and rights expert.

Family planning could potentially find a funding source in the **Green Climate Fund**, which was established as part of U.N.-led climate talks and which will later this year and early next begin its first distributions of about \$10 billion in funds donated to help poor countries adapt to climate change impacts or adopt a lower-emission development path.

Money is key because "we can make all the policies in the world but if there isn't financing for both (climate change and birth control), neither are going to get any better", Bremner said.

But he admitted he had "not a lot" of confidence family planning projects would be supported by the climate fund, which faces a huge range of demands on its resources.

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## **Temperature rising faster in Finland than anywhere else**



, December 23, 2014

<http://news.yahoo.com/temperature-rising-faster-finland-anywhere-else-223524053.html>

Stockholm (AFP) - Temperatures in Finland rose almost twice as fast as in the rest of the world **over the past 166 years**, meteorologists said Monday, supporting claims global warming hits higher altitudes hardest.

Since 1847 "the average temperature in Finland has risen by more than two degrees," the Finnish Meteorological Institute said.

"During the observation period, the average increase was 0.14 degrees per decade, which is nearly twice as much as the global average."

The meteorologists based their statement on a study from the University of Eastern Finland, which concluded the climbing temperatures from 1847-2013 in the Nordic country are "in line with the notion that warming is stronger in higher latitudes."

November, December and January have seen the biggest temperature rises, with less significant increases in March, April and May, says professor Ari Laaksonen of the University of Eastern Finland and the Finnish Meteorological Institute.

These changes have been visible in daily life with lakes freezing later in winter and trees blooming earlier in spring.

Record high temperatures in Alaska, below average snow cover across the Arctic and excess summer ice melting in Greenland were observed by scientists in 2014, raising new concerns about global warming.

The worrying weather was reported in the annual Arctic Report Card, compiled by 63 scientists in 13 countries, and was released on December 17 at the American Geophysical Union meeting in San Francisco.

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## Not the hottest

<https://us-mg6.mail.yahoo.com/neo/launch?.rand=a5i3degp4m6c1#2803022807>

Global warming campaigners have a tough sell on their hands.

They claim that climate science is "settled" and beyond discussion, yet the computer models the whole thing depends on have called for warming which has not occurred since before the turn of the millennium.

Now they're trying to claim that 2014 was the "hottest ever

This is absurd

There was not very much warming during the second half of the 20th century and none since then. [Only a few years managed to come in around 1/2 a degree Celsius above baseline](#) -- Not enough to cause extreme anything

Now team warming is trying desperately to cobble together a few hundredths of a degree above 1998, while they know full well that a few hundredths are meaningless. Measurements are not that accurate. Hundredths are too small to matter. We're still WAY under



what the computer models project

Hundredths warmer is like pennies richer

More importantly, for them to make even this shallow claim, they have to cherry pick their data and completely ignore the U.S. and U.K. satellite data which they know full well is the best available.

Why ignore the best available world temperature data? Because it does not show any warming

That's where science ends and propaganda begins.

Rupert Darwell lays it all out quite nicely over at [National Review](#) and of course there are full details from Marc Morano, as they break, at CFACT's [Climate Depot](#).

The next time a global warming campaigner tries to tell you that 2014 was the "hottest ever," tell them to cool off -- And stick with the satellite data they based the models on (the ones with no warming).

No switching umpires in the middle of the game.

For nature and people too,  
Craig Rucker, Executive Director

P.S. Obama's EPA just announced that they will finalize the emissions rules that are set to crush American electricity production this summer. Do you think we can get them to read and comprehend

the satellite data before then and cool it before they double or triple electricity costs for everyone?



## **Climate alarmists warm it up**

**By Rupert Darwall**

**Read the facts at NRO**

Arctic sea ice area nearly identical to 30 years ago

Got warming?

CFACT.org

12/27/1984 12/27/2014

The image contains two satellite maps of the Arctic region. The left map is dated 12/27/1984 and the right map is dated 12/27/2014. Both maps show a large area of sea ice in the Arctic, colored in shades of purple and blue. Below the maps is a photograph of three polar bears walking on a snowy surface. The text 'Arctic sea ice area nearly identical to 30 years ago' is written in blue above the bears. The text 'Got warming?' is written in red below the bears. The CFACT.org logo is in the bottom right corner.

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**Warming Alarmists Could Use Lesson on History of Climate**

By [GEORGE F. WILL](#), Investors Business Daily, 01/07/2015  
<http://news.investors.com/ibd-editorials-on-the-right/010715-733653-global-warming-believers-arent-backed-by-history.htm>

We know, because they say so, that those who think catastrophic global warming is probable and perhaps imminent are exemplary empiricists. Those who disagree with them are "climate change deniers" disrespectful of science.

Actually, however, something about which everyone can agree is that of course the climate is changing — it always is. And if climate Cassandras are as conscientious as they claim about weighing evidence, how do they accommodate historical evidence of enormously consequential episodes of climate change not produced by human activity?

Before wagering vast wealth and curtailments of liberty on correcting the climate, two recent books should be considered.

In "The Third Horseman: Climate Change and the Great Famine of the 14th Century," William Rosen explains how Europe's "most widespread and destructive famine" was the result of "an almost incomprehensibly complicated mixture of climate, commerce, and conflict, four centuries in gestation."

Early in that century, 10% of the population from the Atlantic to the Urals died, partly because of the effect of climate change on "the incredible amalgam of molecules that comprises a few inches of soil that produces the world's food."

In the Medieval Warm Period (MWP), from the end of the 9th century to the beginning of the 14th, the Northern Hemisphere was warmer than at any time in the last 8,000 years — for reasons concerning which there is no consensus.

Warming increased the amount of arable land — there were vineyards in northern England — leading, Rosen says, to Europe's "first sustained population increase since the fall of the Roman Empire." The need for land on which to grow cereals drove deforestation. The MWP population explosion gave rise to towns, textile manufacturing and new wealthy classes.

Then, near the end of the MWP, came the severe winters of 1309-1312, when polar bears could walk from Greenland to Iceland on pack ice. In 1315 there was rain for 155 consecutive days, washing away topsoil. Upwards of half the arable land in much of Europe was gone; cannibalism arrived as parents ate children. Corpses hanging from gallows were devoured.

Human behavior did not cause this climate change. Warming caused behavioral change (10 million mouths to feed became 30 million). Then cooling

caused social changes (rebelliousness and bellicosity) that amplified the consequences of climate, a pattern repeated four centuries later.

In "Global Crisis: War, Climate Change & Catastrophe in the Seventeenth Century," Geoffrey Parker, a professor at Ohio State, explains how a "fatal synergy" between climatological and political factors produced turmoil from Europe to China.

What he calls "the placenta of the crisis" of that century included "the Little Ice Age" (LIA) between the 1640s and 1690s. Unusual weather, protracted enough to qualify as a change in climate, jibed so strongly with political upheavals as to constitute causation.

Whatever caused the LIA — decreased sunspot activity and increased seismic activity were important factors — it caused, among other horrific things, "stunting" that, Parker says, "reduced the average height of those born in 1675, the 'year without a summer,' or during the years of cold and famine in the early 1690s, to only 63 inches: the lowest ever recorded."

In northerly latitudes, Parker says, each decline of 0.5 degree Celsius in the mean summer temperature "decreases the number of days on which crops ripen by 10%, doubles the risk of a single harvest failure, and increases the risk of a double failure sixfold." For those farming at least 1,000 feet above sea level this temperature decline "increases the chance of two consecutive failures a hundredfold."

The flight from abandoned farms to cities produced "the urban graveyard effect," crises of disease, nutrition, water, sanitation, housing, fire, crime, abortion, infanticide, marriages forgone and suicide. Given the ubiquity of desperation, it is not surprising that more wars took place during the 17th-century crisis "than in any other era before the Second World War."

By documenting the appalling consequences of two climate changes, Rosen and Parker validate wariness about behaviors that might cause changes. The last 12 of Parker's 712 pages of deliver a scalding exhortation to be alarmed about what he considers preventable global warming.

But neither book backs those who believe human behavior is the sovereign or even primary disrupter of climate normality, whatever that is. With the hands that today's climate Cassandras are not using to pat themselves on the back for their virtuous empiricism, they should pick up such books.

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## **Polar Ice Not Melting, But Global Warming Story Is**

By [KERRY JACKSON](#), Investors Business Daily, 12/29/2014

<http://news.investors.com/blogs-capital-hill/122914-732367-polar-ice-not-melting-oceanographer-says.htm>

Feeling low about the incessant screeching that the ice is catastrophically melting at the poles? A lot of us are, so it's good to see a researcher buck the narrative.

Ted Maksym, an oceanographer at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts, has drawn a conclusion that will surely bring him grief from the global-warming believers and cold shoulder from most of the mainstream media, which is heavily invested in the idea that man is heating his planet by burning fossil fuels.

"The North and South Poles are 'not melting,'" the British Express reported on Christmas.

"In fact," the Express said in its coverage of Maksym's finding, "the poles are 'much more stable' than climate scientists once predicted and could even be much thicker than previously thought."

Remember those words "previously thought." In the future we will be seeing them a lot more in reference to the continued unraveling of the global warming fable. In the meantime, kudos to the Express for publishing what the mainstream American media refuse to report.

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## **International Emissions Idiocy**

By [Alan Caruba](#), [RenewAmerica.com](#), December 18, 2014

<http://www.renewamerica.com/columns/caruba/141218>

Most of the people of the world have concluded that the decades of warnings about "global warming" and its successor, "climate change," is just idiotic nonsense. Few believe that humans ever had or ever will have any role in what the weather will be tomorrow or a thousand years from now. They are right.

One of the most distinguishing factors about the Anthropogenic Global Warming theory has been the way its advocates have always predicted major changes decades into the future. When the future arrived, as it has since the first

doomsday predictions were made in the late 1980s, they simply push off the next arrival date for another couple of decades. A classic example is the prediction that that Arctic and Antarctic sea ice would have all melted by now. Instead the global cold weather have been making new records of late.

Delegates from two hundred nations attended the 20th session of the Conference of the Parties and the 10th session of the Conference of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol which took place from December 1 through 12. COP 20/CMP 10 was hosted by the Government of Peru in Lima. The event is part of the United Nations agenda that began with the creation of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in 1988.

The Kyoto Protocol dates back to 1997 and sets limits on how much "greenhouse gas" emissions, primarily carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), nations could permit. The theory, now long since debunked, that CO<sub>2</sub> was rising and would cause the Earth to warm too much was right in only one respect. There is more CO<sub>2</sub>, but the Earth has been in a cooling cycle for some 19 years at this point. The U.S. did not ratify, i.e. sign onto the Protocol. The Senate unanimously rejected it. Canada later withdrew from it. China and India were both exempted from it!

So what we have been witnessing have been a bunch of international officials wrangling over something that did not happen and will not happen.

The hard core "Warmists" wanted the climate change agreement to be legally binding under international law. They were led by those from the European Union. They and others wanted more money to be spent on renewable energy, wind and solar, and money given to poor countries to help them deal with climate change.

The COP20 conference was not about the climate. It was about funding wind and solar energy projects that have proven globally to be huge, expensive failures, and about providing money to poor countries that, as often as not, are poor because they are poorly governed. It's a scheme based on totally false "science."

As to the "science" proclaiming a warming Earth and that "greenhouse gas emissions" are responsible, the easiest and most entertaining way to learn the real science is to read Anthony Bright-Paul's new book, "Climate for the Layman."

Bright applies the known knowledge of the universe in which we live with the kind of logic you are not likely to hear from the likes of Al Gore or Bill Nye the "science guy." Add to them the blissfully ignorant legions of "leaders" of various nations who have signed off on "global warming" without a lick of knowledge

with which to refute the lies and you get idiotic conferences and demands to end the beneficial use of fossil fuels which improved our lives long before and since the IPCC was created.

"So how does one measure the temperature of something that has a multiplicity of temperatures and is constantly on the move?" asks Bright. "It is clearly impossible." How difficult is that to understand?

"In my dictionary," says Bright, "'Global' is defined as 'worldwide.' So let us ask ourselves the question – has there been a worldwide warming of 0.07 degrees Celsius? Has there been a uniform increase in temperatures worldwide? The answer is simple. It is utterly impossible to make such declaration," adding that "It is completely impossible to measure the temperature of the atmosphere which is 100 kilometers high and which has a huge range of temperatures in a continuous state of flux."

If it cannot be measured then years from now the climate cannot be predicted. The weather – what is happening where you live – can only be predicted in general terms for the next few days and that is largely thanks to modern satellites. Moreover, the weather is never exactly the same from day to day. Meteorologists focus on what's happening now, but climatologists measure the climate in units of decades, the smallest of which is thirty years. The largest take in millions of years.

Carbon dioxide is such a minor "trace" gas – 0.04% of the Earth's atmosphere – that most people are astonished to learn that it is Nitrogen and Oxygen that make up 99% of the atmosphere. Both are transparent to incoming and outgoing radiation. It is the Earth that acts as a conductor of heat, affected as always by solar radiation. It is the Sun along with the actions of the oceans and volcanic activity that determines the weather and, long term, the climate.

**Virtually everything you have heard or been told about "greenhouse gas emissions" is pure bunkum.**

**The Earth is not a greenhouse closed in by heat trapping gases. It is the mass of the Earth that absorbs the Sun's radiation and reflects it into the atmosphere. The process is so dynamic that there is no way to accurately predict what the temperature anywhere on any day.**

**The IPCC and its idiotic "climate change" conference wants you to believe it can predict the climate of the entire world! And control it.**



**Not a single dime of U.S. taxpayer's money should be devoted to either the U.N. or any bogus "global warming" claims. We could begin by defunding the Environmental Protection Agency's regulations to limit "greenhouse gas emissions," the reason they give for closing coal-fired plants to produce electricity.**

We should laugh Secretary of State John Kerry off the stage every time in claims that climate change is the greatest threat to life on Earth.

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## **Dennis Miller Global Warming Stance Through Years, 6 Times He's Talked Climate Change**

Tim Hrenchir, NewsMax, 23 Dec 2014

<http://www.newsmax.com/fastfeatures/dennis-miller-global-warming-timeline/2014/12/23/id/614815/>



**In this October 17, 2012 file photo, Dennis Miller speaks at a campaign rally for Republican presidential candidate former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney at Tidewater Community College in Washington, DC.**

Comedian and political analyst Dennis Miller is a skeptic of global warming who's made it part of his shtick to poke fun at climate change and those who think it's a serious problem.

Miller's time in the public eye has generally paralleled the period in which global warming has been in the news. Miller in 1985 joined the cast of "Saturday Night Live," where he was anchor for the regular "Weekend Update" sketch until leaving the show in 1992. Meanwhile, the media made global warming a leading issue after NASA scientist James E. Hansen told Congress in 1988 he was

99 percent sure it was taking place and suspected the greenhouse effect was responsible.

In the early 2000s, Miller — formerly a self-described libertarian whose political comedy always leaned left of center — went through a change and became a conservative comic.

Like many conservatives, Miller has sought to downplay the possibility and/or threat of global warming. Here is a timeline of some of his comments on the issue:

**2003:** [On Fox News, Miller questioned the assertion by global warming believers](#) that people should be concerned because the Earth's temperature rose 1.8 degrees over the past century. He said: "Am I the only one who finds that amazingly stable? Hey, I'm happy it's gone up. I'm always a little chilly anyway."

**2006:** During an HBO comedy special, Miller said, "Is global warming new? I don't know. When I was young I remember the sun being hot."

**2007:** Miller suggested on Fox's "The Buck Stops Here" that global warming believers were becoming "increasingly hysterical," saying he felt spooked by how "hooked" some people had gotten on the topic. He added: "Simply put, I can't worry about the Earth right now because I'm too worried about the world. Why can't I take terrorism as seriously as Al Gore takes global warming?"

**2007:** Miller said on "The Tonight Show" that Gore had proven himself a phony, and probably had a bunch of political advisers who tell him what to do.

**2013:** Miller in May on "The O'Reilly Factor" denounced Gore as a "detestable cat" and "a phony" who sold Current TV to Al-Jazeera, which Miller said "is owned by big oil in the name of Qatar." Miller added: "And, you know, I don't even know what their citizenry is called, the 'Qatarzans,' to quote the great Ray Stevens. I mean, the simple fact is, if you lay that out, everybody should shun Al Gore."

**2014:** Miller regularly pokes fun at former Vice President Gore and other politicians who think global warming is a serious problem. He said on "The O'Reilly Factor" that Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Cal.) was such an "idiot" that her belief in global warming was enough of a reason for Miller to think there is not global warming.

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## The End of Green Jobs

[Daniel](#) Power for USA, December 9, 2014

<https://dddusmma.wordpress.com/2014/12/09/the-end-of-green-jobs/>



The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) issued its last green jobs report in 2011. Did this mean the end of green jobs?

Obviously not, but it did put an end to unjustified manipulation of reporting on the number of green jobs being created.

Green job creation is the benefit recited ad nauseam by politicians promoting clean energy.

Unfortunately, green job creation isn't what it was claimed to be.

The report by Spanish economist Gabriel Calzada Álvarez PhD, of the University Juan Carlos, established that **2.2 traditional jobs were lost for every green job created.**

The report was attacked by those promoting clean energy, and the concept of green jobs remains a talking point of politicians promoting clean energy.

What's more damning, however, were the BLS reports on green jobs and how jobs were categorized as green. The revelation of which jobs were green, during Congressional testimony, raised a few eyebrows, to say the least.

In March 2013, the BLS, reported that jobs associated with green goods and services in 2011 amounted to 3.4 million jobs, an increase of 158,000 green jobs over the prior year.

BLS, under questioning, admitted it had a broad definition of what constituted a green job.

**It amounted to defining a green job as a job in any capacity, no matter how remotely associated with clean energy, in any facility that could be described as green.**

- **If a person swept the floor in a solar-panel facility, it would be counted as a green job.**
- **If a person drove a hybrid bus in a city transportation department, it would be counted as a green job.**
- **If a person worked in a bicycle shop, it would be counted as a green job.**
- **If a person sold recycled goods at the Salvation Army, it would be counted as a green job.**
- **If a person collected garbage, it would be counted as a green job.**

While collecting garbage is a hard job, for which people don't get much credit, they can hardly be described as being green. They certainly can't be remotely associated with clean energy, unless the trash is burned in a power plant, and even that is a stretch.

The person driving a hybrid school bus is doing a commendable job for the community, but the job is hardly green because the bus is a hybrid.

It wasn't mentioned in the testimony, but taxi cab drivers using hybrids, such as a Prius, could also be classified as green using the BLS model.

The concept of green jobs is fictitious from the outset.

Fundamentally, the job is green if it's not associated with fossil fuels.

**But the greenest jobs of all are not seen as being green.**

**Forest rangers, farmers, marine biologists, landscapers, fishermen and linemen who work outdoors, mostly with their hands, and who are often involved with promoting and protecting the environment, are not seen as being green.**

**GREEN JOBS REALLY AREN'T ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT, THEY ARE ABOUT POLITICS AND CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS.**

It's good the BLS stopped issuing the green jobs report.

Now, if we could just get politicians from talking about fictitious green jobs.

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## **MINNESOTA AWAKENS A SLEEPING GIANT**

William Perry Pendley, Mountain States Legal Foundation, February 1, 2015

<https://us-mg6.mail.yahoo.com/neo/launch?.rand=9ggel82g5ci6b#6281210803>

The degree to which a state may interfere with commerce among its neighbors is now before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit in St. Louis, Missouri. At issue is global cooling/global warming/climate change/greenhouse gas legislation adopted by Minnesota—one of the Nation’s most progressive, liberal, politically correct jurisdictions—ostensibly to save its constituents from the evils of coal and the carbon dioxide generated when creating electricity. The constitutional doctrine upon which the suit—filed by Minnesota’s western neighbor North Dakota and others—turns is the “dormant Commerce Clause,” an expression that fails to convey completely the principle’s origin, vitality, or constitutional significance.

As every school child once knew, because the Articles of Confederation vested power to regulate commerce in the States and not Congress, commercial warfare erupted as, in Justice Joseph Story’s words, “each state would legislate according to its own [economic and constituents’] interests ....” The economic Balkanization that resulted was catastrophic, “threaten[ing] the peace and safety of the Union.” Therefore, when drafting the Constitution, the Framers granted Congress the power to “regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes[.]” Implicit in that grant—but dormant only as to inaction by Congress—were limits on state power to affect interstate commerce.

The Supreme Court of the United States, however, did not slumber; thus, over the decades, while recognizing the right of states to engage in “novel social and economic experiments,” the Court interpreted the dormant Commerce Clause to bar state legislation that “discriminates against or unduly burdens interstate

commerce and thereby 'imped[es] free private trade in the national market place....'" Therefore, when "legislation nominally of local concern is in point of fact aimed at interstate commerce, or by its necessary operation is a means of gaining a local benefit by throwing the attendant burdens on those without the state[.]" it runs afoul of the dormant Commerce Clause.

In determining whether state legislation violates the Commerce Clause, the Supreme Court asks: first, whether the law has the "practical effect of extraterritorial control of interstate commerce[;]" second, whether the law "clearly discriminates against interstate commerce in favor of in-state commerce[;]" and third, whether the law "imposes a burden on interstate commerce that outweighs any benefits received[.]"

Enter Minnesota's Next Generation Energy Act of 2007 (NGEA), which sets Draconian goals for greenhouse gas reductions; establishes one of the nation's most aggressive array of renewable-energy standards; and provides that "no person" may contribute to or increase "statewide power sector carbon dioxide emissions." Thus, the law directly affects the electric power industry—including generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity outside Minnesota—that is regulated by the federal government and operated cooperatively to ensure hourly accuracy as to supply and demand in such a manner that neither the supplier nor the consumer knows the destination or origins of the electricity it generates or uses.

Little wonder the Minnesota federal district court that heard the case had no difficulty, once it brushed aside assertions by Minnesota's attorneys that the law did not mean what it said, ruling that NGEA's "plain language applies to power and capacity transactions occurring wholly outside of Minnesota's borders[.]" and therefore is "a per se violation of the dormant Commerce Clause." Both sides filed cross appeals and, days ago, the Montana Coal Council, a nonprofit group whose members supply a large portion of the coal that generates 44 percent of Minnesota's in-state electric power, filed a friend of the court brief in support of North Dakota urging that the federal district court's ruling be upheld.

Given the case's significance especially in light of efforts by various states to adopt legislation similar to Minnesota's NGEA, there is a strong likelihood the Supreme Court will hear the matter. If not, however, another case draws near; Wyoming recently contested Oregon's denial of a Columbia River terminal permit to export its coal to the Far East.

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## United Nations

### UN Seeks to Criminalize Free Speech, Citing “Human Rights”

Written by [Alex Newman](#), New American, 31 December 2014



**Under the guise of advancing what the United Nations refers to as “human rights,” the dictator-dominated global body is waging a full-blown assault on free-speech rights by pressuring governments to criminalize so-called “hate speech.”** Indeed, working alongside radical government-funded activist groups and anti-liberty politicians around the world, the UN and other totalitarian-minded forces have now reached the point where they openly claim that what they call “**international law**” actually *requires* governments to ban speech and organizations they disapprove of. Critics, though, are fighting back in an effort to protect freedom of speech — among the most fundamental of all real rights.

While Americans’ God-given right to speak freely is firmly enshrined in the U.S. Constitution’s First Amendment, the UN and its hordes of “human rights” bureaucrats are currently terrorizing and bullying the people of Japan — among others — in an effort to drastically curtail speech rights. Pointing to a tiny group of anti-Korean activists holding demonstrations in Japan, politicians and self-styled promoters of “human rights” have also joined the UN in its Soviet-inspired crusade to ban free expression. The Japanese Constitution, however, like the American one, includes strong protections for freedom of speech. Still, that has not stopped the UN from seeking to impose its radical speech restrictions on Japan anyway.



At least two separate UN outfits, the [dictator-dominated "Human Rights Commission"](#) and the UN "Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination," have condemned Japan so far this year for failing to criminalize free speech while demanding immediate bans. The UN racial committee even released a report calling on Japanese politicians to overthrow the nation's Constitution and take "appropriate steps to revise its legislation" by criminalizing and punishing speech, rallies, and groups considered "hateful." The outfit also demanded a "comprehensive law prohibiting racial discrimination."

The "human rights" committee, meanwhile, demanded that Japanese authorities "prohibit all propaganda advocating racial superiority or hatred that incites to discrimination, hostility or violence." Even speech on the Internet is [in the UN's "human rights" crosshairs for regulation and prohibition](#). While anti-Korean speeches and rallies by the Japanese group "Zaitokukai" are being used as the pretext to terrorize Japan into changing its policies and infringing on citizens' constitutionally guaranteed freedoms, the UN's anti-free speech scheming has far larger aims.

Incredibly, despite constitutional protections for free speech and the lack of any statute even purporting to criminalize free expression, Japanese courts have actually been relying on UN agreements to punish alleged "hate" speakers. Last summer, the high court in Osaka upheld a previous ruling against the Zaitokukai organization for its speeches and rallies outside of a North Korean propaganda "school" in Kyoto that brainwashes children into worshipping mass-murdering North Korean dictator Kim Jong-un. The group was ordered to pay more than \$100,000 for its supposed hate speech — again, despite the Constitution's protections for free speech and the lack of a "hate speech" statute in Japan.

Also alarming to critics is that top members of the Japanese political class are already plotting to use "hate speech" laws to criminalize criticism of government and politicians. According to a recent report in the Economist magazine, revisionist politician Sanae Takaichi said "hate-speech" laws should be used to stop people from protesting government actions outside of Parliament. Lawmakers must be free to work "without any fear of criticism," she explained, sending shivers down the spines of free-speech advocates. Apparently the totalitarian sentiment is widespread among the political class, though Japan's justice minister has so far resisted UN calls to pursue "hate speech" schemes.

Much of the UN's lobbying against freedom of speech in Japan, as in other nations, revolves around the "International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination" and similar planetary thought-police regimes. The radical UN agreement, which took effect in 1969 but was not ratified by Japanese authorities until the 1990s, purports to criminalize "discriminatory expression." Under the global body's anti-free-speech regime, national

governments are supposedly “required” to ban all speech that might justify or promote racial hatred, hostility, or discrimination — and punish the perpetrators.

Then UN “Human Rights” Czar Navi Pillay, a South African who was [widely ridiculed after her half-baked attacks on the United States](#) in recent years, also offered some chilling insight into the dictator-dominated global body’s views on liberty. “Defining the line that separates protected from unprotected speech is ultimately a decision that is best made after a thorough assessment of the circumstances of each case,” she argued. In other words, any time somebody speaks, he or she must wonder whether their speech might run afoul of dubious UN notions of “hate speech” — to be decided after the fact.

Of course, the issue at hand is not really “hate speech.” Threats and incitement to violence are already crimes in Japan and virtually the entire civilized world, so no new statutes are needed to rein in the excesses of racist hatemongers. Instead, the real issues include freedom of speech, freedom of the press, real rights, national sovereignty, constitutional governance, and self-government. While racist speech is certainly ignorant, tasteless, and collectivist, using laws to criminalize it is not only futile — as has been shown on countless occasions — but extraordinarily dangerous. Instead, the free marketplace of ideas is the best way to counter hatemongering.

Even the notion of “hate speech,” though, has long been used to persecute innocent people for their political and religious beliefs. Across much of Europe, for instance, [pastors and street preachers are regularly arrested and jailed](#) for referring to homosexual activity as a sin. In Sweden, under the guise of waging war on “hate speech,” the Justice Ministry even investigated the Holy Bible. Meanwhile, at the global level, a broad coalition of Islamic dictators is seeking to criminalize criticism of Islam, its prophet, and the Quran worldwide using UN agreements.

The tyrannical origin of hate-speech laws, meanwhile, was highlighted in detail in a 2011 report by the respected Hoover Institution, exposing the origins of the machinations within the mass-murdering regime ruling the Soviet Union. “The introduction of hate-speech prohibitions into international law was championed in its heyday by the Soviet Union and allies,” the paper on the [“sordid origin of hate-speech laws”](#) explained. “Their motive was readily apparent. The communist countries sought to exploit such laws to limit free speech.” Acceptance of hate-speech schemes by what remains of the free world, the report added, could have “devastating consequences for the preservation of free speech.”

The UN, composed largely of brutal autocracies of various varieties, has also made its views on free speech rights perfectly clear. Just consider two examples

documented by *The New American* in 2014. This summer, the head of a powerful UN agency, Director General Francis Gurry with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), [threatened a journalist with criminal prosecution](#) — for the "crime" of reporting on official documents alleging that he unlawfully sent U.S. technology to brutal dictators, retaliated against whistleblowers, and was involved in widespread corruption. More recently, the UN World Health Organization (WHO) [physically removed the public and the media](#) from a taxpayer-funded meeting in Moscow during which it decided to demand much higher global tobacco taxes.

Even the whole UN notion of "human rights" should be viewed for what it is: a tool of tyrants to attack the real rights that have underpinned Western traditions since the Magna Carta. Indeed, unbeknownst to average Americans and humanity as a whole, the UN means something very different when it discusses "human rights" than, say, the unalienable, God-given rights enshrined in the U.S. Constitution. In the American system, rights such as self-defense, free speech, religious liberty, trial by jury, privacy, and property ownership are endowed by the Creator upon every individual — a truth that America's Founding Fathers viewed as "self-evident."

Because individuals' human rights come from God, then, they cannot be legitimately infringed upon by any government. In fact, according to the Founders, government was instituted for the express purpose of protecting those God-given rights from infringement. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness," explains the American Declaration of Independence, which formally gave birth to the independent United States of America. "That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men."

Under the UN's version of "human rights," however, "rights" are purportedly defined and granted to people by governments, dictators, treaties, and international organizations. Even more troubling, perhaps, is that they can be restricted or abolished by government at will under virtually any pretext, as the UN's own "[Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#)" openly admits. Consider Article 29 of the declaration, which claims that the pseudo-rights can be limited "by law" under the guise of everything from "public order" to "the general welfare."

Separately, the same article claims that everyone has "duties to the community" and that "rights and freedoms" may "in no case be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations." For perspective, that would be like the First Amendment saying Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech, unless that speech is being used to criticize

Congress or otherwise makes Congress unhappy. Obviously, the two views on human rights are incompatible at a basic level. The two visions are actually almost opposites — unalienable God-given rights versus revocable government-granted privileges.

More evidence of how the UN views “human rights” can be found with a brief examination of the composition of its “Human Rights Council,” the highest “authority” within the UN system on the issue. In November of 2013, the outfit [selected the most barbaric regimes on the planet to sit on the body](#). Among the mass-murdering regimes selected to sit on the UN’s self-styled “human rights” entity, for example, were the communist dictatorships enslaving the people of China, Cuba, and Vietnam. The socialist regime in Namibia was selected for the council, too, joining the brutal socialist autocracy ruling Venezuela that recently disarmed law-abiding citizens with UN help.

Also appointed were the hardline Islamist tyrants ruling over Algeria and Saudi Arabia, which considers converting to Christianity a capital offense and which continues to publicly behead “apostates” and others, ISIS-style. If the genocidal mass-murdering maniac ruling Sudan had not withdrawn his bid in the face of a global outcry, his [seat on the council was all but assured](#). Ironically, the current UN “High Commissioner for Human Rights” comes from Jordan, where converting to Christianity is a crime. Less than a decade ago, the UN Commission on Human Rights, which preceded the council, was actually chaired by none other than brutal Libyan dictator Moammar Gadhafi.

While UN attacks on free speech under the guise of pseudo-human-rights are growing bolder with every passing day, the controversial global outfit — widely ridiculed as the “dictators club” — has [no plans to stop there](#). In fact, in the [United States](#), Japan, [Canada](#), [Switzerland](#), the [United Kingdom](#), and more, the UN has been using its phony notion of “rights” to attack real rights — ranging from [self-defense and parental rights to self-government and even freedom of the press](#). In the upcoming January 19 print issue of *The New American* ([available by subscription](#)), this magazine extensively documents the full-scale UN attack on the U.S. constitutional system and the unalienable rights of Americans using “human rights” as the weapon.

Rather than entertaining the outlandish and totalitarian demands of the dictators club against the free world, **civilized nations and free peoples should force their governments to defund and withdraw from the UN.** Only then will the non-stop UN attacks on freedom and real rights come to an end. Until then, though, humanity must firmly oppose the UN’s autocratic scheming at every turn — lest the people’s true unalienable rights be usurped and trampled under the guise of bogus “human rights.”

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## Government

### California politicians push Obama for national monument designation

By Alexei Koseff, Sacramento Bee, 12/18/2014

<http://www.sacbee.com/news/politics-government/capitol-alert/article4653246.html>



**The view from the top of Berryessa Peak on Jan. 27, 2013**

California congressional delegates are lobbying President **Barack Obama** for protection of the Berryessa Snow Mountain region, a [nature and recreation area](#) in Northern California.

A legislative effort to declare the 346,000-acre stretch of Napa, Mendocino, Lake, Solano and Yolo counties a “national conservation area” – led by Rep. **Mike Thompson**, D-St. Helena, and Democratic Sen. **Barbara Boxer** – has stalled in Congress for several years running. So now proponents are changing tactics and asking Obama for an executive action naming Berryessa Snow Mountain a national monument, similar to his [declaration for the San Gabriel Mountains](#) this fall.

U.S. Secretary of the Interior **Sally Jewell** will be in Napa today to attend a public meeting discussing permanent protection for Berryessa Snow Mountain, 2 p.m. at the Napa Valley College Performing Arts Center.

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## **Rep. Gosar Introduces Bipartisan Bill to Protect U.S. Waters from Federal Overreach**

**For Immediate Release:** Contact: Steven D. Smith, [Steven.Smith@mail.house.gov](mailto:Steven.Smith@mail.house.gov)  
January 28, 2015

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** - Today, U.S. Congressman Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S. (AZ-04) released the following statement after introducing H.R. 594, the Waters of the United States Regulatory Overreach Protection Act, which garnered 114 bipartisan cosponsors in less than 48 hours. This bill would prevent the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and other federal agencies from improperly expanding the Clean Water Act (CWA) and seizing jurisdiction over water that is currently under control of states and private ownership:

“The Obama Administration has made it clear that it has no intention of following the law or respecting the legislative process when developing federal rules and regulations. This president has repeatedly chosen to ignore the will of the American people and govern by executive fiat to implement his far left ideology. This includes the latest attempt by the EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to obtain control over practically all standing water throughout the U.S. by unilaterally expanding the Clean Water Act.

“This blatant federal overreach would assert federal jurisdiction over nearly all areas with any hydrologic connection to downstream waters, including man-made constructions such as ditches, pipes and farmland ponds. Contrary to claims made by the EPA and the Corps, this would directly contradict prior U.S. Supreme Court decisions, which imposed limits on the extent of federal CWA authority.

“The Waters of the United States Regulatory Overreach Protection Act rejects this overreach and requires relevant federal agencies to go back to the drawing board and consult with states and other local officials to formulate a proposal that will then be submitted to Congress for approval. Only Congress has the authority to change or redefine the scope of the CWA, not bureaucrats in Washington. This fact has been confirmed several times by the Supreme Court. Americans can't afford more economic hurdles and thievery of precious water supplies from an unaccountable federal government operating in hyper mode.”

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## **PLF submits testimony for congressional hearing on 'waters of U.S.' rule**

**PLF PRESS RELEASE February 3, 2015**

**Washington, D.C.; February 3, 2015** : Pacific Legal Foundation (PLF) has submitted testimony for a congressional hearing that will be held on Wednesday, February 4, to examine a sweeping expansion of federal Clean Water Act jurisdiction, as set forth in a controversial new rule proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers.

The proposed regulation would redefine the term, "waters of the United States," in an open-ended way that would expand the agencies' jurisdiction over thousands of streams and hundreds of millions of acres of land where water may flow, even intermittently.

Wednesday's hearing is a rare joint hearing of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the Senate Environmental and Public Works Committee.

PLF has already submitted formal comments to the agencies in opposition to the proposal. The author of those comments, PLF Principal Attorney M. Reed Hopper, drafted the testimony that PLF is providing, on request, for this week's congressional hearing.

Hopper also successfully argued for John Rapanos at the U.S. Supreme Court, in 2006, in the landmark PLF case of [Rapanos v. United States](#), which set clear limits to Clean Water Act jurisdiction.

### **'An unprecedented, and unconstitutional, power grab'**

"This proposed rule is an unprecedented power grab that violates both the Clean Water Act itself and the U.S. Constitution," said Hopper. "Contrary to explicit Supreme Court directives, and established constitutional limitations, the proposed rule asserts federal control over virtually all waters in the Country as 'tributaries,' 'adjacent' or 'other waters.' So broad is the putative reach of the government under this proposed rule that the agencies expressly exclude only a handful of water features like ornamental ponds and swimming pools from federal regulation."

With Todd Gaziano, Executive Director of PLF's DC Center and Senior Fellow in Constitutional Law, Hopper [published an op-ed in \*The Wall Street Journal\*](#), on December 7, criticizing the regulation as an attempt to "federalize virtually all



water in the nation, and much of the land, in direct contravention of Supreme Court precedent and express congressional policy in the Clean Water Act ... .”

Wednesday’s joint hearing will focus on the impact on state and local governments. “The hearing’s focus should highlight that the proposed rule is not just costly and destructive for farmers, ranchers, and rural residents,” said Gaziano. “Under the proposed rule, urban and suburban citizens and their local governments will also be subject to increased federal micromanagement and costly mandates.”

For instance, almost all county roadside ditches would be covered under the new rule, and municipal utility officials have testified that it would extend a costly permitting regime to storm drainage systems that have previously been exempted.

“We’ll be watching to see if Congress and the states prevail upon the EPA and Corps to reconsider their flawed rule,” said Gaziano. “If not, PLF would look to file suit again to stop an illegal and unconstitutional assertion of power.”

**The hearing will be held Wednesday, February 4, 2015, at 10 a.m. EST, in HVC 210 (House Visitors Center of the U.S. Capitol).**

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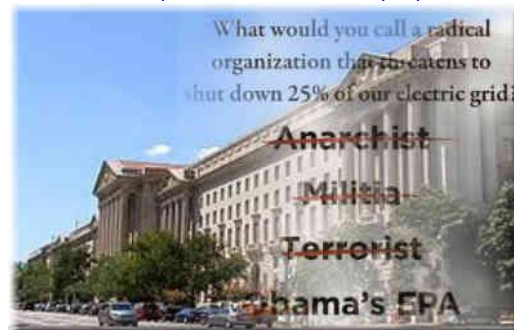
## **The New Congress Must Save the USA from the EPA**

***THE UNITED STATES HAS PLENTY OF ENEMIES IN THE WORLD THAT WANT IT TO FAIL.***

***IT IS INSANE THAT WE HARBOR ONE AS A FEDERAL AGENCY.***

By [Alan Caruba](#), Canada Free Press, December 10, 2014

<http://canadafreepress.com/index.php/article/68211>



When the Republican Party takes over majority control of Congress in January, it will face a number of battles that must be fought with the Obama administration ranging from its amnesty intentions to the repeal of ObamaCare,

but high among the battles is the need to rein in the metastasizing power of the Environmental Protection Agency.

In many ways, it is the most essential battle because it involves the provision of sufficient electrical energy to the nation to keep its lights on. EPA "interpretations" of the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts have become an outrageous usurpation of power that the Constitution says belongs exclusively to the Congress.

As a policy advisor to [The Heartland Institute](#), a free market think tank, I recall how in 2012 its president, Joe Bast, submitted 16,000 signed petitions to Congress calling on it to "rein in the EPA." At the time he noted that "Today's EPA spends billions of dollars (approximately \$9 billion in 2012) imposing senseless regulations. Compliance with its unnecessary rules costs hundreds of billions of dollars more."

Heartland's Science Director, [Dr. Jay Lehr](#), said "EPA's budget could safely be cut by 80 percent or more without endangering the environment or human health. Most of what EPA does today could be done better by state government agencies, many of which didn't exist or had much less expertise back in 1970 when EPA was created."

**The EPA has declared virtually everything a pollutant including the carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) that 320 million Americans exhale with every breath.** It has pursued President Obama's "war on coal" for six years with a disastrous effect on coal miners, those who work for coal-fired plants that produce electricity, and on consumers who are seeing their energy bills soar.

**United States cannot lose more than 100 gigawatts of power in five years without severely compromising the reliability and safety of the electrical grid**

As Edwin D. Hill, the president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, noted in August, "The EPA's plan, according to its own estimates, will require closing coal-fired plants over the next five years that generate between 41 and 49 gigawatts (49,000 megawatts) of electricity" and its plan would "result in the loss of some 52,000 permanent direct jobs in utilities, mining and rail, and at least another 100,000 jobs in related industries. High skill, middle-class jobs would be lost, falling heavily in rural communities that have few comparable employment opportunities."

"The United States cannot lose more than 100 gigawatts of power in five years without severely compromising the reliability and safety of the electrical grid," warned Hill.

In October the Institute for Energy Research criticized the EPA's war on coal based on its Mercury and Air Toxics Rule and its Cross State Air Pollution Rule, noting that 72.7 gigawatts of electrical generating capacity have already, or are scheduled to retire. "That's enough to reliably power 44.7 million homes, or every home in every state west of the Mississippi river, excluding Texas." How widespread are the closures? There are now 37 states with projected power plant closures, up from 30 in 2011. The five hardest hit states are Ohio, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Kentucky, and Georgia.

**If a foreign nation had attacked the U.S. in this fashion, we would be at war with it.**

The EPA is engaged in a full-scale war on the U.S. economy as it ruthlessly forces coal-fired plants out of operation. This form of electricity production has been around since the industry began to serve the public in 1882 when Edison installed the world's first generating plants on Pearl Street in New York City's financial district. Moreover, the U.S. has huge reserves of coal making it an extremely affordable source of energy, available for centuries to come.

The EPA's actions have been criticized by one of the nation's leading liberal attorneys, Harvard law professor Laurence Tribe, who has joined with Peabody Energy, the world's largest private coal company, to criticize the "executive overreach" of the EPA's proposed rule to regulate carbon emissions from existing power plants. He accused the agency of abusing statutory law, violating the Constitution's Article I, Article II, the separations of powers, the Tenth and Fifth Amendments, and the agency's general contempt for the law.

It is this contempt that can be found in virtually all of its efforts to exert power over every aspect of life in America from the air we breathe, the water we use, property rights, all forms of manufacturing, and, in general, everything that contributes to the economic security and strength of the nation.

That contempt is also revealed in the way the EPA spends its taxpayer funding. Senator Jeff Flake (R-AZ) released a report, "The Science of Splurging", on December 2 in which he pointed to the \$1,100,000 spent to pay the salaries of eight employees who were not working due to being placed on administrative leave, the \$3,500,000 spent to fund "Planning for Economic and Fiscal Health" workshops around the nation, \$1,500,000 annually to store out-of-date and unwanted publicans at an Ohio warehouse, and \$700,000 to attempt to reduce methane emitted from pig flatulence in Thailand! "After years of handing out blank checks in the form of omnibus appropriations bills and continuing resolutions," said Sen. Flake, "it's time for Congress to return to regular order and restore accountability at the EPA."

Whether it is its alleged protection of the air or water, the only limits that have been placed on the EPA have been by the courts. Time and again the EPA has been admonished for over-stating or deliberately falsifying its justification to control every aspect of life in the nation, often in league with the Army Corps of Engineers.

If the Republican controlled Congress does not launch legislative action to control the EPA the consequences for Americans will continue to mount, putting them at risk of losing electricity, being deprived of implicit property rights, and driving up the cost of transportation by demanding auto manufacturers increase miles-per-gallon requirements at a time when there is now a worldwide glut of oil and the price of gasoline is dropping.

The United States has plenty of enemies in the world that want it to fail. It is insane that we harbor one as a federal agency.

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## **Voters' view of EPA hits low point**

[Timothy Cama](#), The Hill, 12/24/14

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/228045-voters-views-of-epa-hit-low-point>

A record-low number of voters have a favorable view of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), according to a new survey from conservative polling outlet Rasmussen Reports.

The [survey](#) found only 32 percent of likely voters view the EPA favorably, the lowest number since Rasmussen started asking the question three years ago.

The last time Rasmussen took the poll in June, 36 percent of respondents had favorable opinions of the agency.

Weak public support could make it more difficult for the EPA to push through top Obama administration priorities, like cutting carbon emissions from power plants, which it plans to do with two final regulations next year.

In addition to public sentiment, the EPA will have to battle a GOP-controlled Congress, which has pledged to fight many of the agency's rules.

Forty percent of voters viewed the EPA unfavorably in the survey published late Tuesday, the same share as the June poll, Rasmussen said. Twenty-eight percent were undecided.

EPA spokeswoman Liz Purchia said the agency has strong support for its initiatives.

"A healthy environment for our children should not be a partisan issue," she said. "Across the country, citizens want EPA to fulfill its mission, established by Congress, to safeguard clean air and clean water, which are essential building blocks for a strong economy."

Purchia added that she is confident that the EPA can accomplish its goals.

"EPA will continue to carry out President Obama's directive to take real action on climate change, the most complex energy and environmental challenge we've ever faced, by reducing carbon pollution," she said.

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## **House Votes to Sell Apache Land to Foreign Corporation, the Tribe is Furious**

Nathaniel Downes, Addicting Info, December 9, 2014 4:02 pm  
<http://www.addictinginfo.org/2014/12/09/ndaa-apache/>

***IT APPEARS THAT OTHER GROUPS DO NOT LIKE THE METHODS USED BY RADICAL ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS WHEN USED BACK ON THEMSELVES...Ed.***

For over 5 years, a [measure](#) to cede 2,400 acres sacred to the Apache tribe for use in copper mining has been pushed in Congress. Backed by various well-paid corporatist congress members such as Senator John McCain, this measure inevitably dies from the outrage of the native tribes who care for this land. So, this year the members backed by legalized bribes by foreign corporations have attached the measure to the must-pass National Defense Authorization Act in a lame duck session of congress.

The land in question is part of the Tonto National Forest in Arizona. The areas which would be destroyed by the mining operation include [Devil's Canyon](#), a popular hiking trail, and [Apache's Leap](#) where 75 Apache men, women and children were massacred by US troops in 1871. The loss of either would be a cultural loss not only for the Apache nation, but for all of us.

The attempt to hide this brazen attempt to sell off cultural heritage for mere coin tells us how these congress members feel about their duty to protect this nation. One must wonder how much of the [estimated \\$61 billion in revenue](#) is to be lining these congress members pockets if the bill passes intact. After all, members of congress regularly [reap huge profits from bills they introduce](#).

What has the tribe most upset is that the measure [first requires a review of the deal, then orders that the deal go through anyways](#). The review is to be effectively ignored. San Carlos Apache Chairman Terry Rambler, has put out the call to stop the deal, putting a [petition at Whitehouse.gov](#) as well as lobbying congress directly to stop the measure once it hits the Senate.

Despite changes to require consultation with affected tribes and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance, the provision still mandates the transfer of tribal sacred areas into the private ownership of Resolution Copper regardless of the results of the consultation or information and recommendations resulting from the NEPA process. A mandatory conveyance defeats the purpose of tribal consultations and the NEPA process that are designed to help provide information before decisions are made. In [the land swap bill] the outcome is pre-determined, rendering tribal views and public comments meaningless. Further, [it] would not require Resolution Copper to mitigate impacts on tribal sacred areas after conveyance and contains no repercussions/penalties on Resolution Copper for harm/destruction to tribal sacred areas.

The blatant greed being presented by these members of congress is astounding. The company has spent a [fortune buying candidates for office](#) in the same way one would collect baseball cards. And now for their thousands per candidate, they expect to destroy the cultural heritage of a native tribe for billions. How much is our collective cultural heritage worth? To these candidates, not much at all it seems. Legalized bribery has made them no longer stewards of our nation, but instead greedy puppets of corporate masters, willing to dance on their string for the crumbs tossed to them. Disgraceful.

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## **At The Bar**



Having already downed a few power drinks, she turns around, faces him, looks him straight in the eye and says, "Listen here, good looking, I will screw anybody, anytime, anywhere, their place, my place, in the car, front door, back door, on the ground, standing up, sitting down, naked or with clothes on . . . It doesn't matter to me. I just love it."

His eyes now wide with interest, he responds,

"No kidding... I'm in Congress too. What state do you represent?"

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## **Fight on Guns is Being Taken to State Ballots**

By [JENNIFER STEINHAUER](#), New York Times, JAN. 2, 2015

[http://www.nytimes.com/2015/01/03/us/gun-control-groups-blocked-in-washington-turn-attention-to-states.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/01/03/us/gun-control-groups-blocked-in-washington-turn-attention-to-states.html?_r=0)

WASHINGTON — The gun control movement, blocked in Congress and facing mounting losses in federal elections, is tweaking its name, refining its goals and using the same-sex marriage movement as a model to take the fight to voters on the state level.

After a victory in November on a Washington State ballot measure that will require broader background checks on gun buyers, groups that promote gun regulations have turned away from Washington and the political races that have been largely futile. Instead, they are turning their attention — and their growing wallets — to other states that allow ballot measures.

An initiative seeking stricter background checks for certain buyers has qualified for the 2016 ballot in Nevada, where such a law was passed last year by the Legislature and then vetoed by the governor. Advocates of gun safety — the term many now use instead of "gun control" — are seeking lines on ballots in Arizona, Maine and Oregon as well.

"I can't recall ballot initiatives focused on gun policy," said Daniel Webster, the director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research. "There wasn't the money." Colorado and Oregon approved ballot measures on background checks at gun shows after the Columbine school massacre in 1999, but the movement stalled after that.





**Gov. Terry McAuliffe of Virginia has proposed the restoration of the state's limit on handgun sales to one a month.**

The [National Rifle Association](#), which raises millions of dollars a year largely from small donors and has one of the most muscular state lobbying apparatuses in the country, is well attuned to its foes' shift in focus. "We will be wherever they are to challenge them," said Andrew Arulanandam, the group's spokesman.

The new focus on ballot initiatives comes after setbacks in Congress and in statehouses. After the [2012 mass shooting](#) of schoolchildren in Newtown, Conn., President Obama's effort to pass a background-check measure never got out of the Democratic-controlled Senate. Although 10 states have passed major gun control legislation, not only in Connecticut and New York but also as far away as Colorado, more states have loosened gun restrictions.

Candidates who backed gun control mostly lost in the midterm elections, even after groups spent millions on their behalf. The last setback came in December when Martha McSally, a Republican, prevailed in a razor-thin recount over Representative Ron Barber, Democrat of Arizona. Mr. Barber was wounded in the 2011 [shooting of Representative Gabrielle Giffords](#), and lost even though Ms. Giffords's PAC, Americans for Responsible Solutions, spent more than \$2 million in the race.

Gun control groups say that although they are still dwarfed by the N.R.A., they have more money and are involved in more grass-roots activism than ever before. The N.R.A. was even [heavily outspent](#) in the Washington State referendum.

The advocacy groups have recast their cause as a public health and safety movement, and are homing in on areas where polling has shown voter support, like expanded background checks and keeping guns out of the hands of people with domestic violence convictions, restraining orders or mental illnesses.

Some of those provisions have gained steam even in heavily Republican-controlled state governments, like those in Louisiana and Wisconsin.

“Things that people feel are most doable politically right now are connected to domestic violence,” Mr. Webster said. “There is a lot of uptick on that issue even in red states and states with a lot of guns.” In the past two years, 11 states have passed such legislation.

Closing loopholes on background checks for gun owners is an area Americans support far more than steps like curbs on assault weapons or limits on magazine sizes. A recent [Pew survey](#), for instance, showed that 52 percent of respondents said they believed it was more important to protect gun ownership rights. That figure was up from 29 percent in 2000. Still, in a 2013 poll, Pew found that nearly 75 percent of respondents supported background-check expansions.

Gun control advocates believe that ensuring background checks for the majority of gun buyers is the foundation of all other existing laws. “The reason voters support these laws is the same reason the movement supports these laws,” said Laura Cutilletta, a senior lawyer for the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence. The same-sex marriage movement has been a model for advocates of new gun restrictions. As with gay marriage, background-check expansions enjoy far broader public support in polls than among elected officials, and they affect state residents immediately.

“The arc of the marriage-equality movement started in the federal government, and got them the Defense of Marriage Act,” said John Feinblatt, president of Everytown for Gun Safety, the gun control group backed by Michael R. Bloomberg, the former mayor of New York City. “Then they went to the states and showed that if you can get the majority of the public on your side state by state, that will influence the courts and Congress in the end.”

Their efforts have emboldened some governors and lawmakers, largely, but not exclusively, in solidly blue states. What is more, Gov. Dannel P. Malloy of Connecticut and Gov. John W. Hickenlooper of Colorado — both Democrats who pushed through a series of tough gun laws in their states after the Newtown massacre — won re-election. Two Colorado Democrats who strongly supported that state’s gun control package were booted from office in a special election in 2013. But the Democratic Party regained the seats in November.

Last month, Gov. [Terry McAuliffe](#) of Virginia, which has been the source of many illegally obtained guns in other states, proposed the restoration of the state’s limit on handgun sales to one a month to slow the “iron highway,” a nickname for gunrunning up Interstate 95 to states to the north. He would also seek

mandatory background checks on gun sales at firearm shows, and end issuing gun permits to anyone restrained under domestic violence orders of protection.

"I own three guns," said Mr. McAuliffe, a Democrat. "I love to take my three boys hunting. This is not gun restriction, this is anticrime. I couch it in economic terms."

The prospects for his gun proposals did not look great out of the gate. The governor "knows refighting the one-gun-a-month battle will not be productive," Thomas K. Norment Jr., the Republican majority leader of the Virginia legislature, said in a statement.

For gun control groups, money is not the problem it was only recently. Contested ballot-initiative programs cost somewhere between \$5 million and \$15 million, said Pia Carusone, a senior adviser to Ms. Giffords's group.

It has raised roughly \$30 million for all political activities, including the Washington State initiative, over the past two years. And Mr. Bloomberg has spent millions of dollars on everything from research to political campaigns to the Washington referendum, and is prepared to continue to do so.

Gun rights groups plan to meet them head-on. "The terrain gets a lot harder for him," Mr. Arulanandam, the N.R.A. spokesman, said of Mr. Bloomberg.

The Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence — along with other advocacy groups — is evaluating which states among the 17 that allow ballot initiatives are the best spots to pick for the next fight; Maine, Arizona and Oregon, should their legislatures not take action, are widely viewed as the three with the most potential for gun control advocates.

In Washington, those who pushed the ballot measure through say they will begin a campaign to get the State Legislature to pass measures to keep guns from those with mental illnesses, children and people with a record of domestic violence. Opponents of gun control, for their part, went to the courts this week to challenge the new background-check requirements.

As with the same-sex marriage movement — as well as efforts by some conservative groups to [weaken unions](#) and to make abortions more difficult to obtain — the efforts of both gun rights advocates and advocates for gun restrictions demonstrate a fading faith that legislative remedies are to be found in Congress.

“Whether it’s on guns or immigration or tax reform, clearly Washington is broken,” Mr. Feinblatt said. “You have to influence the federal government at the state.”

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## **Pro-Gun Protections Enacted Into Law**

NRA-ILA, December 19, 2014

<http://www.nraila.org/legislation/federal-legislation/2014/12/pro-gun-protections-enacted-into-law.aspx>

Last week, Congress approved the Fiscal Year 2015 Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act. Included in the Act were a number of pro-gun provisions that prevent the Obama administration from implementing its anti-gun agenda

This Act includes new provisions to stop the Obama administration’s efforts regarding [Operation Choke Point](#), a program in which the Department of Justice intimidates financial institutions into refusing or severing financial services to legally-operating ammunition and firearms dealers. In addition, the Act prohibits funds for the Internal Revenue Service to target groups for scrutiny based on their political beliefs, such as the NRA.

Further, the Act contains a new provision to prevent the Environmental Protection Agency, or any other federal agency, from regulating the lead content of traditional ammunition and fishing tackle. For years, radical animal rights and environmental advocates have used all the tools at their disposal, including litigation, to attempt to ban lead ammunition. A ban on traditional ammunition would affect hunters, sportsmen, law enforcement, military, and target shooters – whether or not they hunt. There are currently no comparable alternatives to lead ammunition in terms of cost, ballistics, and availability. This provision would prevent a traditional ammunition ban and protect not just hunters, but millions of law-abiding American gun owners.

Moreover, the Act contains a provision to prevent the Department of Justice, or any government entity, from spending taxpayer dollars on “gun walking” programs like Operation Fast and Furious. The Act also prevents funds being used by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the National Institute of Health to advocate or promote gun control.

Finally, the Act prevents funds from being used by the Obama administration to implement the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty.

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## WHERE YOU LIVE MAKES A DIFFERENCE

You may have heard on the news about a Southern California man who was put under 72-hour psychiatric observation when it was found he owned 100 guns and allegedly had 100,000 rounds of ammunition stored in his home. The house also featured a secret escape tunnel.

- ❖ By Southern California standards, someone owning 100,000 rounds is considered "mentally unstable."
- ❖ In Michigan, he'd be called "The last white guy still living in Detroit."
- ❖ In Arizona, he'd be called "an avid gun collector."
- ❖ In Arkansas, he'd be called "a novice gun collector."
- ❖ In Utah, he'd be called "moderately well prepared," but they'd probably reserve judgment until they made sure that he had a corresponding quantity of stored food.
- ❖ In Kansas, he'd be "A guy down the road you would want to have for a friend."
- ❖ In Montana, he'd be called "The neighborhood 'Go-To' guy."
- ❖ In Idaho, he'd be called "a likely gubernatorial candidate."
- ❖ In Georgia, he'd be called "an eligible bachelor."
- ❖ In North Carolina, Virginia, W.Va., Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky and South Carolina, he would be called "a deer hunting buddy."
- ❖ And in Texas: he'd just be "Bubba, who's a little short on ammo."

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## **U.S. passports on verge of elimination?**

### **Soros-funded plan champions 'North American Union'**

[Jerome R. Corsi](#), WND, January 29, 2015

[http://www.wnd.com/2015/01/u-s-passports-on-verge-of-elimination/?cat\\_orig=us](http://www.wnd.com/2015/01/u-s-passports-on-verge-of-elimination/?cat_orig=us)



NEW YORK – A Soros-funded group arguing to replace the U.S. passport with a North American passport appears ready to take up the mantle of championing the concept of a European Union-style regional government to supersede the sovereignty of the United States, Mexico and Canada, fulfilling the dream of the late American University professor Robert Pastor.

The future of the U.S. lies in North America, not in the United States as a sovereign nation, contends the [New America Foundation](#), a Washington-based leftist think-tank with ties to Jonathan Soros, son of famed leftist billionaire George Soros.

Appropriately named "New America," the foundation believes the U.S. passport should soon become obsolete and replaced with a European Union-style passport issued for all citizens of the U.S., Mexico and Canada. Citizens would be redefined by their regional identity as "North Americans," echoing President Obama's claim in Spanish [in his Dec. 17, 2014, announcement](#) of his executive actions to re-establish diplomatic relations with Cuba, "Todos Somos Americanos," or, "We are all Americans.

"The United States, Canada and Mexico are bound by a shared economic, environmental, demographic and cultural destiny. How we move forward together is key to our success," wrote André Martinez, an editor with New America and a professor at the Cronkite School of Journalism at Arizona State University; and Daniel Kurtz-Phelan, a fellow at New America and a former adviser on Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's policy planning staff, in an article titled "Why we need a North American Passport," [published by CNN.com](#).

"In recognition of our shared destiny, the three countries should create a North American passport that would, over time, allow their citizens to travel, work, invest, learn and innovate anywhere in North America. Work, tourist and student

visas are necessities in the modern world to regulate the flow of people between sovereign states,” Martinez and Kurtz-Phelan declared.

“In the North American context, much like within the European Union, our economies and societies are far more integrated than our immigration system recognizes – and a North American passport, much like the EU passport, would align our laws with reality.”

**The article authored by Martinez and Kurtz-Phelan provides additional support for the argument reported by WND for the past decade that globalists seeking to create a “North American Union” realized the EU stealth model could be replicated in North America. It can be accomplished, they believe, through establishing free-trade agreements such as NAFTA and transforming them incrementally into a regional government.**

In Europe, the European Coal and Steel Agreement – signed as a treaty in Paris on April 18, 1951, and put into force on July 23, 1952 – evolved into the European Common market. The EC was created by the Treaty of Rome March 25, 1957, and ultimately became the European Union, a regional government.

“The inception of NAFTA marked an important step toward leveraging these geographic realities for a shared North American success,” Martinez and Kurtz-Phelan noted.

“NAFTA has been a boon to our growth and competitiveness. Integrated production platforms, sometimes spanning all three countries, have helped draw manufacturing back from competitors across the Pacific.”

They said, however, “the promise of NAFTA has fallen short in a critical respect.”

**While trade and investment have grown, “the barriers to movement have remained too high for the people who help drive and stand to benefit from that growth.”**

“As evidenced by the recent political firestorm over President Obama’s executive move to allow more undocumented workers to avoid deportation, it would take farsighted and courageous political leadership in all three countries to press for a North American passport,” Martinez and Kurtz-Phelan stressed. **“But the fact is that allowing North Americans to move more effortlessly across the borders would help alleviate our contentious domestic immigration battles.”**



- ❖ [The New America Foundation boasts millions of dollars in funding](#) by a blue-chip list of leftist donors along with government funding in the form of a seven-figure grant from the State Department and a six-figure grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development.
- ❖ [Prominent among a list of nearly 150 different funding sources is Google Inc.](#), reflecting the participation of Eric Schmidt, CEO of Google, on the New American Foundation's board of trustees.
- ❖ [Also on the board is Jonathan Soros](#), CEO of JS Capital Management LLC, a private investment firm, also credited on the New American Foundation website as holding several board positions affiliated with the George Soros Open Society Foundations.
- ❖ [The president and CEO of the New American Foundation is Anne-Marie Slaughter](#), who previously served as the director of policy planning in the State Department, where she worked for Hillary Clinton from January 2009 through February 2011.
- ❖ Slaughter is the author of the 2005 book "A New World Order," in which she argued the structure of global governance is already in place, through international organizations and agreements, broad networks of economic markets, travel and information flow.
- ❖ [One year ago, WND reported](#) Robert Pastor, a longtime proponent of North American integration, died at the age of 66 after a three-year battle with cancer. He was a professor of international relations and the director of the Center for North American Studies at American University in Washington, D.C.

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# Immigration time bomb about to explode on GOP

## Census report headlines overlook why foreign-born favor the left

[Garth Kant](#), WND, December 30, 2014

<http://www.wnd.com/2014/12/ticking-time-bomb-about-to-explode-on-gop/>



**“The best government is that which governs least.” – [Thomas Jefferson](#).**

WASHINGTON – A creeping revolution is underway that’s stealthily altering the very core of America and the ideals for which its ancestors fought and died in freedom’s cause.

The phenomenon is leading the country toward embracing the very thing President Thomas Jefferson abhorred: ever-bigger government.

And it’s coming from a seemingly harmless policy many Americans embrace.

**Legal** immigration.

The numbers don’t lie. The U.S. is experiencing an immigration explosion never before seen in its history:

- ❖ According to U.S. Census numbers, immigration averaged only 195,000 per year from 1921 through 1970.
- ❖ With the change in immigration law in 1965, immigration levels skyrocketed from an average of 250,000 to one million a year.
- ❖ The number of foreign-born persons in the U.S. [has doubled](#) from 1990 to 2010, almost tripled since 1980, and quadrupled since 1970.
- ❖ As of the last census in 2010, 40 million immigrants were in the U.S.
- ❖ Most estimates are that at least [11-to-12 million](#) of those are illegal immigrants. However, [some estimates](#) put that figure as high as 38 million.
- ❖ Forty-million immigrants is about 13-percent of the total U.S. population of 320,009,000 the Census Bureau estimated on Jan 1, 2014.
- ❖ A recent report from the [Congressional Research Service](#) indicated the foreign-born population may increase by another 27.4 million people by 2022, climbing from 40.8 million in 2012 to 58.3 million after ten years.

Republicans have been up in arms over President Obama's executive action to provide amnesty for five million illegal immigrants. **But mostly overlooked have been the even greater changes to the country caused by an unprecedented and decades-long spike in legal immigration, compounded by illegal immigration.**

After the release of new population projections by the U.S. Census Bureau earlier this month, [most headlines](#) focused on the news that whites will become a minority of Americans by 2044, when they will account for 49.7 percent of the population; Hispanics will be 25 percent; blacks will be 12.7 percent; Asians will be 7.9 percent; and 3.7 will be multiracial.

But the numbers only say what is happening, not why – and how the real story may not be the color of the immigrants' skin but the content of their politics.

Researchers at the Center for Immigration Studies, or CIS, and the Eagle Forum say the data show immigrants tend to favor big government and vote Democratic, and that has numerous and significant ripple effects.

The key factors, according to their analysis:

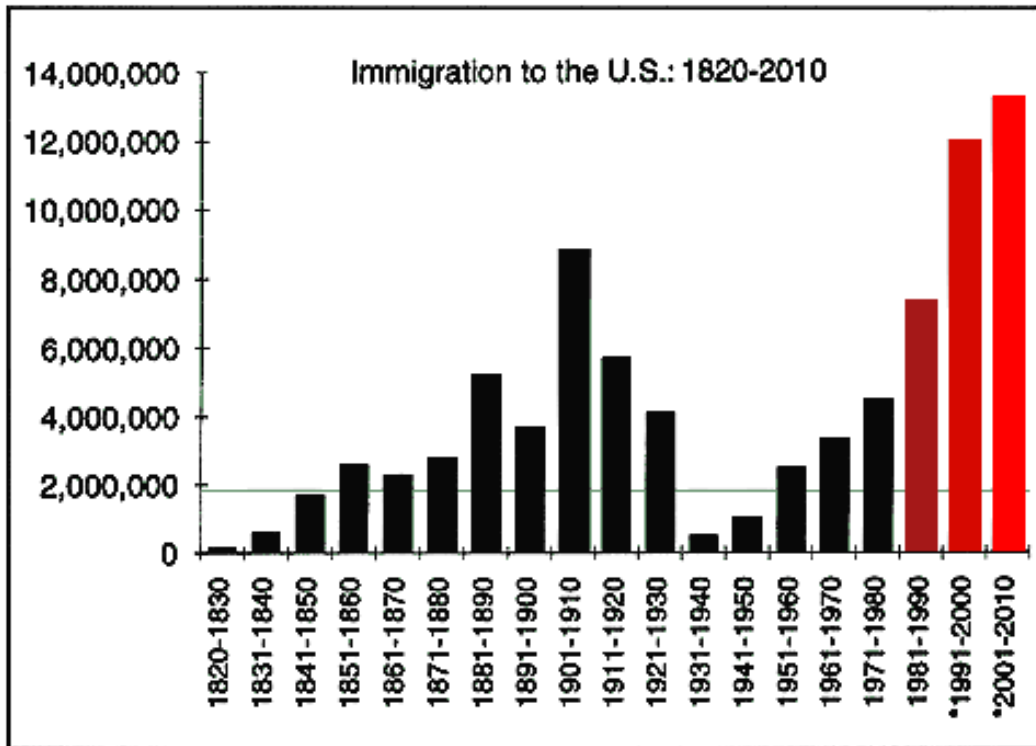
- ❖ Current high levels of legal immigration are not the historic norm
- ❖ What matters isn't race but the politics of countries of origin
- ❖ Immigration is changing the country to favor more big government
- ❖ Democrats are using immigration to increase their power

### **High level of immigration not the historic norm**

Most Americans appear to believe today's immigration numbers are par for the course, historically. But the numbers actually reflect dramatic change since the 1930s, propelled by a crucial change to immigration law in 1965.

The result has been an immigration explosion unlike anything America has ever experienced.

A graph of the numbers over the years vividly illustrates just how different today's astronomical immigration levels are from the historic norm.



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau; Statistical Yearbook, Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services

Traditionally, the United States allowed relatively few immigrants to legally enter the country, with the exception of two great waves. During the first wave in the 1880s, almost six-million immigrants entered the country. The second wave hit a peak of 8.7 million a little more than 100 years ago. Today's immigration level dwarfs the previous historic peaks and is ongoing and ever-increasing.

Why is immigration to America booming?

Analysts point to the dramatic changes made in immigration policy in 1965 when President Lyndon Johnson signed the Hart-Cellar Immigration Bill into law.



**President Lyndon Johnson signing the 1965 immigration law**

According to Steve Camarota of the Center for Immigration studies, or CIS, the 1965 changes unwittingly ushered in [a new era of mass immigration](#).

Admission to the U.S under the old system depended mostly upon an immigrant's country of birth. Seventy percent of immigration slots were reserved for those from the United Kingdom, Ireland and Germany, and mostly went unused.

That quota system (established in 1921 and most recently modified in 1952) was abolished in 1965, along with other various nationality criteria. Family reunification became the most important criterion for entry into the country. It was the first time relatives of American citizens were given higher preference than those with special job skills.

Camarota said the changes were not meant to increase or decrease immigration. In fact, proponents [repeatedly denied](#) the law would lead to a large and sustained increase in immigration. The law was portrayed as an extension of the civil rights movement in America, leveling the playing field for applicants.

Camarota told WND the reason immigration levels began to rise so swiftly after 1965 was due to a large extent on unintended consequences, which Democrats would later learn to use to their advantage.

One factor that drove the numbers was family sponsorship. Once immigrants could sponsor family members the immigration population grew. In turn, there were more people who could then sponsor more relatives, leading to a geometrical growth of immigrants.

CIS found another factor was the expansion of supposedly temporary provisions in the 1986 amnesty law and another expansion in 1990 that increased such

things as foreign students and guest workers. The increased interaction between Americans and foreigners in the county led to more people who could marry, and a further expansion of sponsorships.

### **Politics of countries of origin**

According to researchers, the difference in today's immigrants is they largely come from countries with systems of government much more rooted in social-welfare philosophy than America.

"Basically, they like big government. They like Obamacare, gun control, they like rich paying more taxes, more environmental regulations. As citizens, they generally vote for the party with that orientation," explained Camorata.

That's backed up by a [comprehensive study](#) by Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle Forum, based on a compilation of census data and surveys including the Pew Research Center, the Pew Hispanic Center, Gallup, NBC News, Harris polling, the Annenberg Policy Center, Latino Decisions, the Center for Immigration Studies and the Hudson Institute.

The Forum's survey found "most immigrants come from countries where the government plays a larger role in the economy and society. Their support for expansive government is reinforced by liberal elites in immigrant communities and the liberal urban areas in which so many settle."

According to the study, 71 percent of voting-age Hispanics and 9 percent of voting-age Asians were either foreign born or had at least one foreign-born parent, and the data showed those voters skewed heavily to the left.

For instance, "Pew Research Center has found that 55 percent of Hispanics have a negative view of capitalism, the highest of any group surveyed. Pew also found that 75 percent of Hispanics prefer a bigger government providing more services, as do 55 percent of Asian-Americans. This compares to just 41 percent of the general public."

"While the general public was divided in 2012 on Obamacare, 66 percent of Hispanics support it; and three times as many Asian Americans had a favorable opinion of the program as had an unfavorable opinion of it."

Additionally, contrary to assertions by many Republican politicians who favor amnesty, the research showed most immigrants were not socially conservative.

For example, U.S.-born Hispanics and Asians tended to support abortion and gay rights, while foreign-born Hispanics and Asians were divided.

The study concluded, “more importantly, polls show that immigrants and their children do not vote for candidates based on social issues. Polls indicate that Republicans’ social conservatism does not particularly help or hurt them with voters in immigrant communities.”

The survey also found Hispanics and Asians were not alone in their liberalism, as the data for other immigrants, including Europeans and Muslims, indicated they also had views to the left of the average American voter.

The same pattern was discovered in all Western democracies, with immigrants and their adult children strongly favoring leftist parties.

### **Immigration is changing the country to favor more big government**

The Eagle Forum study’s key conclusion is that immigration is changing the country’s politics by moving the electorate to the left:

“Because immigrants and their adult children overwhelmingly favor big government, there is no issue more important for conservatives than reducing the future number of legal immigrants allowed into the country each year. Otherwise, legal immigration will continue to add millions of liberal voters every decade, making it extremely unlikely that conservatives will be successful on all the issues they care about.”

With Hispanics and Asians now accounting for the bulk of immigrants, their views on the role of government have become increasingly relevant.

Their striking preference for big government was illustrated in this graph, included in the Eagle Forum report:

Camarota told WND another reason why immigration is such a boon to the Democrats is that it transforms society in ways that makes their arguments heard all the more sympathetically.

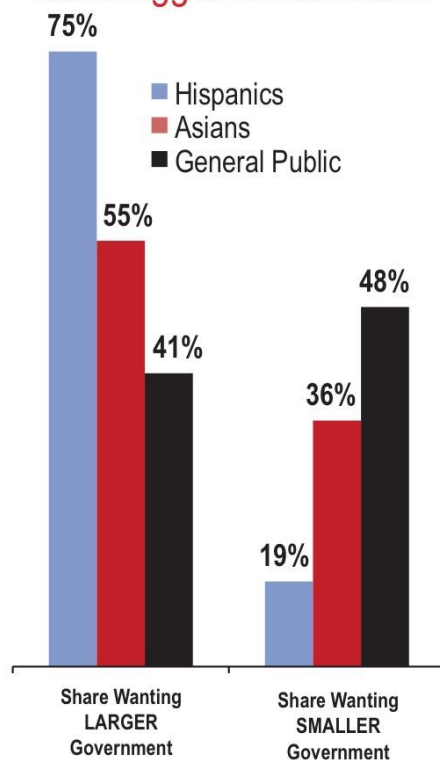
One obvious factor is that mass immigration from poor countries significantly increases the number of poor in America, and the poor tend to vote Democratic.

“One third of all the children in poverty today are in immigrant families. So, you have a much larger low-income population, especially children,” noted Camorata.

That leads to liberal arguments for greater government programs that even independents and moderates might find appealing.



## Hispanics and Asians Want Bigger Government



Source: Pew Research Center, see page 14 of text.

“People naturally say, ‘Well, we’ve got to do something about it; those families obviously need help.’”

Camorata noted, as mass immigration dramatically increased the number of low-income workers, there was more pressure to expand specific government programs.

“People say, ‘We gotta help them. Let’s increase the value of the earned income tax credit. Make sure all their kids can get Medicaid.’ That’s exactly the way its played out politically over the last 25 years all these low-income workers with kids. ‘Let’s expand Head Start, let’s have universal pre-K, let’s make sure everyone can get WIC and SNAP (the programs that replaced food stamps), Medicaid, those kinds of things.’”

Camorata maintained that the need for government assistance is one reason that even the immigrants who may have socially conservative views do not vote conservative.

He cited the examples of New York and San Francisco, “probably two of the most heavily immigrant-settled places in the country and they vote overwhelmingly for the Democratic Party. They (immigrants) can be opposed to everything from handing out condoms to gay marriage to subsidized abortion and it doesn’t bother them (to vote for Democrats.)”

“They can be enthusiastic Democrats right alongside the most extreme elements of the liberal social agenda of the Democratic Party. So, what they’re telling us is, these are issues they generally don’t care about or agree with,” and that socially conservative issues do not really resonate with immigrants.

Camorata believes Republicans compound the problem by convincing themselves otherwise.

Even though many conservatives believe, based on the weight of their arguments, they can persuade immigrants to move to the right, Camorata said experience suggests otherwise.

“People who leave New York state because of its oppressive regulations and so forth, when they get to North Carolina, they vote for those same policies.”

Camorata does believe voters in the rest of the electorate could be persuaded that legal immigration is a severe problem.

“If Republicans were to explain why it’s problematic for taxpayers, why it’s making the country so much more densely populated and how that impacts their standard of living, what it means for American workers, there’s no question the public would respond.”

He insisted he Republicans could use the explosion of immigration issue against the Democrats, “But rather than persuading people it will lead to a more liberal agenda, they choose instead to please the electorate.”

Additionally, he notes, the time to make that argument is running short, because the legal immigration population is three times bigger than illegal immigrants, and a good portion of them vote.

And soon, he predicts, so will those who are currently illegal immigrants.

### **Democrats are using immigration to increase their power**

The Eagle Forum study succinctly concludes that Democrats understand immigration is an electoral bonanza for liberalism.

While finding most Republicans reluctant to directly address the partisan implications of mass immigration, “Democrats have been quite open about how

much immigration is improving their ability to win elections by importing massive numbers of liberal voters.”



The report cites Eliseo Medina, a top official with both the Service Employees International Union and Democratic Socialists of America, as explaining how the expansion of the Democrat electorate through immigration “will solidify and expand the progressive coalition for the future.”

Even though the study claims mass immigration tends to harm those the Democratic Party traditionally has claimed to want to help, such as less-educated workers and minorities, “[I]mmigrants’ liberalism often reflects self-interest, as many benefit from affirmative action and welfare.”

Camorata illustrated that with the real-world example of the health-care debate.

“What was one of the chief justifications for Obamacare? Thirty-five million people without health insurance, and that number’s up 15 million since 1990. See what I mean? It’s really, really helpful to have all those low-income people, all those uninsured people, when you want to make an argument for more expansive government. And, the beauty of it is, you also increase the number of voters who are sympathetic to that argument.”

He described how the government uses the Current Population Survey primarily to get data on who doesn’t have health insurance, and the survey asks whether a person is an immigrant and when he or she came to America.

Camorota said that makes it very easy to calculate the impact of immigrants and their children on the total uninsured population. And for the last decade-and-a-half, two-thirds to three-quarters of the growth of the uninsured has been immigrants and their children.

“It is perfectly accurate to say that the nation’s health insurance crisis is being directly driven by its immigration policy.”

When did Democrats realize mass immigration was a leftist boon that could be exploited at the polls?

“By the 1980s, people in the Democratic Party realized what was happening. Prior to that, they weren’t sure how the immigrants were going to vote. But then I think they realized these were people who largely were in need of public services.”

Compounding the situation, establishment Republicans have supported amnesty and mass immigration in a perhaps quixotic effort to woo foreign-born voters away from Democrats.

A case in point is former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, the first Republican to indicate he will run for president in 2016.

“I think there’s a compelling case that if we want to be young and dynamic again, we have to make legal immigration easier than illegal immigration, that we control our borders, that we enforce the laws, but that we embrace our immigrant heritage and allow this country to take off,” said Bush recently in an interview.

However, his reference to “our immigration heritage” would seem to be undercut by the Eagle Forum findings that high levels of immigration are not the historic norm.

Carmorata attributes the common misperception that immigration levels traditionally have been high to simple ignorance.

“If you were to ask the average Republican or Democratic members of Congress how many legal immigrants there are, they couldn’t guess. If you were to tell them there are 30 million legal immigrants in the U.S., that’s one out of every 10 adults in the U.S. They would be surprised.”

He also attributed the misconception to sentimentality.

“Folks remember Great-Grandma from Minsk; she was a wonderful person. There’s a certain kind of reflexive sentimentality that is probably very ahistorical that doesn’t reflect the actual impact of those immigrants, and would be not particularly relevant to the current situation.”

He said, back then the government was spending 4 or 5 percent of the GDP on immigrants at every level of government, whereas now it is more like 35 percent.



**Immigrants arrive at Ellis Island in 1892**

The Eagle Forum study indicated another comment by Bush to be a common misconception when he said “[I]f we want to be young and dynamic again we have to make legal immigration easier than illegal immigration.”

The study found, “Immigrants age like everyone else and their fertility is not that much higher than that of the native-born population,” citing a “Census Bureau conclusion based on projections done in 2000 that immigration is a ‘highly inefficient’ means for increasing the percentage of the population that is of working age in the long run.”

The study also cited a 1992 article in *Demography*, “the leading academic journal in the field,” which found “constant inflows of immigrants, even at relatively young ages, do not necessarily rejuvenate low-fertility populations. In fact, immigration may even contribute to population aging.”

Another reason often cited as to why establishment Republicans support amnesty and increased legal immigration is pressure from corporate interests to provide ever-cheaper labor.

Camarota noted, “I would say there’s a lot of bipartisanship on immigration. It reflects the stupidity of the Republican party and maybe the indifference to American workers and taxpayers of the Democratic Party.”

And, given public misconceptions about immigration, someone such as House Majority Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, isn’t politically compelled to oppose amnesty or mass immigration.

However, Camarota is mystified as to why such a fiscally conservative congressman such as Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wisc., “can’t see the desire for smaller government is entirely in conflict with mass immigration.”

“Why Ryan can't see it, I have no idea.”

He notes there is a school of thought in the GOP that the way to manage mass immigration is with guest workers, but said that has been proven not to work, historically.

“They think this is a way of getting labor without letting them vote. Of course, everybody knows, it will result in large-scale permanent settlement, but the Republicans kind of convince themselves it won't.”

“Some people will want to go back, but we also know that in every single society that's ever tried to have a guest worker program from a poor country to a rich country, it's only resulted in large-scale, permanent settlement over time.”

He pointed to the experience of France with North Africans, Germany and Pakistanis and South Asians, Great Britain and its former colonies and the U.S. with its bracero program with Mexico.

One last factor Camorata noted was that throughout the Western world immigrants have been largely perceived as racial or ethnic minorities, and, as progressive or liberal parties perceive themselves to be the parties of the minorities, immigrants have tended to gravitate their way.

The Eagle Forum study also concluded, “Unfortunately, some immigrants are also attracted to the Democratic Party's support for identity- and grievance-based politics.”

The ethnic-minority status of most immigrants, Camarota said, has led Republicans to fear opposition to immigration would be perceived as bigotry.

He called that fear “palpable” within the GOP, which leads them to see support for immigration as a way of combating the bigotry label.

“It allows people like Ryan to say yes I oppose affirmative action, yes I oppose all those social programs that are heavily supported by black and Hispanic voters, but I'm not a bigot because I want mass immigration.”

In conclusion, the Eagle Forum report found “the factors contributing to immigrants' liberalism are largely outside of the Republican Party's control.”

The only solution, it maintained, was not for Republicans to embrace immigration but to try and reduce it and to educate voters about its effects.

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Oct 13 - 1975

some  
**Odd ends**

A reader who has kept a copy since we first published it in April, 1970, has suggested that "lest we forget" the following be published again:

In May of 1919 at Dusseldorf, Germany, the Allied Forces obtained a copy of the Communist Rules for Revolution. Fifty years later the Reds are still following these rules.

A. Corrupt the young, get them away from religion, get them interested in sex. Make them superficial, destroy their ruggedness.

B. Get control of all means of publicity thereby:

1. Get the peoples minds off their government by focusing their attention on athletics, sexy books and plays and other trivialities.
2. Divide the people into hostile groups by constantly harping on controversial matters of no importance.
3. Destroy the people's faith in their natural leaders by holding the latter up to contempt, ridicule and obloquy.
4. Always preach true democracy, but seize power as fast and as ruthlessly as possible.
5. By encouraging government extravagance, destroy its credit, produce fear of inflation with rising prices and general discontent.
6. Foment unnecessary strikes in vital industries, encourage civil disorders and foster lenient and soft attitude on the part of government toward such disorders.
7. By Specious argument, cause the breakdown of the old moral virtues, honesty, sobriety, confidence, faith in the pledged word, ruggedness.

C. Cause the registration of all firearms on some pretext, with a view toward confiscating them and leaving the population helpless.



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## Communist Party USA Chairman Vows Cooperation with Democratic Party

**THE DAILY CALLER**

, January 29, 2015 9:10 AM

<https://news.yahoo.com/communist-party-usa-chairman-vows-cooperation-democratic-party-141019868.html>



### Communist Party USA Chairman Vows Cooperation With Democratic Party

The chairman of the National Committee of the Communist Party USA has penned a 2,023-word manifesto making the critical point that American Communists are eager to work with the Democratic Party to advance the modern communist agenda and achieve communist goals.

Communist Party chairman John Bachtell [published his essay last week at People's World](#), a "daily news website of, for and by the 99% and the direct descendant of the Daily Worker."

"[L]abor and other key social forces are not about to leave the Democratic Party anytime soon," Bachtell promised. "They still see Democrats as the most realistic electoral vehicle" to fight against perceived class enemies.

Bachtell, 58, is playing the long political game and he has a strategy, he said.

"First, we are part of building the broadest anti-ultra right alliance possible, uniting the widest array of class (including a section of monopoly), social and democratic forces. This necessarily means working with the Democratic Party," the communist leader explained.

"Second, our objective is not to build the Democratic Party. At this stage we are about building the broad people's movement led by labor that utilizes the vehicle of the Democratic Party to advance its agenda," Bachtell further expounded. "We are about building the movements around the issues roiling wide sections of people that can help shape election contours and debates."

“[W]e are for building movements in the electoral arena and see engagement in the electoral arena and democratic governance as a vital means to further build movements,” Bachtell also said.

To that end, he claimed, “thousands of trade unionists have been elected” at municipal and local levels of American government. Bachtell did not note a party affiliation of these elected leaders.

The rest of Bachtell’s declaration is mostly a somewhat modernized version of the same, garden-variety communist drivel communists have been spouting since roughly 1840.

Communists and other leftists have experienced “disillusionment with the Democratic Party” because of its “deep connections to Wall Street.” He is still mad at President Bill Clinton for NAFTA and welfare reform.

He’s mad at everyone about an increased number of private schools.

Republicans are an embodiment of caricatured evil for Bachtell.

“While the Republican Party is led by the most reactionary sections of Wall Street capital including the energy extractive sector and military industrial complex, it also consists of extreme right-wing elements including the Tea Party, white supremacists, social conservatives, right-wing evangelicals, climate deniers, anti-reproductive rights groups, etc.,” the communist leader writes.

Bachtell possesses a bachelor’s degree from Antioch College, an obscure, private hothouse of leftism that went defunct in 2008 and was resurrected in 2011 as an unaccredited, private work college.

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## Major media hide who's behind NYC protests

### Radical leftists behind anti-police rallies

<http://www.wnd.com/2014/12/media-fail-to-report-leftists-behind-nyc-protests/>



**Missing from most news coverage is that the anti-police protests rocking New York are being openly coordinated and led by professional radical leftist agitators, primarily Occupy Wall Street and a communist aligned anti-war, anti-Israel, pro-Palestinian extremist organization.**

A WND review of major news coverage of the protests finds headlines such as these:

[USA Today](#): "NYC protesters defy mayor's call for moratorium."

[Bloomberg](#): "Protesters Defy NYC Mayor's Call to Hold Off While Slain Cops Are Mourned."

[Reuters](#): "NY protesters reject plea for hiatus despite police slayings."

[New York Daily News](#): "Protests resume in New York to oppose police brutality despite Bill de Blasio's plea to suspend demonstrations."

The headlines and coverage largely leave the impression the demonstrations are spontaneous reactions to recent actions by law enforcement officials that some contend were motivated by racism. The protests have focused on the deaths of African-Americans Eric Garner and Michael Brown, both of whom were killed by police officers.

However, the protests, aimed at shutting down Manhattan's Fifth Avenue shopping district ahead of Christmas, are being organized openly by radical leftist groups whose intent may not simply be the protest of alleged racism.

Some of the news articles entirely fail to mention the protests were organized by the [Act Now To End War & Stop Racism Coalition, or ANSWER](#), together with

Occupy Wall Street and at least 10 other so-called economic justice and pro-Palestinian groups.

Scores of article note the protests were coordinated by ANSWER but fail to give any context, such as ANSWER's radical background and history, or mention of the other groups supporting the protest movement.

USA Today, for example, simply reports: "The action, organized by the Act Now to End War & Stop Racism Coalition, came hours before the city's landmarks, including the Empire State Building, the Chrysler building, One World Trade Center, were to dim their lights at 9 p.m. for five minutes to honor officers Wenjian Liu and Rafael Ramos."

No further details about ANSWER are provided.

Reuters similarly reported: "Answer Coalition, organizers of a march on 5th Avenue in midtown Manhattan, said a 'peaceful protest against police violence' would continue as planned."

Founded in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks, ANSWER is an umbrella group famous for its protests against Israel and against America's wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The group is known to be one of the most extreme among the progressive community in its positions on Israel and on U.S. military action. Its steering committee is made up of progressive groups, socialists and advocates from the Muslim, Arab, Palestinian, Filipino, Haitian and Latin American communities.

During the height of the second Palestinian Intifada, or terrorism war targeting Israel, ANSWER in April 2002 organized a demonstration in Washington, D.C., that the group claims was the biggest pro-Palestinian rally in U.S. history.

In August, ANSWER led another Washington, D.C., rally against what the group described as "the Israeli massacre against people in Gaza." At the time, Israel was at war with the Hamas terrorist organization, which fired thousands of rockets from territory under its control in Gaza into Israeli cities.

ANSWER has expressed support for the Palestinian intifada. Discover The Networks notes the group released a statement expressing its "solidarity with the call issued [to hold]... activities timed to coincide with the third anniversary of the second Palestinian Intifada."

<http://www.discoverthenetworks.org/Articles/answerprofilestand.html>

ANSWER has supported so-called resistance against U.S. troops in Iraq. A May 2003 downloadable flyer on "Counter-revolution and Resistance in Iraq" states:

“Having achieved their victory [the U.S. in Iraq], however, the occupiers now confront a people who have a long and proud history of resistance. The anti-war movement here and around the world must give its unconditional support to the Iraqi anti-colonial resistance.”

Some of ANSWER's leaders are associated with the Stalinist Workers World Party.

Meanwhile, almost entirely unreported by the news media is that Occupy is a co-sponsor of the anti-police protests targeting Fifth Avenue and may be hijacking the demonstrations for its own goals.

[On its website](#), Occupy Wall Street wrote: “Fifth Avenue is the world's most expensive shopping street – a playground for the global 1%. \*\*This 1% is precisely who the police serve and protect. They flood black, Latino and other oppressed communities like an occupying army so as to intimidate us into accepting things the way they are.”

[On its Facebook page](#), Occupy Wall Street ranted about the protest: “The people will not be intimidated. We will not accept poverty wages, racist courts and a corrupt political system.”

Other sponsors of the Fifth Avenue protests include:

- ❖ Crystal House
- ❖ El Grito De Sunset Park
- ❖ Existence is Resistance
- ❖ New Yorkers Against Bratton
- ❖ NYC Solidarity with Palestine

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# **The Game Is Rigged**

## **Why Americans Keep Losing to the Police State**

***IT'S TIME TO CHANGE THE RULES OF THE GAME. FOR THAT MATTER, IT'S TIME TO CHANGE THE GAME.***

By [John W. Whitehead](#), Canada Free Press, December 9, 2014

<http://canadafreepress.com/index.php/article/68195>

***“The truth is that the State is a conspiracy designed not only to exploit, but above all to corrupt its citizens.”—Leo Tolstoy***

My 7-year-old granddaughter has suddenly developed a keen interest in card games: Go Fish, Crazy Eights, Old Maid, Blackjack, and War. We've fallen into a set pattern now: every time we play, she deals the cards, and I pretend not to see her stacking the deck in her favor. And of course, I always lose.

I don't mind losing to my granddaughter at Old Maid, knowing full well the game is rigged. For now, it's fun and games, and she's winning. Where the rub comes in is in knowing that someday she'll be old enough to realize that being a citizen in the American police state is much like playing against a stacked deck: you're always going to lose.

The game is rigged, and “we the people” keep getting dealt the same losing hand. Even so, we stay in the game, against all odds, trusting that our luck will change.

The problem, of course, is that luck will not save us. The people dealing the cards—the politicians, the corporations, the judges, the prosecutors, the police, the bureaucrats, the military, the media, etc.—have only one prevailing concern, and that is to maintain their power and control over the country and us.

It really doesn't matter what you call them—the 1%, the elite, the controllers, the masterminds, the shadow government, the police state, the surveillance state, the military industrial complex—so long as you understand that while they are dealing the cards, the deck will always be stacked in their favor.

Incredibly, no matter how many times we see this played out, Americans continue to naively buy into the idea that it's our politics that divide us as a nation. As if there were really a difference between the Democrats and Republicans. As if the policies of George W. Bush were any different from those of Barack Obama. As if we weren't a nation of sheep being fattened for the kill by a ravenous government of wolves.

We're in trouble, folks, and changing the dealer won't save us: it's time to get out of the game.

We have relinquished control of our government to overlords who care nothing for our rights, our dignity or our humanity, and now we're saddled with an authoritarian regime that is deaf to our cries, dumb to our troubles, blind to our needs, and accountable to no one.

Even revelations of wrongdoing amount to little in the way of changes for the better.

For instance, after six years of investigation, 6,000 written pages and \$40 million to write a report that will not be released to the public in its entirety, the U.S. Senate has finally concluded that the CIA lied about its torture tactics, failed to acquire any life-saving intelligence, and was more brutal and extensive than previously admitted. This is no revelation. It's a costly sleight of hand intended to distract us from the fact that nothing has changed. We're still a military empire waging endless wars against shadowy enemies, all the while fattening the wallets of the defense contractors for whom war is money.

Same goes for the government's surveillance programs. More than a year after Edward Snowden's revelations dominated news headlines, the government's domestic surveillance programs are just as invasive as ever. In fact, while the nation was distracted by the hubbub over the long-awaited release of the Senate's CIA torture, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court quietly reauthorized the National Security Agency's surveillance of phone records. This was in response to the Obama administration's request to keep the program alive.

Police misconduct and brutality have been dominating the news headlines for months now, but don't expect any change for the better. In fact, with Obama's blessing, police departments continue to make themselves battle ready with weapons and gear created for the military. Police shootings of unarmed citizens continue with alarming regularity. And grand juries, little more than puppets controlled by state prosecutors, continue to legitimize the police state by absolving police of any wrongdoing.

These grand juries embody everything that's wrong with America today. In an age of secret meetings, secret surveillance, secret laws, secret tribunals and secret courts, the grand jury—which meets secretly, hears secret testimony, and is exposed to only what a prosecutor deems appropriate—has become yet another bureaucratic appendage to a government utterly lacking in transparency, accountability and adherence to the rule of law.



It's a sorry lesson in how a well-intentioned law or program can be perverted, corrupted and used to advance illegitimate purposes. The war on terror, the war on drugs, asset forfeiture schemes, road safety schemes, school zero tolerance policies, eminent domain, private prisons: all of these programs started out as legitimate responses to pressing concerns. However, once you add money and power into the mix, even the most benevolent plans can be put to malevolent purposes.

In this way, the war on terror has become a convenient ruse to justify surveillance of all Americans, to create a suspect society, to expand the military empire, and to allow the president to expand the powers of the Executive Branch to imperial heights.

Under cover of the war on drugs, the nation's police forces have been transformed into extensions of the military, with SWAT team raids carried out on unsuspecting homeowners for the slightest charge, and police officers given carte blanche authority to shoot first and ask questions later.

Asset forfeiture schemes, engineered as a way to strip organized crime syndicates of their ill-gotten wealth, have, in the hands of law enforcement agencies, become corrupt systems aimed at fleecing the citizenry while padding the pockets of the police.

Eminent domain, intended by the founders as a means to build roads and hospitals for the benefit of the general public, has become a handy loophole by which local governments can evict homeowners to make way for costly developments and shopping centers.

Private prisons, touted as an economically savvy solution to cash-strapped states with overcrowded prisons have turned into profit- and quota-driven detention centers that jail Americans guilty of little more than living off the grid, growing vegetable gardens in the front yards, or holding Bible studies in their back yards.

Traffic safety schemes such as automated red light and speed cameras, ostensibly aimed at making the nation's roads safer, have been shown to be thinly disguised road taxes, levying hefty fines on drivers, most of whom would never have been pulled over, let alone ticketed, by an actual police officer.

School zero tolerance policies, a response to a handful of school shootings, have become exercises in folly, turning the schools into quasi-prisons, complete with armed police, metal detectors and lockdowns. The horror stories abound of 4- and 6-year-olds being handcuffed, shackled and dragged, kicking and screaming, to police headquarters for daring to act like children while at school.

As for grand juries, which were intended to serve as a check on the powers of the police and prosecutors, they have gone from being the citizen's shield against injustice to a weapon in the hands of government agents. A far cry from a people's court, today's grand jury system is so blatantly rigged in favor of the government as to be laughable. Unless, that is, you happen to be one of the growing numbers of Americans betrayed and/or victimized by their own government, in which case, you'll find nothing amusing about the way in which grand juries are used to terrorize the populace all the while covering up police misconduct.

Unfortunately, as I make clear in my book [A Government of Wolves: The Emerging American Police State](#), we're long past the point of simple fixes. The system has grown too large, too corrupt, and too unaccountable. If there's to be any hope for tomorrow, it has to start at the local level, where Americans still have a chance to make their voices heard. Stop buying into the schemes of the elite, stop being distracted by their sleight-of-hands, stop being manipulated into believing that an election will change anything, and stop playing a rigged game where you'll always be the loser.

It's time to change the rules of the game. For that matter, it's time to change the game.

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## **Putin is winning the oil war**

By [Nicole Goodkind](#),  FINANCE, December 24, 2014 8:32 AM

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/putin-is-winning-the-oil-war--katusa-020428723.html>

In an exclusive interview with CNN's Candy Crowley last Sunday, President Obama addressed critics who believed he was too soft on Russia and that he was allowing Russian president Vladimir Putin to "roll America." According to Obama:

There was a spate of stories about how he is the chess master and outmaneuvering the West and outmaneuvering Mr. Obama and this and that and the other. And right now, he's presiding over the collapse of his currency, a major financial crisis and a huge economic contraction. That doesn't sound like somebody who has rolled me or the United States of America.

The ruble has fallen sharply in the past few weeks and there are current stories coming out of Russia about potential bank runs. Last week the ruble became the world's worst performing currency. This week, however, the Russian currency does appear to be stabilizing-- it's back up by 30%. So have sanctions and falling oil prices sunk Russia?

Not really says Marin Katusa, author of "The Colder War," and chief energy investment strategist at Casey Research. Katusa believes that falling oil prices will eventually give Russia the upper hand and deeply injure the U.S. energy industry. The falling ruble makes Russian oil less expensive and more desirable to other countries—Russia also produces oil quite cheaply while the American shale industry has a larger cost of operation. Russia is more than able to weather the current storm, Katusa says. "They have a \$200 billion a year trade surplus. They have over \$400 billion in reserve currency. They've increased their gold reserve. They have much lower debt to their GDP than America. So yes there's pain in the economy... [but] it's far from terminal."

On Tuesday the Ukrainian Parliament voted to drop its "non-aligned" status and begin work towards a NATO membership. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said this "unproductive" move would only increase tension between Russia and Ukraine. Katusa believes that this is the beginning of another cold war. "The Ukraine parliament only did this after Obama guaranteed hundreds of billions of dollars in military support to fight the Russians," he says. "And what is critical here is we all know that the logarithmic rule in war when you commit hundreds of millions - it means billions of dollars and through these actions Obama has declared the colder war on Russia."

Katusa believes that this move will result in more atrocities on both sides of the border, but mostly in Ukraine. According to Katusa, sanctions have only made it so that Russia must work more closely with emerging markets like China. "We've seen billions of dollars of increase in the currency swaps between China and Russia and it's going to continue," he says. Currently about 9% of China's oil exports come from Russia but Katusa predicts that number will grow significantly in the decades to come.

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## Oil's Swift Fall Raises Fortunes of U.S. Abroad

By [ANDREW HIGGINS](#), New York Times, DEC. 24, 2014

[http://www.nytimes.com/2014/12/25/world/europe/oils-swift-fall-raises-fortunes-of-us-abroad.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/12/25/world/europe/oils-swift-fall-raises-fortunes-of-us-abroad.html?_r=1)



**Iranian oil workers Monday at a refinery south of Tehran. Facing a big budget hole, the government is offering to let men buy their way out of military service.**

BRUSSELS — A plunge in oil prices has sent tremors through the global political and economic order, setting off an abrupt shift in fortunes that has bolstered the interests of the United States and pushed several big oil-exporting nations — particularly those hostile to the West, like [Russia](#), [Iran](#) and [Venezuela](#) — to the brink of financial crisis.

The nearly 50 percent decline in oil prices since June has had the most conspicuous impact on the Russian economy and President [Vladimir V. Putin](#). The former finance minister Aleksei L. Kudrin, a longtime friend of Mr. Putin's, warned this week of a "full-blown economic crisis" and called for better relations with Europe and the United States.

But the ripple effects are spreading much more broadly than that. The price plunge may also influence Iran's deliberations over whether to agree to a deal on its [nuclear program](#) with the West; force the oil-rich nations of the Middle East to reassess their role in managing global supply; and give a boost to the economies of the biggest oil-consuming nations, notably the United States and China.



**Currency exchange rates on display in Moscow on Dec. 12. A steep drop in the value of the ruble drove crowds of panicked Russian consumers to shops.**

It might even have been a late factor in Cuba's decision to seal a rapprochement with Washington.

After a precipitous drop, [to less than \\$60 a barrel](#) from around \$115 a barrel in June, oil prices settled at a low level this week. Their fall, even if partly reversed, was so sharp and so quick as to unsettle plans and assumptions in many governments. That includes Mr. Putin's apparent hope that Russia could weather [Western sanctions](#) over its intervention in Ukraine without serious economic harm, and Venezuela's aspirations for continuing the free-spending policies of former President Hugo Chávez.

The price drop, said [Edward N. Luttwak](#), a longtime Pentagon adviser and author of several books on geopolitical and economic strategy, "is knocking down America's principal opponents without us even trying." For Iran, which is estimated to be losing \$1 billion a month because of the fall, it is as if Congress had passed the much tougher sanctions that the White House [lobbied against](#), he said.

Iran has been hit so hard that its government, looking for ways to fill a widening hole in its budget, is offering young men the option of buying their way out of an obligatory two years of military service. "We are on the eve of a major crisis," an Iranian economist, Hossein Raghfar, told the Etemaad newspaper on Sunday. "The government needs money badly."

Venezuela, which has the world's largest estimated oil reserves and has used them to position itself as a foil to American "imperialism," received 95 percent of its export earnings from petroleum before prices fell. It is now having trouble paying for social projects at home and for a foreign policy rooted in oil-financed largess, including shipments of reduced-price petroleum to Cuba and elsewhere.

Amid worries on bond markets that Venezuela might default on its loans, President Nicolás Maduro, who was elected last year after the death of Mr. Chávez, has said the country will continue to pay its debts. But inflation in Venezuela is over 60 percent, there are shortages of many basic goods, and many experts believe the economy is in recession.

But the biggest casualty so far has probably been Russia, where energy revenue accounts for more than half of the government's budget. Mr. Putin built up strong support by seeming to banish the economic turmoil that had afflicted the rule of his predecessor, Boris N. Yeltsin. Yet Russia was back on its heels last week, with the ruble going into such a steep dive that panicked Russians [thronged shops](#) to spend what they had.

"We've seen this movie before," said Strobe Talbott, who was President Bill Clinton's senior Russia adviser in the aftermath of the Soviet Union's 1991 collapse and is now president of the Brookings Institution in Washington.

Russia's troubles have rippled around the world, slashing bookings at ski resorts in Austria and spending on London real estate; spreading panic in neighboring Belarus, a close Russian ally; and even threatening to upend Russia's Kontinental Hockey League, which pays players in rubles.



**Venezuelans waited outside a market in Caracas in October to buy basic items like diapers and detergent. Their economy relies almost entirely on oil revenue.**

"It is a big boost for the U.S. when three out of four of our active antagonists are seriously weakened, when their room for maneuver is seriously reduced," Mr. Luttwak said, referring to Russia, Iran and Venezuela.

The only major United States antagonist not hurt by the drop in oil prices is North Korea, which imports all of its petroleum.

David L. Goldwyn, who was the State Department's international energy coordinator during President Obama's first term, warned that an implosion of Venezuela's economy could hurt the Caribbean and Latin America in ways that the United States would not welcome.

But "on balance, it's positive for the U.S.," he said of the low price of oil, because American consumers save money, and "it harms Russia and puts pressure on Iran."

Even some of the indirect consequences of the price slump, like last week's break in the half-century diplomatic logjam between Washington and Havana, have generally worked in the United States' favor. Fearful that Venezuela, its main benefactor, might cut off supplies of cash and cheap oil, Cuba sealed a historic deal that has in turn lifted a shadow over the United States' standing in much of Latin America.

Another casualty of the price collapse has been Belarus, a former Soviet territory long reviled by American officials as Europe's last dictatorship. It produces no significant amount of crude oil itself but has nonetheless taken a big hit. This is because its economy depends heavily on the export of petroleum products that Belarus produces using crude oil supplied, at a steep discount, by Russia.

[Marwan Muasher](#), a former foreign minister of Jordan who is now a vice president at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, predicted another domino effect in Syria as Russia and Iran find it difficult to sustain their economic, military and diplomatic support for President Bashar al-Assad.

Others speculate that Persian Gulf oil producers, though still wealthy, might trim their financial support for radical Islamist rebel groups in Syria.

Mr. Muasher said the drop in oil prices could also prod Middle East oil producers toward political and economic change by challenging so-called rentier systems in which governments derive much of their income from rents paid by foreigners for resources. "Whatever the case, it is clear that the effect of the new oil price levels will not be limited to the economic sphere," he wrote in a Carnegie report.





**Cubans received a meal at a hospice center in Havana on Sunday, a few days after the Cuban and American presidents announced plans to normalize relations**

Hard-hit anti-American oil producers have blamed foreign machinations for their woes, suggesting that Washington, [in cahoots with Saudi Arabia](#), has deliberately driven down prices.

This view is particularly strong in Russia, where former K.G.B. agents close to Mr. Putin have long believed that Washington engineered the collapse of the Soviet Union by getting Saudi Arabia to increase oil output, driving down prices and thus starving Moscow of revenue.

In many ways, the recent price fall really is the United States' work, flowing to a large extent from a surge in American oil production through the development of alternative sources like shale.

By offsetting declines in conventional oil production, increases in shale oil output have allowed overall American crude oil production to rise to an average of about nine million barrels a day from five million a day in 2008, according to the United States Energy Information Administration. That four-million-barrel increase is more than either Iraq or Iran, the second- and third-largest [OPEC](#) producers after Saudi Arabia, produces each day, and it has put strong downward pressure on world prices.

The geopolitical shakeout set off by the oil market has not gone entirely America's way. Russia's troubles have so far shown no sign of pushing Mr. Putin toward a more conciliatory position on Ukraine, and some analysts believe they could make Moscow even more pugnacious and prone to lashing out.

The Bank of England's Financial Policy Committee, which monitors possible systemic threats, warned in minutes released this week that "sustained lower oil price also had the potential to reinforce certain geopolitical risks." It voiced

alarm, too, over an increased risk of deflation in the eurozone, the 18-nation area that uses Europe's common currency.

The price drop could also encourage more freewheeling use of oil products like gasoline, undermining what appears to be a growing consensus among nations that carbon emissions must be reeled in to offset the most dire effects of global warming.

While authoritarian oil producers like Russia are clearly suffering, China is enjoying a huge windfall thanks to the price drop. It imports nearly 60 percent of the oil it needs to power its economy.

China became the world's largest importer of oil in 2013, surpassing the United States, and so stands to benefit from plummeting prices. Bank of America Merrill Lynch estimated last month that every 10 percent decline in the price of oil could increase China's economic growth by 0.15 percent.

Strong growth in China would lift demand for oil and help reduce the current agonies of OPEC, which pumps around a third of the world's oil but, largely as a result of increased American production, has lost much of its ability to dictate prices by controlling output.

In an interview with the Middle East Economic Survey this week, the Saudi energy minister, Ali al-Naimi, indicated a fundamental rethinking by OPEC, saying that it needed to focus on keeping its market share rather than trying to raise prices by slashing production. "We have entered a scary time for the oil market," he said.

Reporting was contributed by Stanley Reed from London; Jane Perlez from Beijing; David D. Kirkpatrick from Cairo; William Neuman from Caracas, Venezuela; Thomas Erdbrink from Tehran; and Simon Romero from Rio de Janeiro.

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# The Constitution

## Principles of Constitutionalism, The Primacy of the Constitution

***IT IS VITAL THAT WE COME TO A REAL AND TRUE GRASP OF THE CONSTITUTION AS NON-NEGOTIABLE***

By [Tim Dunkin](#), Canada Free Press, December 12, 2014  
<http://canadafreepress.com/index.php/article/68280>

The United States of America are in a bad way. All around us we are seeing the fruits of a people who have forgotten the first principles that gave our nation that it had originally. We were founded as a constitutional republic. What this means is that our entire political system, in which we participate indirectly, is supposed to be governed by the Constitution. Yet, we have strayed from this, and many, many people in this nation do not even really understand either the purpose or the workings of that document, because they have never learned them, nor even thought about them.

One of my desires is to increase awareness of what the Constitution means, and how it is to be rightly applied. As such, I have conceived of the idea of trying to present a series of articles devoted to explaining the principles which underlie our constitutionalism, that effort to regain and then maintain our nation's traditional adherence to the Constitution and the liberty worldview which flows from it.

To begin this series, I want to begin at the beginning (of course). If we as conservatives and liberty lovers, people who want to educate those around us back toward a more constitutional view of our political system, are to succeed in this goal, then we need to have a firm grasp of the fundamentals of our own philosophy.

So before anything else is said about the Constitution or how to apply it or what any of its particular parts mean, we must first firmly settle in our own hearts and minds upon the principle of the primacy of that document in the earthly laws and organization of government in these United States.

Simply put – there is nothing in any subsidiary law made by Congress, in any executive agency, in any executive order which the President may wish to make, that overrules the Constitution. From an under-the-sun perspective, in the United States the Constitution is THE standard against which everything aspiring

to the status of law must be measured. In 1886, the Supreme Court plainly stated this principle,

“An unconstitutional act is not law; it confers no rights; it imposes no duties; affords no protection; it creates no office; it is in legal contemplation, as inoperative as though it had never been passed.” (Norton vs. Shelby County, 118 US 425)

Bluntly, if a law or other act of government contradicts the Constitution, then that act, law, statute, regulation, or whatever else is null and void.

Let's think a little bit about how that applies. Obviously, an act of Congress that contradicts the plain wording of the Constitution is a dead letter on its face. So should an executive order from the President. So should administrative rules made by federal agencies. That much is easy to understand.

But what about when we get around to dealing with actions by public officials? For instance, what about when the police perform a warrantless search in violation of the 4th amendment, or when officials in federal agencies such as the BATFE misuse their powers to harass and punish gun owners and gun sellers, contrary to the 2nd amendment?

Morally it is right to resist those usurpations, even with deadly force. Practically, of course, that is easier said than done because of the tendency of many police and regulatory agencies to use force to protect their own usurpations against our liberties. But yet, morally, the one who resists is in the right, because he or she is actually on the side of the law. The authority that police and regulatory agencies have is statutory, and derives FROM the institutions established under the Constitution, which in turn derive their authority FROM that document. In short, the police do not have the authority to overrule our founding document. When they do so, it is the police themselves who are engaging in sedition and treason.

Now, one might argue, the police are allowed to do many of these things because the courts have ruled that they can. The courts have essentially gutted the 4th amendment protections we used to enjoy, such that police agencies can do all kinds of things at which the Founders would be aghast. So the next question to ask is – does the fact that the courts have ruled this way suddenly make it alright? Do the courts overrule the Constitution?

Absolutely not. As late as 1968, Justice Hugo Black observed,

**“The public welfare demands that constitutional cases must be decided according to the terms of the Constitution itself, and not according to judges’ views of fairness, reasonableness, or justice. I have no fear of constitutional amendments properly adopted, but I do fear the rewriting of the Constitution by judges under the guise of interpretation.”**

Certainly, there is a constitutional role for the courts to play, otherwise that document would not have provided for their institution. Nevertheless, simply because a court rules a certain way does not make the court’s decision – even from the Supreme Court – constitutional. If a court rules, to use a hypothetical example, that the police can take random DNA swabs from citizens without a warrant and without even probable cause (itself a non-constitutional legal construct), then that court has ruled against the plain reading of the Constitution’s language.

Which makes that court’s judgment unconstitutional, and null and void from its inception.

This is the great stumbling block in the minds of even many conservatives when it comes to addressing the out of control judges in this country – the unwarranted deference to judicial authority even when that authority has clearly and unambiguously overstepped its constitutional boundaries. The American people need to start realizing once again that simply because a court rules a certain way, the Constitution doesn’t suddenly change to accommodate this new understanding when this understanding goes against the plain wording of the text. If you want to amend the Constitution, then use the amendment processes provided within the document itself. Courts can’t amend the Constitution of their own initiative. When courts do so, they act unconstitutionally. We need to accept and acknowledge that court rulings themselves can be unconstitutional.

What it all boils down to is this: we need to get back to a firmly held grammatical-literalist approach to the Constitution. Words mean things. The Founders who wrote the Constitution put certain words in, and left other certain words out, because they wanted our foundational law to do certain things, and not do other certain things. It is incumbent upon us not to try to “work around” the plain wording of the Constitution, but to simply learn, apply, and abide by that wording. If such a need should arise to change it, then amend it the right way – through the amendment process, not through inaction or unconstitutional usurpation, which does nothing but generate disregard not only for the founding law, but for all just and right law that is created under its auspices.

It is vital that we come to a real and true grasp of the Constitution as non-negotiable, and start demanding this from those who are privileged to represent us in government. Every area of political life, if it is to be rightly conducted, rests on this principle.

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## **2nd Amendment threatened in Obama's trade plans**

**Like 'playing Russian roulette with 6 bullets in the chamber'**

Curtis Ellis, WND, January 29, 2015

<http://www.wnd.com/2015/01/2nd-amendment-threatened-in-obamas-trade-plans/>



UNITED NATIONS – Giving President Obama fast-track authority to conclude an international trade agreement is like playing Russian roulette with six bullets in the chamber, says one of America's leading gun rights organizations.

Gun Owners of America is blasting a congressional proposal that empowers Obama to unilaterally negotiate international agreements as "a 'bait and switch' scheme that could seriously impact the Second Amendment."

House and Senate committees are currently preparing to hand Obama so-called "fast-track" trade promotion authority. It would enable the president to unilaterally negotiate the TransPacific Partnership, a trade and global governance agreement with the U.S. and 11 other nations bordering the Pacific Ocean.

Under fast-track rules, Congress would not be able to amend or even vet the completed agreement. It could only approve everything that Obama has included, including anything tucked away in the 99th page that no one really wants to talk about, or kill it.

Gun Owners of America [warns](#) fast track “delegates to Barack Obama the legislative authority to do anything he wants – absolutely anything – so long as he includes it in a ‘trade agreement.’”

Second Amendment defenders worry, for example, anti-gun measures such as gun or ammunition import bans could be relegated to the bowels of the so-called “trade agreement.” They say Congress would be unable to stop it “when every Establishment interest in Washington starts pushing Congress to immediately approve this ‘up-or-down’ deal.”

They point to the experience with the recently approved trillion-dollar “Cromnibus” spending bill, which included the [largest funding increase in history for the federal gun database](#), empowered states to [impose gun bans](#) based on doctor’s orders and [increased](#) the budget for the ATF.

Fast track “is the same dynamic as the Cromnibus, and if we hadn’t just gone through that we wouldn’t see what will happen if they give him fast track,” Michael Hammond, legislative counsel with Gun Owners of America, told WND.

“Republicans whine about Obama usurping legislative authority, so why in heaven’s name are they thinking of giving him unlimited legislative authority to do anything he can put into a trade agreement?” Hammond asked

Supporters of fast track, including Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis., and Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, say it allows Congress to set goals for an agreement the Obama administration will negotiate.

But Hammond points out the TransPacific Partnership agreement “has already largely been negotiated and is being kept secret only for the sole purpose of getting us to give it a rubber stamp.”

“What kind of idiot would bite on that deal?”

The Obama administration has been negotiating the TransPacific Partnership without congressional input for the past six years and acknowledges the deal is near completion.

“I don’t think it’s wise to allow Obama to promulgate any law he wants as long as he succeeds in sticking it in this agreement and then gets Congress’ assent on an up or down vote without any possibility for amendment,” Hammond said.

“It’s playing Russian Roulette with a gun with six bullets in the chamber,” he said.



Gun Owners of America is urging everyone to [contact their senators and representative](#) and ask them to oppose giving fast-track authority to Barack Obama.

[WND has reported extensively on the TPP](#), including when Obama traveled to Asia to promote it last year.

TPP has been described as the largest-ever economic treaty, encompassing 12 participating nations representing more than 40 percent of the world's gross domestic product. It's the frontrunner to the [equally under-the-radar Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, or TIPP, between the U.S. and the European Union](#).

[WND reported](#) that the White House, without much fanfare, wrapped Mexico and Canada into the TPP negotiations as a continuation of an effort regarded by critics as a move toward a European Union-style integration of North America.

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## **My Gun**

**Author Unknown (But Very Wise)**

Today I swung my front door wide open and placed my Remington 30.06 right in the doorway. I left six shells beside it, then left it alone and went about my business. While I was gone, the mailman delivered my mail, the boy across the street mowed the yard, a girl walked her dog down the street, and quite a few cars stopped at the stop sign in front of the house.

After about an hour, I checked on the gun. It was still sitting there, right where I had left it. It hadn't moved itself outside. It certainly hadn't killed anyone, even with the numerous opportunities it had been presented to do so. In fact, it hadn't even loaded itself.

Well, you can imagine my surprise, with all the media hype about how dangerous guns are and how they kill people!

Either the media is wrong or I'm in possession of the laziest gun in the world.

The United States is third in murders throughout the World. But if you take out Chicago, Detroit, Washington DC and New Orleans, the United States is fourth from the bottom for murders. These four cities also have the toughest gun control laws in the United States. All four are controlled by Democrats, but it would be racist to draw any conclusions from this data, right?

Now I'm off to check on my spoons. I hear they're making people fat.

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