

# Eye on the World

## Sept. 8, 2018

This compilation of material for “Eye on the World” is presented as a service to the Churches of God. The views stated in the material are those of the writers or sources quoted by the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the members of the Church of God Big Sandy. The following articles were posted at churchofgodbigandy.com for the weekend of Sept. 8, 2018.

**Compiled by Dave Havir**

**Luke 21:34-36**—“But take heed to yourselves, lest your souls be weighed down with self-indulgence, and drunkenness, or the anxieties of this life, and that day come on you suddenly, like a falling trap; for it will come on all dwellers on the face of the whole earth. But beware of slumbering; and every moment pray that you may be fully strengthened to escape from all these coming evils, and to take your stand in the presence of the Son of Man” (Weymouth New Testament).



An article by Walter Williams titled “South Africa Question” was posted at jewishworldreview.com on Sept. 5, 2018. Following is the article.

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South Africa has been thrown into the news because of President Donald Trump’s recent tweet that he instructed his secretary of state to “closely study” alleged land seizures from white farmers in South Africa.

Earlier this year, a land confiscation motion was brought by radical Marxist opposition leader Julius Malema, and it passed South Africa’s Parliament by a 241-83 vote.

Malema has had a long-standing commitment to land confiscation without compensation. In 2016, he told his supporters he was “not calling for the slaughter of white people—at least for now” (<https://tinyurl.com/y7mfmhco>).

The land-grabbing sentiment is also expressed by Lindsay Maasdorp, national spokesman for Black First Land First, a group that condones land seizures in South Africa. He says, “We are going to take back the land, and we’ll do it by any means necessary.”

The land confiscation policy was a key factor in the platform of the new president, Cyril Ramaphosa.

I have visited South Africa several times, in 1979, 1980 and 1992. My three-month 1980 visit included lectures at nearly all South African universities. The 1992 return visit, two years after apartheid ended and two years before democratic elections, included lectures on my book "South Africa's War Against Capitalism."

During each visit, my counsel to South Africans, particularly black South Africans, was that the major task before them was not only ridding the nation of apartheid but deciding what was going to replace it.

That's an important question. William Hutt, the late University of Cape Town economist who was an anti-apartheid voice within the academic community, wrote in his 1964 book, titled "The Economics of the Colour Bar," that one of the supreme tragedies of the human condition is that those who have been the victims of injustices or oppression "can often be observed to be inflicting not dissimilar injustices upon other races."

In 2001, Andrew Kenny wrote an article titled "Black People Aren't Animals— But That's How Liberals Treat Them." Kenny asked whether South Africa is doomed to follow the rest of Africa into oblivion.

Kenny gave a "no" answer to his question, but he was not very optimistic because of the pattern seen elsewhere in sub-Saharan Africa. He argued that ordinary Africans were better off under colonialism.

Colonial masters never committed anything near the murder and genocide seen under black rule in Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, Nigeria, Mozambique, Somalia and other countries, where millions of blacks have been slaughtered in unspeakable ways, including being hacked to death, boiled in oil, set on fire and dismembered.

Kenny said that if as many elephants, zebras and lions were as ruthlessly slaughtered, the world's leftists would be in a tizzy (<https://tinyurl.com/ybj4u9fj>).

Ghanaian economist George Ayittey expressed a similar complaint in his book "Africa Betrayed": "White rulers in South Africa could be condemned, but not black African leaders guilty of the same political crimes."

Moeletsi Mbeki, a brother of former South African President Thabo Mbeki's and deputy chairman of the South African Institute of International Affairs, an independent think tank based at the University of the Witwatersrand, said in 2004 that Africa was in a spiral of decline. "The average African is poorer than during the age of colonialism," he said (<https://tinyurl.com/yics6l4pb>).

Zimbabwe, South Africa's northern neighbor formerly called Rhodesia, was southern Africa's breadbasket. That was prior to the confiscation of nearly 6,000 large white-owned commercial farms during the 1990s.

By the turn of the century, Zimbabwe was threatened with mass starvation and was begging for food. Added to that tragedy, Zimbabwe experienced history's second-highest inflation rate. It reached 79.6 billion percent in mid-November 2008. (In 1946, Hungary experienced the world's highest inflation rate, 41.9 quadrillion percent.)

South Africa leads in mining, food production and critical infrastructure, such as power production and railroading, in southern Africa.

But it's going the same way as Zimbabwe, spelling disaster for the entire southern part of Africa.

What's needed most right now is for South Africans to adopt some of the principles enunciated by Nelson Mandela, one of which is, "You will achieve more in this world through acts of mercy than you will through acts of retribution."



Looking back to April, an article by Ashley Rae Goldenberg and Dan Gainor titled "Censored! How Online Media Companies Are Suppressing Conservative Speech" was posted at [newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org). on April 16, 2018. Following is the article.

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Like it or not, social media is the communication form of the future—not just in the U.S., but worldwide.

- Just Facebook and Twitter combined reach 1.8 billion people. More than two-thirds of all Americans (68 percent) use Facebook. YouTube is pushing out TV as the most popular place to watch video.

- Google is the No. 1 search engine in both the U.S. and the world.

War is being declared on the conservative movement in this space and conservatives are losing—badly. If the right is silenced, billions of people will be cut off from conservative ideas and conservative media.

It's the new battleground of media bias. But it's worse. That bias is not a war of ideas. It's a war against ideas. It's a clear effort to censor the conservative worldview from the public conversation.

*The Media Research Center* has undertaken an extensive study of the problem at major tech companies—Twitter, Facebook, Google and YouTube—and the results are far more troubling than most conservatives realize.

Here are some of the key findings:

- **Twitter Leads in Censorship**

Project Veritas recently had caught Twitter staffers admitting on hidden camera that they had been censoring conservatives through a technique known as shadow banning, where users think their content is getting seen widely, but it's not. The staffers had justified it by claiming the accounts had been automated if they had words such as "America" and "God."

In 2016, Twitter had attempted to manipulate election-related tweets using the hashtags "#PodestaEmails" and "#DNCLeak." The site also restricts pro-

life ads from Live Action and even Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.), but allows Planned Parenthood advertisements.

### ■ **Facebook's Trending Feed Has Been Hiding Conservative Topics**

A 2016 Gizmodo story had warned of Facebook's bias. It had detailed claims by former employees that Facebook's news curators had been instructed to hide conservative content from the "trending" section, which supposedly only features news users find compelling.

Topics that had been blacklisted included Mitt Romney, the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) and Rand Paul.

On the other hand, the term "Black Lives Matter" had also been placed into the trending section even though it was not actually trending.

Facebook had also banned at least one far right European organization but had not released information on any specific statements made by the group that warranted the ban.

### ■ **Google Search Aids Democrats**

Google and YouTube's corporate chairman Eric Schmidt had assisted Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign. The company's search engine had deployed a similar bias in favor of Democrats. One study had found 2016 campaign searches were biased in favor of Hillary Clinton.

Even the liberal website Slate had revealed the search engine's results had favored both Clinton and Democratic candidates.

Google also had fired engineer James Damore for criticizing the company's "Ideological Echo Chamber." The company had claimed he had been fired for "advancing harmful gender stereotypes in our workplace." Damore is suing Google, saying it mistreats whites, males and conservatives.

### ■ **YouTube Is Shutting Down Conservative Videos**

Google's YouTube site had created its own problems with conservative content. YouTube moderators must take their cues from the rest of Google – from shutting down entire conservative channels "by mistake" to removing videos that promote right-wing political views.

YouTube's special Creators for Change section is devoted to people using their "voices for social change" and even highlights the work of a 9/11 truther. The site's very own YouTube page and Twitter account celebrate progressive attitudes, including uploading videos about "inspiring" gay and trans people and sharing the platform's support for DACA.

### ■ **Tech Firms Are Relying on Groups That Hate Conservatives**

Top tech firms like Google, YouTube and Twitter partner with leftist groups attempting to censor conservatives.

These include the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) and the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). Both groups claim to combat “hate,” but treat standard conservative beliefs in faith and family as examples of that hatred.

George Soros-funded ProPublica is using information from both radical leftist organizations to attack conservative groups such as Jihad Watch and ACT for America, bullying PayPal and other services to shut down their funding sources.

The SPLC’s “anti-LGBT” list had also been used to prevent organizations from partnering with AmazonSmile to raise funds.

### ■ **Liberal Twitter Advisers Outnumber Conservatives 12-to-1**

Twelve of the 25 U.S. members of Twitter’s Trust and Safety Council—which helps guide its policies—are liberal, and only one is conservative. Anti-conservative groups like GLAAD and the ADL are part of the board. There is no well-known conservative group represented.

### ■ **Tech Companies Rely on Anti-Conservative Fact-Checkers**

Facebook and Google both had partnered with fact-checking organizations in order to combat “fake news.” Facebook’s short-lived disputed flagger program had allowed Snopes, PolitiFact and ABC News to discern what is and is not real news.

Google’s fact-checkers had accused conservative sources of making claims that did not appear in their articles and disproportionately “fact-checked” conservative sources.

On Facebook, a satire site, the Babylon Bee, had been flagged by Snopes for its article clearly mocking CNN for its bias.

YouTube also had announced a partnership with Wikipedia in order to debunk videos deemed to be conspiracy theories, even though Wikipedia has been criticized for its liberal bias.

## **Recommendations For The Tech Companies**

### 1. People Are Policy.

Tech companies like Google and Facebook are making a nominal effort to hire conservatives, but that doesn’t address the core problems within those organizations. Companies need to eliminate policies and biases that discriminate against conservatives. They also need to protect employees’ ability to disagree with the pervasive liberal groupthink that dominates the industry.

### 2. Tech Companies Must Provide Transparency.

People and organizations have their posts and videos either restricted or deleted on all major platforms. If those companies expect their users to trust them, they must make this system transparent. They must show at least when posts of organizations and public figures are deleted and when they aren’t. That would give users a baseline of what speech is allowed on a platform, not just whatever the companies choose to delete.

### 3. Expect Regulation At This Pace.

Tech companies are facing calls for regulation from left and right. The firms should address this by setting rules about how they will treat both conservative and liberal organizations and information fairly. This means clear, published guidelines must be established that support free speech online. Algorithms, content guidelines and ad policies must be designed that don't target political speech. Firms must stop pretending disagreement is equivalent to hate speech. Fairness and transparency are equally essential.

### 4. Avoid Partnering With Bad Actors.

Twitter, YouTube and others had tried to establish policies that prevent so-called hate speech on their platforms. But those policies are being enforced by organizations that spew hate against the conservative movement and can't pretend to be neutral players. Groups like the SPLC and ADL label core conservative values as "hate" or "bigotry." Tech companies can't expect conservatives to trust a system that is so blatantly one-sided.

### 5. Modify Flagging Systems.

One of the worst problems tech companies grapple with is the abuse of their flagging and reporting systems. YouTube, Twitter and Facebook, in particular, succumb to liberal activists who game their systems and constantly report conservative content. These services must determine a better way to handle alerts that do not allow coordinated campaigns against the right.

### 6. Use Neutral Fact-Checkers.

If social media sites are going to attempt to be the arbiters of what is real news, they must rely on fact-checking sources that are neutral and fair toward stories on both sides of the aisle. Relying on sites like Snopes, which has a clear liberal bias, raises concerns over whether the tech giants are trying to promote a liberal political narrative.



An article by Maureen Mullarkey titled "The Catholic Scandal is More About Power Than About Sex" was posted at [thefederalist.com](http://thefederalist.com) on Sept. 4, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

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A sociopathic cardinal and kingmaker caught retrospectively with his pants down is big news. That the pope knew and covered for him is even bigger. So the torrent of coverage is inescapable.

You have already read the sorry details about "Uncle Ted." All the while Theodore McCarrick moved up the clerical ladder, reaping power and influence.

Then appeared Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò of Kosovo, former apostolic nuncio in Washington D.C., to identify a bevy of hierarchs in color-coded zucchettos who protected and advanced him.

Worse, he stated that Pope Francis had been aware of McCarrick's sexual history. The pope who should have cashiered a serial predator made him a trusted adviser instead.

It is a blockbuster story. But where does it lead?

We wait to see if an ecclesiastical court will defrock McCarrick. For now, the ex-cardinal remains an archbishop, sentenced only to "prayer and penance in solitude" and the demotion.

Only in recent decades have diocesan priests been accountable under civil law in a criminal matter. But the ancient protocol still protects their superiors.

The "Catholic Encyclopedia" states the reasoning behind the tradition: "The Church could not permit her clergy to be judged by laymen; it would be utterly unbecoming for persons of superior dignity to submit themselves to their inferiors for judgment. The clergy, therefore, were exempt from civil jurisdiction."

### **Wrecking ball swings again**

McCarrick is not the only person of superior dignity who belongs in the dock. So do the men who knowingly facilitated him, plus bishops everywhere who played musical chairs with abusers.

Francis does not look good in all of this. He declined comment, telling journalists to read the document "carefully" and judge for themselves, a sly dismissal.

Despite my distaste and mistrust toward this pope, I am somewhat detached from Viganò's 11-page j'accuse. I have stopped reading about it. I can only respond to this exposé after catching my breath to do it.

The Eucharist is my life's blood; I am wedded to the Mass and the sacraments. From that standpoint, the rest is merely the way of the world.

On the Potomac or the Tiber, a swamp is a swamp. Triumphalist emphasis on the church as a perfect society fails to admit that the church is always a sinful one.

For all its ugliness and the pity of it, there is a strain of burlesque in the administrative disarray Viganò revealed. Careers and reputations, including that of Benedict XVI and John Paul II, are implicated in the mismanagement.

### **Saw dress rehearsal already**

As happens with many shockers, there is often nothing surprising about them. The Most Rev. Vincent Paglia, of recent Catholic memory, provided dress rehearsal for the current scandal. But Paglia operated in Italy, out of sight of mainstream American media.

Appointed bishop by John Paul in 2000, Paglia commissioned an out-and-proud homoerotic mural—with a depiction of himself in it—for his cathedral in 2007.

The artist was an Argentinian gay noted for transgressive imagery.

No matter. Benedict raised him to archbishop five years later and named him president of the then-Pontifical Council on the Family.

In 2016, with the mural still intact, Francis appointed him president of the Academy for Life and grand chancellor of the St. John Paul II Pontifical Institute for Studies of Marriage and Family.

Paglia's narcissistic urge to flaunt his liberation from the moral considerations he was ordained to honor was a finger in the eye of the faithful, who trust in a priest's fidelity to his vows. The mural declared Paglia's trust in his immunity from consequences.

Paglia and "Uncle Ted" are twin branches of a poisoned stream running under the Vatican wall.

Ultimately, the core of the issue here is not about sex. Not substantially.

It is about a degraded Vatican culture that supports men like Paglia and McCarrick, awarded with authority instead of being handed sackcloth and ashes and packed off to a hermitage.

### **True scandal is in the coverup**

The true scandal, now as before, lies in the basis for each man's confidence that he could broadcast his inclinations without fear of censure.

On what protections did their certainty rely?

Who were the enablers of these cocksure avatars of male bonding?

From how high up the ecclesial ladder did their insurance come?

We are learning. Thirty years ago, A.W. Richard Sipe, a psychiatrist and ex-Benedictine who authored three books on celibacy and the priesthood, predicted: "When the whole story of sexual abuse by presumed celibate clergy is told, it will lead to the highest corridors of Vatican City."

Now it has. The arrogance on display hints at a reservoir of disdain for the faithful coupled with an unholy sense of entitlement.

Two weeks before Viganò's bombshell, LifeSite News reported the testimony of a pastor in Tampa, Florida under the headline: "Evil Gay Bishops 'Persecute, Blackmail' Faithful Priests Who Might Expose Their Secret."

"Many people still don't (I believe most priests still don't) understand just how evil the active homosexual or homosexual activist . . . priests and bishops are," writes the pastor of that Tampa, Florida parish.

"[They} cannot possibly grasp the hellish depths to which . . . clergy will go to persecute, lambaste, punish, humiliate and blackmail anyone who stands in their way or threatens their way of life."

## Still searching for a smoking gun

So then, did our whistleblower deliver the smoking gun that conservatives have yearned for? Is it time for a bloodless Night of the Long Knives to purge homosexuals from ministry?

Or is this a putsch against the pope orchestrated by his #NeverFrancis enemies?

Michael Sean Winters illustrates the hopes of papal apologists: "The former Vatican ambassador to the United States is to the clergy sex abuse crisis what Oliver Stone is to the assassination of President John Kennedy, a trafficker in conspiracy theories who mixes fact, fiction and venom to produce something explosive but also suspicious."

Winters continues: "Viganò is more than a little obsessed with homosexuality and names prelates whom he accuses of supporting efforts at 'subverting Catholic doctrine on homosexuality.'"

This increases pressure to screen men with homosexual tendencies from the seminaries. It also renews the drumbeat for a married clergy and, in some circles, for female ordination.

It is unclear that any one of these remedies will purify the Vatican's patronage system. Sipe's studies led him to believe that homosexual priests were no more likely than straight ones to break vows of celibacy.

And we have only to look at secular politics to gauge the elevating effect of marriage or the participation of women. Something deeper, more profound, is at work—the arrogance of power.

## Arrogance of power

When Sen. William Fulbright coined the term, he defined it as the tendency of nations to equate power with virtue.

Mussolini's Lateran Treaty did the gospels no favor when it made the Vatican a sovereign state, a power unto itself with a swelling roster of bureaucratic functionaries and career dignitaries who forget they are priests, not pashas.

One detail of the 2003 murder in prison of defrocked priest John J. Geoghan, a serial sex abuser, applies here. The inmate who killed him had become enraged by the ex-priest's grotesque self-regard. Geoghan's egoism reflected a clerical mindset that views laity as little more than constituents of a church that is contained in its clergy.

The upward reach of McCarrick's disgrace cautions Catholics against taking refuge in facile invocations of Jesus' great promise: "I will be with you always, even until the end of the world."

That pledge was made to a fellowship, a community of believers, not to the Roman ecclesiastical structure. If this sordidness stirs humility where it is needed, it will not have been futile.



“Eye on the World” comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which are considered international. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

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- An article by Julian Robinson titled “Typhoon Jebi Smashes Japan: Giant Waves and 135 MPH Winds Rock the Country As Train Station Roof Collapses During the Worst Storm in 25 Years and a Million Are Told to Evacuate” was posted at [dailymail.co.uk](http://dailymail.co.uk) on Sept. 4, 2018.
  - An article titled “Landmark India Ruling Ends Gay Sex Ban” was posted at [france24.com](http://france24.com) on Sept. 6, 2018.
  - An article by Bob Barr titled “Headlines May Scream ‘Russia,’ But the Real Story is China” was posted at [townhall.com](http://townhall.com) on Sept. 5, 2018.
  - An article titled “Japan Claims China ‘Escalating’ Military Actions” was posted at [yahoo.com](http://yahoo.com) on Sept. 2, 2018.
  - An article by Minnie Chan titled “China ‘Nearing Mass Production’ of J-20 Stealth Fighter After Engine Problems Ironed Out” was posted at [scmp.com](http://scmp.com) on Sept. 5, 2018.
  - A Reuters article by John Irish and Ahmed Rasheed titled “Exclusive: Iran Moves Missiles to Iraq in Warning to Enemies” was posted at [reuters.com](http://reuters.com) on Aug. 31, 2018.
  - An article by Tovah Lazaroff and Khaled Abu Toameh titled “Abbas: Trump Offered US Peace Plan Based on Confederation With Jordan” was posted at [jpost.com](http://jpost.com) on Sept. 2, 2018.
  - An article by Vanessa Gera, Randy Herschaft and Yevheniy Kravas titled “Ukrainian City [Lviv] Remembers Jews on Holocaust Anniversary” was posted at [yahoo.com](http://yahoo.com) on Sept. 2, 2018.
  - An article titled “Ruling Party Leader [Jaroslaw Kaczynski] Wants Poland to Be Like Western Europe” was posted at [yahoo.com](http://yahoo.com) on Sept. 2, 2018.
  - An article by Shawn Snow titled “[About 75 U.S.] Marines Are on Sweden’s Coast Preparing for Largest NATO Exercise As Russia Grumbles” was posted at [marinecorpstimes.com](http://marinecorpstimes.com) on Sept. 4, 2018.
  - An article by Joel B. Pollak titled “South Africa in Recession After Land Threat: ‘Shocking Drop in Agriculture’ ” was posted at [breitbart.com](http://breitbart.com) on Sept. 4, 2018.
  - A Reuters article titled “Rio’s 200-Year-Old National Museum Hit by Massive Fire” was posted at [reuters.com](http://reuters.com) on Sept. 3, 2018.
  - An article titled “Nike Bets on Millennials With Kaepernick Ad Campaign” was posted at [breitbart.com](http://breitbart.com) on Sept. 4, 2018.

- Looking back to 2016, an article by Hyun Soo Lee titled “Former Nike Factory Worker [in Thailand] Shares Story of Abusive Working Conditions” was posted at psu.edu (Penn State University) on March 21, 2016.
- Looking back to 2017, an article by Elizabeth Segran titled “Escalating Sweatshop Protests Keep Nike Sweating” was posted at fastcompany.com on July 28, 2017.
- An article by John Binder titled “Nike Laid Off 1.4K American Workers Last Year, Outsourced NY Factory to Honduras” was posted at Breitbart.com on Sept. 4, 2018.



An article by Robert Knight titled “As Progressives Move Left, They Must Replace the American Electorate” was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 4, 2018. Following is the article.

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The progressive game plan to re-acquire power in Washington and make it permanent has been shockingly obvious for some time.

- Import millions of illegal immigrants, hook them on government aid, and turn them into voters—legally or illegally.

Two Democrats running for Congress in Texas have come out for decriminalizing illegal immigration, along with Beta O'Rourke, who is running for Ted Cruz's U.S. Senate seat. Virtually all Democrat office holders oppose voter ID laws.

In March, Nation magazine writer Sean McElwee called for abolishing the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE), a demand repeated by progressives around the country.

*The Washington Post* has editorialized against adding a question about citizenship to the U.S. Census, saying it looks “suspiciously like an underhanded way to depress Democratic representation in Washington.” Districts with high numbers of illegal aliens who cannot legally vote have an advantage because the Census determines congressional seats and presidential electors based on population. So, the more illegals, the merrier for Democrats.

The Dems must replace the American electorate because their plunge into “free” government healthcare, “free” college tuition, open borders, confiscatory taxes, anti-police rhetoric, activist judges and bizarre sexual politics is alienating more and more “everyday” Americans.

The Left needs new voting blocs. It's the only way they'll stay competitive, especially when the Trump Administration has the economy roaring like a Ferrari.

Millions of evangelical Christians and moderate-to-conservative Catholics voted for Mr. Trump because they saw him as their best bet against a hostile Deep State and its media allies. Portions of the IRS, the FBI and other federal agencies had been criminally politicized under President Obama, and Hillary Clinton would have finished the job.

With state power unchecked since the Reagan years, Uncle Sam has morphed into Nurse Ratched, presiding over a giant sanitarium. That's the issue ignored by the media: Democrats are at war with normalcy of any kind and want to impose their cracked view of reality on the rest of us.

Do you think the Constitution, moored in Judeo-Christian values, helped make America the freest, most prosperous nation in history? You're a bigot.

Do you think men and women have biological, emotional and social differences naturally reflected in everyday life, and that marriage requires a man and a woman? You're crazy or a hater or both.

Government at all levels under the ruling elites has turned into a monster that forces people to lie to avoid unfounded charges of bigotry. Mr. Trump's unexpected election has thrown a wrench into the grand plan, hence the rage on the Left.

The new normal has been advanced mostly by changing the fundamental meaning of words.

- Government spending is "investment."
- Taxes are "revenue."
- Abortion is "choice" and marriage has been denatured.
- In Virginia, Fairfax County public schools have adopted the phrase "sex assigned at birth." Did a boy pop out of the womb? Not so fast. That could really be a girl. Never mind the evidence.

Nearly all gender-confused children straighten out by late adolescence—unless the child is pushed into identifying with the opposite sex. Without buying into delusion, you can love and sympathize with people who believe they were born in the "wrong" body. But the laws fashioned by the Left mandate acceptance and even celebration.

New York City's Commission on Human Rights three years ago criminalized biologically grounded pronouns. Business people, landlords and others who offend a transgendered person face fines up to \$250,000.

In California, the Democrat-controlled legislature enacted a law signed by Gov. Jerry Brown that can send healthcare workers to prison if they decline to use pronouns preferred by patients.

This is not just a wrinkle. It's a major threat to freedom of conscience.

As Jennifer Roback Morse, author of "The Sexual State: How Elite Ideologies Are Destroying Lives and Why the Church Was Right All Along," warns, "If the government can make you say, 'Bruce Jenner is a woman,' they can make you say anything."

Abigail Shrier wrote in *The Wall Street Journal* this past week, "For those with a religious conviction that sex is both biological and binary, God's purposeful creation, denial of this involves sacrilege no less than bowing to idols in the town square."

Where's the prophet Daniel when we need him?

Even if they don't connect all the dots between the Democrats' radical policies and the steady march toward totalitarianism, many American "deplorables" are reacting instinctively. They may wince at President Trump's smashmouth Tweets and checkered past, but they know a champion for their values when they see one.

Which is why the Left would like to acquire a whole new American electorate by any means.



An article by Ann Coulter titled "Liberals Never Sleep (And Neither Does Jeff Sessions)" was posted at [anncoulter.com](http://anncoulter.com) on Sept. 5, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

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The left is very close to having a governing majority due entirely to immigration. Despite the promise of the Trump campaign, there isn't much standing in their way. Now, they're just running out the clock. Soon, we will have admitted so many immigrants that it will be too late to do anything.

Although liberals pretend to have no idea where conservatives got the idea that immigration was designed to change the country and bring in new voters, they weren't always so modest.

In a 1998 article for Cornell University's Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, Democratic political consultant Patrick Reddy exulted that the 1965 immigration act was "the Kennedy family's greatest gift to the Democratic Party."

Changing the country's demographics through immigration would be "George McGovern's revenge," liberal political strategist Ruy Teixeira announced 16 years ago—and then celebrated as a *fait accompli* upon Obama's election in 2008.

The very reason the left loathes Trump is that he promised to stop their hostile takeover of our country. But instead of sticking it to his enemies by blocking their depraved agenda, he has fallen into their trap.

Obsessed with the Robert Mueller investigation, the president spends his days tweeting attacks on his attorney general, Jeff Sessions—the one member of Trump's Cabinet making good on his campaign's immigration promises.

It's a win-win for the left. Either they drive Trump from office with an unending harassment campaign disguised as a legitimate investigation, or they keep him too distracted to thwart their plans to flood the country with foreigners.

The Swamp has succeeded beyond its wildest dreams. Trump seems to have completely forgotten about the one policy the left fears most.

Evidently, the media have decided Trump is no longer a threat to their inevitable conquest. The Washington Post cheerfully touts the “growing diversity”—i.e., non-whiteness—of Democrats’ nominees. (“Black and Latino Democratic nominees boost their ranks by merging insider organization and outside money,” Aug. 29.)

*The New York Times* is already doing a victory dance on the corpse of historical America. Recently, the newspaper hired a white male-hating bigot, Sarah Jeong, for its editorial board. In the past week alone, the Times has run articles with these headlines: “Who’s Afraid of a White Minority?” and “The Religion of Whiteness Becomes a Suicide Cult.”

The gleeful destruction of our country may be less annoying than the insults to our intelligence necessary to pull it off.

To keep the mass migration flowing, we get lies, half-truths, insults and cliches.

- The citizenship of anchor babies is a lie.
- The humanitarian need of so-called “refugees” is a lie.
- The lower crime rate and welfare consumption of immigrants is a lie.
- The Trump administration’s policy of “separating children” from their parents at the border is a lie. About 80 percent of the “children” are teenaged boys, many of them MS-13 gang members.

Recently a child rapist tried to enter the country, claiming the rapee was his daughter. Don’t separate children from their rapists!

The left doesn’t care about child rape or human trafficking. They just want an end to America and its infernal white people.

“Children” captured at the border have to be released from custody after 20 days, pursuant to an ACLU-forged court order. Twenty days was the number the ACLU settled on after determining that it would be impossible to process the illegal border-crossers’ asylum claims within that time frame, so the kids and their alleged “parents” would have to be released into the country.

I could process the claims in 10 minutes. Anyone who shows up on our border after “fleeing” El Salvador, Guatemala or Honduras isn’t fleeing anything. There are about 20 countries closer to their homes than the United States—and they speak the same language.

Among the countries closer to them than the U.S. is Mexico.

You’d think that, just as a PR matter, Mexico would say, “We’re currently involved in this PR thing with the U.S., so let’s be really nice to any illegals coming into our country. He beats you? Oh, that’s awful—of course, you can stay here!”

But no. Mexico says: “Screw off, illegals. We’ll help you get to the U.S., but that’s the end of our beneficence.”

The whole border surge is a hoax, intended to overwhelm the system and get Democrats their last needed non-American voters.

When they're busted on their lies, liberals turn to cliches. "Diversity is a strength!" After four decades of mass immigration from the Third World, I think we're all set on diversity. Any more diversity would be like bringing snow to Eskimos. We're drowning in diversity.

Even if diversity were ever desirable—as opposed to what it is, which is "undesirable"—surely it's not the most important value to a country. At best, diversity is a luxury, adding "vibrancy," as *The New York Times* is constantly telling us.

It's like having a rule that men need to set aside a certain amount of money each week to wear carnations in their lapels. Carnations are nice, but when you're unemployed and the carnations are wormy, would you make that Priority No. 1?

Similarly, "diversity" is a luxury we can't afford in a time of massive income inequality, stagnating wages and a raging heroin epidemic—with 90 percent of the heroin coming from Mexico.

When the cliches fall flat, they just say, So you're with Hitler!

You're Hitler if you support Teddy Kennedy's original claims about his 1965 immigration bill. At the time, he and his co-conspirators swore up and down that it would not alter the country's ethnic composition one iota. Now, it's "white supremacist" to say: "We liked our country the way it was."

Has anyone ever criticized a black, brown, beige, yellow, red or green nation for wanting to preserve its ethnicity? No, only a white majority is pure evil that must be extirpated.

When facing your new overlords, remember the following.

When there was 10 seconds left on the clock, we decided to get rid of Jeff Sessions for keeping Trump's promises on immigration, rather than using his office to protect the president from a Russian investigation so stupid that no one outside of the Swamp cares about it.



"Eye on the World" comment: While the media and many popular people in society praised two recent funerals of Aretha Franklin and John McCain, not all citizens were impressed with the proceedings. These citizens believe that speakers at funerals should not use eulogies to attack other people. Notice the following four headlines and the following articles by Michelle Malkin and Jack Davis.



■ An article by Ben Kew titled "Stevie Wonder Uses Aretha Franklin Funeral to Attack Trump" was posted at [breitbart.com](http://breitbart.com) on Sept. 1, 2018.

- An article by Susan B. Glasser titled “John McCain’s Funeral Was the Biggest Resistance Meeting Yet” (with a subtitle “Two Ex-Presidents and One Eloquent Daughter Teamed Up to Rebuke the Pointedly Uninvited Donald Trump”) was posted at [newyorker.com](http://newyorker.com) on Sept. 1, 2018.
- An article by Roger L. Simon titled “Trump Bashing at McCain/Franklin Funerals Truly Juvenile” was posted at [pjmedia.com](http://pjmedia.com) on Sept. 2, 2018.
- An article by John Nolte titled “How Our Vulgar Media and Political Elite Ruined Two Funerals” was posted at [breitbart.com](http://breitbart.com) on Sept. 3, 2018.



An article by Michelle Malkin titled “Death Be Not Loud” was posted at [michellemalkin.com](http://michellemalkin.com) on Sept. 5, 2018. Following is the article.

Question: What is more cringe-inducing than a celebrity funeral?

Answer: Two back-to-back celebrity funerals.

The ghoulish twin spectacles last week memorializing Aretha Franklin and John McCain brought out the worst in family, friends and frenemies. No matter your partisan affiliation, these vulgar exercises in self-indulgence should serve as object lessons on how not to depart with dignity.

There was the nation’s most infamous anti-Semite, Louis Farrakhan, smiling like the Cheshire cat onstage with hate crime hoax godfather Al Sharpton and shakedown con artist Jesse Jackson, who exploited his honored platform to threaten funeral attendees: “If you leave here today and don’t register to vote, you’re dishonoring Aretha.”

There was lascivious 72-year-old Bill Clinton ogling 25-year-old Ariana Grande, who was wearing slightly more fabric than she normally wears, roughly equivalent to two 12- by 12-inch lace doilies, as she warbled “Natural Woman.” (Clinton’s latest public display of asininity closely rivaled his indecent conduct at his former Commerce Secretary Ron Brown’s funeral, where the master media manipulator fake-cried after news videographers captured him yukking it up after the National Cathedral service.)

There was boorish Bishop Charles H. Ellis III copping a side-feel of Grande’s barely covered bosom in the name of “friendliness.”

There was Atlanta pastor Jasper Williams hijacking the Detroit dais to share his unsolicited views on crime and parenting.

And there was Georgetown professor Michael Eric Dyson taking a somber moment to honor Aretha Franklin’s transcendent talent by wallowing in Trump Derangement Syndrome. Dyson called the president a “lugubrious leech,” “dopey doppleganger of deceit and deviance,” “lethal liar,” “dimwitted dictator” and “foolish fascist.”

A-plus for alliterative abomination!

Not to be outdone by the disrespectful requiem for the Queen of Soul, the five-day, three-city McCain processional marathon featured a vindictive blacklist (reportedly devised by the decedent himself); passive-aggressive eulogy swipes at President Trump by Meghan McCain, Joe Biden, Barack Obama and George W. Bush; and a hyperbolic media declaration about how the late Arizona senator's passing augured "the death of political courage" itself.

Spoiler alert: Political courage survived.

The fact that President Trump is living rent-free in the heads of so many camera-ready mourners says more about the Hollywood and D.C. swamps than it does about anything else. Outside La-La Land and the polarized realm of the Resistance, sane Americans live grounded and healthier lives defined primarily and centrally by family, faith, hard work, quiet charity, devotion to community and self-improvement.

And you, dear politicians, entertainers and bitterly clinging entourages, are not at the center of it.

We've seen this graveyard narcissism intertwined with crass partisanship during televised death rituals before. The late Democratic Sen. Paul Wellstone's funeral, after he perished in a plane crash, reeked of electoral opportunism before the 2002 midterms. In front of 21,000 Minnesotans who had gathered to pay tribute to the man, his family and other aides who died in the tragic accident, Democratic leaders gracelessly turned the memorial into a 3.5-hour campaign rally to elect Wellstone's stand-in. Campaign treasurer Rick Kahn led a chorus of boos directed at then Sen. Majority Leader Trent Lott, who had traveled from Mississippi to pay his respects, and former GOP Sen. Rod Grams.

Then-Governor Jesse Ventura, an independent, condemned the circus and said the Democrats' grandstanding "drove the first lady (Ventura's wife, Terry) to tears;" the couple walked out in protest. GOP senatorial candidate Norm Coleman went on to defeat Wellstone's replacement, the dinosaur Walter Mondale, in what political observers from both sides of the aisle agree was a passionate voter backlash against the funeral fecklessness.

But the main reason for self-restraint, of course, is not electoral self-preservation. It's soul preservation. Sniping about partisan politics on any pulpit or any platform after anyone of any stature has died is just plain petty. Such unhinged diatribes diminish the ranters more than the targets of the rants.

The deeds of the dead should speak for themselves. All else is futile sound and fury, grotesque pomp and theater, meaningless dust in the made-for-TV wind.



An article by Jack Davis titled "While Media Bashes Trump Over McCain Funeral, President Lends Air Force Two to Bring Body to DC" was posted at [westernjournal.com](http://westernjournal.com) on Sept. 2, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

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President Donald Trump kept to the background last week during the ceremonies honoring the late Sen. John McCain, but he ensured that McCain's body was treated with respect.

Trump signed off on allowing the Arizona Republican to make his final trip to Washington on a Boeing C-32A, which would be officially called "Air Force Two" in its usual role of ferrying the vice president. The plane is also used at times by the first lady.

In a statement issued Aug. 27, Trump said he had acted in response to the late senators' survivors.

"At the request of the McCain family, I have also authorized military transportation of Senator McCain's remains from Arizona to Washington, D.C., military pallbearers and band support, and a horse and caisson transport during the service at the United States Naval Academy," Trump said in the statement, as distributed by The Associated Press.

In an interview with Bloomberg, he said he'd accommodated the McCains as much as he could.

"I've done everything that they requested," he said.



An article by Omar Khan titled "Beyond San Andreas: 5 Scariest Fault Lines in the U.S." was posted at [esurance.com](http://esurance.com) on Sept. 4, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

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If you saw the Warner Bros. disaster movie, *San Andreas*, then you know all about the infamous California fault line and its potential for causing chaos.

But why does the San Andreas Fault get all the attention in movieland? Contrary to popular belief, this isn't the only fault system threatening imminent disaster.

Check out these 5 seismic zones that are just as nerve-racking as the San Andreas Fault.

### **1. The Cascadia Subduction Zone**

By the time Lewis and Clark arrived on the West Coast in 1805, it had been 105 years since the Cascadia Subduction Zone last ruptured, sending a large portion of the Pacific Ocean roaring toward the coast.

It wasn't until the discovery of the Cascadia Fault in the 1960s that modern settlers truly understood the dangers they faced.

Running 680 miles along the Pacific Northwest coastline, the Cascadia Fault directly threatens 3 major metropolitan areas (Portland, Seattle, and Vancouver).

With Cascadia capable of producing a magnitude 9.0 or 10.0 earthquake, the Pacific Northwest may soon face shaking (16 times more powerful than San Francisco's devastating 1906 earthquake) lasting 4 minutes and delivering a mighty tsunami of unimaginable proportions.

## **2. The New Madrid Seismic Zone**

It's not just the West Coast that needs to watch out for tectonic obliteration. The New Madrid Seismic Zone spans southeastern Missouri, northeastern Arkansas, western Tennessee, western Kentucky, and southern Illinois. It's the most active earthquake zone east of the Rocky Mountains.

Between 1811 and 1812, this zone experienced some of the largest quakes in history. And although they originated in the Mississippi Valley, they rang church bells in Boston and shook New York City—over 1,000 miles away! Even then-President James Madison and his wife Dolley reportedly felt shaking at the White House.

After one particularly large rupture in the fault, the mighty Mississippi River was forced to run backward for several hours, devastating acres of forest and creating 2 temporary waterfalls. Fortunately the Mississippi Valley was sparsely populated back then.

Today millions of people live in densely populated urban areas like St. Louis and Memphis, making this zone one of the biggest concerns for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

## **3. The Ramapo Seismic Zone**

Running through Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York, the Ramapo has remained quiet for about 200 years. While studies have shown that a quake greater than 5.0 to 5.5 in magnitude is unlikely, urbanization in the tristate region leaves the area extremely vulnerable.

A mid-magnitude earthquake in the right (or worst) place could cause devastating damage. One of the faults in the Ramapo system even crosses New York City around 125th Street.

A magnitude 5.0 rupture lasting more than a minute or 2 could cause intense structural damage to numerous Manhattan skyscrapers, most of which are not designed to withstand such tectonic activity.

## **4. The Hayward Fault**

This very unstable fault in California has been threatening the San Francisco Bay Area for generations. It's capable of producing quakes ranging from 7.0 to 8.0 in magnitude. The last major movement along the Hayward Fault occurred on October 21, 1868, virtually destroying downtown Hayward. In fact, it was considered the "great earthquake" until the San Andreas Fault tore San Francisco apart 38 years later.

Running for nearly 74 miles through cities including Fremont, Hayward, Oakland, Berkeley, and Richmond, the Hayward Fault has the potential to wreak more havoc than most California faults.

Over 2.4 million people live within close proximity to the fault today, not to mention the key infrastructure developments (including a major public transit system and the Caldecott Tunnel) that run precariously through the fault.

## 5. The Denali Fault System

If we're talking sheer magnitude, the largest recorded earthquake on North American soil hit Alaska on November 3, 2002. Starting on the Susitna Glacier Thrust Fault, the rupture raced along the Denali Fault System and continued 220 kilometers until it reached the Totschunda Fault, rattling 70 more kilometers.

The estimated magnitude of this earthquake ranged from 7.0 to 7.9 with a surface wave magnitude of close to 8.5.

This almighty quake caused extensive damage to the transportation systems in central Alaska. Multiple landslides and rock avalanches occurred in the Alaska Range and Black Rapids Glacier. This event was literally felt across the nation, even causing waves in pools and lakes in Texas and Louisiana!



"Eye on the World" comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which involve the United States. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

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## Finances

- Looking back to January, an article titled "2018 State and Local Property Taxes (SALT) Capped at \$10,000 Deduction" was posted at [savingsinvest.com](http://savingsinvest.com) beginning in January of 2018.
- Looking back to July, a Reuters article by Jonathan Stempel titled "[Four] States Sue U.S. to Void State and Local Tax [SALT] Deductions" was posted at [reuters.com](http://reuters.com) on July 17, 2018.
- Looking back to July, an article by Chuck DeVore titled "New York and Other High-Tax States [Connecticut, Maryland and New Jersey] Sue Over SALT Deduction Cap While Jobs Follow Lower Taxes" was posted at [forbes.com](http://forbes.com) on July 28, 2018.
- An article by Laura Davison and Kaustuv Basu titled "Republicans Consider Dropping Second Phase of Tax Cuts After SALT [State and Local Property Taxes] Backlash" was posted at [bloomberg.com](http://bloomberg.com) on Sept. 4, 2018.
- An article titled "US Trade Deficit Jumps by the Most in 3 Years" was posted at [cnbc.com](http://cnbc.com) on Sept. 5, 2018.

## **Illegal immigration**

■ An article by Christian Whitou titled "California Craze: Congress May Have to Stop State From Giving 'Free' Health Care to Illegal Immigrants" was posted at foxnews.com on Aug. 29, 2018.

## **Comments about weapons**

■ An article by Beth Baumann titled "160 Democrats Pen Letter to Betsy DeVos Urging Her Not to Allocate Funds [to Purchase Firearms or Provide Firearms-Training for Teachers]" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 3, 2018.

■ An article by Beth Baumann titled "Facebook Censors Pro-Gun Research— Depending on Which Media Outlet Covers the Story" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 4, 2018.

## **Comments about Trump support**

■ An article by Matt Vespa titled "Buzz Aldrin Responds to First Man Film Omitting American Flag-Planting Scene on Moon" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 3, 2018.

■ An article by Kurt Schlichter titled "Hollywood Cut Out the Flag [From Moon-Landing Movie], So Let's Cut Out Hollywood" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 3, 2018.

## **Comments about Trump opposition**

■ An article titled "I Am Part of the Resistance Inside the Trump Administration" was posted at nytimes.com on Sept. 5, 2018.

■ An article by Joshua Caplan titled "Glenn Greenwald: White House 'Coward' Behind Anonymous Op-Ed Part of 'Unelected Cabal' " was posted at Breitbart.com on Sept. 5, 2018.

■ An article by John Solomon titled "The Mueller Probe's Troubling Reliance on Journalists As Sources" was posted at thehill.com on Sept. 5, 2018.

■ An article by Joel Kotkin titled "America is Moving Toward An Oligarchial Socialism" was posted at ocregister.com on Sept. 1, 2018.

■ An article by Loretta Brown titled "Planned Parenthood Launches New Ads Targeting Kavanaugh on First Day of Confirmation Hearings" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 4, 2018.

■ An article by Melanie Arter titled "Durbin Admits That Dems Oppose Kavanaugh Nomination Because He is Trump's Pick" was posted at cnsnews.com on Sept. 4, 2018.

■ An article by Henry Rodgers titled "Liz Warren Supports Protesters Who Interrupted Kavanaugh Hearing, Wants Them to Stay" was posted at dailycaller.com on Sept. 4, 2018.

- An article by Ben Shapiro titled "Screaming and Whining Aren't Strategies" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 5, 2018.
- An article by Allen West titled "Progressive, Socialist Left No Longer Believes in Power of Labor" was posted at cnsnews.com on Sept. 4, 2018.
- An article by Zeke Miller titled "[Bob] Woodward Book Puts White House Back in Damage-Control Mode" was posted at apnews.com on Sept. 5, 2018.
- An article by Gideon Resnick titled "Ayanna Pressley Ousts 20-Year Incumbent Michael Capuano in Massachusetts Primary Shocker" was posted at thedailybeast.com on Sept. 4, 2018.
- An article by Will Weissert titled "O'Rourke Bets National Attention Lifts Him in Texas Race" was posted at yahoo.com on Sept. 2, 2018.
- An article by Alexander Bolton and Amie Parnes titled "Obama Readies Fall Campaign Push, But Some Dems Say No Thanks" was posted at thehill.com on Sept. 2, 2018.
- An article by Julia Manchester titled "Political Analyst [Bill Schneider] Predicts 25 Dems Will Run for President in 2020" was posted at thehill.com on Sept. 4, 2018.

### **News about the media**

- An article by Susan Jones titled "Rep. McCarthy: Don't Blame Algorithms for Social Media Censorship" was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 31, 2018.
- An article by Corinne Weaver titled "Study: Google Pushes Liberal News in Top 5 Search Suggestions" was posted at newsbusters.org on Aug. 31, 2018.
- An article by Corinne Weaver titled "Twitter Admits It Still 'Ranks Tweets' Based on Behavior" was posted at newsbusters.org on Sept. 4, 2018.

### **General interest**

- An article by Liz Wolfe titled "California Considers Bill to Make Public Universities Offer Students Abortion Pills" was posted at thefederalist.com on Aug. 31, 2018.
- A video and an article titled "Harvard Didn't Consider Elizabeth Warren As Native American, Report Says" were posted at cbsnews.com on Sept. 1, 2018.



"Eye on the World" comment: Although the Mueller investigation against Donald Trump may reveal some serious mistakes made by Mr. Trump (possibly in the financial or moral realm of life), it is interesting to see how this investigation has seemingly little to do with the stated purpose of "collusion." Notice the following articles.

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An article by Clarice Feldman titled “Three-Card Mueller” was posted at americanthinker.com on Aug. 5, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

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Three-card Monte is a centuries-old con game in which the dealer and his shills trick the unsuspecting mark into betting on a rigged card game. Only the dealer and his people know where the winning card is, though the mark believes he’s smart enough to find out where the winning card is buried.

- The public—in this case, the mark—has been led to believe that the entire years-long Mueller investigation was into Trump’s “collusion” with Russians.
- But the dealer (Mueller himself) knows that it is part of a plan to undermine the president and reverse the 2016 presidential election, in which the only real Russian collusion was with Hillary.
- By now his press supporters surely should know this, but they continue to feed the fiction that the game is to find the collusion in the one campaign in which there was none.

A recent Harvard-Harris poll shows that the universe of marks is getting smaller: sixty percent of Americans believe that the FBI demonstrates bias against the president and has set out to wound him politically.



An article by Craig Bannister titled “Warrants to Spy on Carter Page Obtained Without FISA Court Hearings, DOJ Filing Reveals” was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 31, 2018. Following is the article.

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A Justice Department (DOJ) filing in response to a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request reveals that neither the initial warrant, nor any of its three renewals, to spy on Carter Page were subjected to a Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) hearing for approval.

On Friday [Aug. 31], Judicial Watch announced the DOJ’s filing in response to Judicial Watch’s FOIA request regarding the warrants granted to spy on former Trump campaign advisor Carter Page:

- “Judicial Watch today announced that in response to a Judicial Watch Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit, the Justice Department (DOJ) admitted in a court filing last night that the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court held no hearings on the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) spy warrant applications targeting Carter Page, a former Trump campaign part-time advisor who was the subject of four controversial FISA warrants.”
- “In the filing the Justice Department finally revealed that the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court held no hearings on the Page FISA spy warrants, first issued in 2016 and subsequently renewed three times: [Office of

Intelligence] further confirmed that the [Foreign Surveillance Court] considered the Page warrant applications based upon written submissions and did not hold any hearings.”

Indeed the DOJ filing posted by Judicial Watch affirms multiple times that no FISA court hearings were held:

- “Specifically, FOIA staff consulted with knowledgeable subject matter experts in the Office of Intelligence. Those experts confirmed that, as is typical in proceedings before the FISC, no hearings were held with respect to the acknowledged Carter Page FISA applications, and thus no responsive transcripts exist.”
- “In light of recent public disclosures about Carter Page, NSD confirms that it has conducted a reasonable search and that no such hearings were held with respect to the acknowledged FISA applications. Accordingly, no responsive hearing transcripts exist, and the partial “no records” response was proper.”
- “Those supervisors reviewed their records and confirmed that, as is typical in proceedings before the FISC, no hearings were held with respect to the acknowledged Carter Page FISA applications, and thus no responsive transcripts exist.”

See full Judicial Watch report.



An article by Margot Cleveland titled “Papadopoulos Court Docs Provide More Evidence Russiagate Was a Setup to Get Trump” was posted at thefederalist.com on Sept. 4, 2018. Following is the article.

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Late Friday [Aug. 31], attorneys for former Donald Trump campaign advisor George Papadopoulos filed their client’s sentencing memorandum in preparation for his September 7, 2018 sentencing hearing before federal judge Randolph Moss.

Papadopoulos pleaded guilty in October 2017 to making a false statement to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, a crime that carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison. Special Counsel Robert Mueller previously argued that a sentence of up to 6 months imprisonment would be appropriate, but in Friday’s filing Papadopoulos’s attorneys argued for a sentence of probation.

In reporting the latest developments in the case, the mainstream media quickly latched onto two sentences in Papadopoulos’ memo to push the dying Russia narrative. The language the press proffered as supposed evidence of collusion came in a passage in which Papadopoulos’ attorneys sought to portray the Trump advisor as out of his depth.

As his legal team explained to the court, at a March 31, 2016 “National Security Meeting” with Trump and Jeff Sessions, “eager to show his value to the campaign, George announced at the meeting that he had connections that could facilitate a foreign policy meeting between Mr. Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin. While some in the room rebuffed George’s offer, Mr.

Trump nodded with approval and deferred to Mr. Sessions who appeared to like the idea and stated that the campaign should look into it.”

The press predictably played up this exchange as a gotcha moment, while it was nothing of the sort. There is nothing nefarious about this discussion, and it has absolutely no bearing on the question of whether anyone in the Trump campaign colluded with Russia to interfere in the presidential election.

In addition to playing up the irrelevant, the press passed on the noteworthy: Papadopoulos’ sentencing memo reveals new evidence that further indicates the FBI’s goal in Crossfire Hurricane was to investigate Trump—not Russia’s interference with the presidential election.

In the memo, Papadopoulos’s lawyers detailed the FBI’s January 27, 2017, questioning of their client, explaining that for two hours, Papadopoulos answered questions about professor Joseph Mifsud, Carter Page, Sergei Millian, the “Trump Dossier,” and others on the campaign. According to Papadopoulos, “[t]he agents asked George if he would be willing to actively cooperate and contact various people they had discussed.” Papadopoulos said he would be willing to try.

Yet when Mifsud—the Maltese professor who in late April 2016 told Papadopoulos that the Russians had “dirt on Hillary” in the form of “thousands of emails”—visited the United States just two weeks later to speak at a State Department-sponsored conference, the FBI didn’t even bother to have Papadopoulos reach out to his former colleague.

Instead, the FBI questioned Mifsud, then in the special counsel’s sentencing memorandum blamed Papadopoulos for the government’s inability “to challenge the Professor or potentially detain or arrest him while he was still in the United States.”

According to Mueller’s office, Papadopoulos’ “lies also hindered the government’s ability to discover who else may have known or been told about the Russians possessing ‘dirt’ on Clinton,” and prevented the FBI from determining “how and where the Professor obtained the information [and] why the Professor provided information to the defendant.”

I previously explained why the special counsel’s claim that Papadopoulos’ lies impeded the FBI’s investigation doesn’t fly.

Papadopoulos’s attorneys similarly argued in their memo that their client’s lies did not actually harm the FBI’s probe, adding significantly that “George was still a cooperating source in their investigation” at the time investigators questioned Mifsud.

That final point and the revelation in Papadopoulos’ sentencing memo that the FBI had asked the former Trump advisor if he would be willing to contact Mifsud—and Papadopoulos’ agreement to do so—exposes the FBI’s purported investigation into Russia as a sham.

Why didn’t the FBI wire Papadopoulos and arrange for him to meet with Mifsud during the State Department conference?

What would be more natural than Papadopoulos, who had spent months in London communicating with Mifsud and working at Mifsud's London Centre of International Law, attending the professor's speech at the February 2017, Washington D.C. Global Ties conference and inviting him for dinner or drinks?

Then Papadopoulos could steer the conversation to the Russia hacking and Mifsud's earlier comment about Russia having "thousands of emails."

This isn't Monday-morning quarterbacking, either. This is exactly what the FBI did with its now-named source Stefan Halper when it wanted to know what Papadopoulos and the Trump campaign knew about the emails.

As *The Daily Caller's* Chuck Ross reported earlier this year, in September 2016, Halper met with Papadopoulos in London and asked the former Trump campaign advisor: "George, you know about hacking the emails from Russia, right?"

Papadopoulos denied knowing anything about the hacked emails when Halper raised the question (which, by the way, is entirely consistent with Papadopoulos's claim that the Russians had Hillary Clinton's emails).

While the press conflates the two, the hacked emails were the Democratic National Committee (DNC) emails, while the emails Papadopoulos believed Mifsud meant were the ones missing from Hillary's homebrew server.

So, let's lay it out.

- In September 2016, the FBI used an informant in an attempt to ensnare Papadopoulos and establish collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia's hacking of the DNC emails.

- Then in January 2017, after Papadopoulos confirmed Mifsud was the source of his claim that the Russians had "dirt" on Hillary, and had agreed to cooperate and contact Mifsud, and after the FBI "located" Mifsud in D.C., the FBI didn't use Papadopoulos to ensnare the supposed Russian-agent whose purported foreknowledge of the hack justified the launch of the Crossfire Hurricane investigation.

With each passing day, it is becoming more and more obvious that the target of the FBI's investigation was Trump, not Russia.



An article by Chris Reeves titled "Brenna Praises 'Courageous' 'Active Insubordination' of Anonymous NYT Op-Ed" was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 6, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

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On NBC's Thursday morning broadcast of the "Today" show, former CIA director John Brennan repeatedly praised the unknown author of the *New York Times's* recent anti-Trump op-ed as a supreme example of "courageous" American patriotism.

While admitting that the anonymous writer was committing “active insubordination” with the piece, Brennan justified his or her actions by claiming that because Trump is too “unfit” to be President, the writer is admirably trying to “prevent disasters” in the future.

The former CIA director openly admitted that the op-ed author’s actions constituted “active insubordination.” However, Brennan then immediately praised the “insubordination” as being “born out of loyalty to the country, not to Donald Trump.”

When “Today” co-host Hoda Kotb directly asked Brennan whether he thought writing the op-ed was “a courageous act” or “more of a betrayal,” Brennan clearly leaned towards the former description.

[Notice excerpts from a transcript NewsBusters]:

KOTB: Would you see this as a courageous act, or, if you had to describe it, would you describe it as more of a betrayal?

BRENNAN: Well, I guess it’s all in the eye of the beholder. Certainly the administration sees it as a betrayal. It’s certainly courageous. It’s risky. It is so unusual as to raise questions about—it’s so abnormal, these times, that people are doing abnormal things. People have criticized me for speaking out as a former director, but I see all the warning signs of looming disaster, as does this person.

Kotb followed this up by challenging Brennan’s apparent assumption that the op-ed would definitely help to prevent the “looming disaster” of a continued Trump presidency.

She asked: “But do you think that this may just be counterproductive? You put all this in writing and President Trump, obviously he tweeted overnight saying he’s going to drain the swamp. Do you think this will actually add to the problems?”

Unfazed by Kotb’s mild skepticism, Brennan steadfastly stuck to his position and insisted that he thought the op-ed would—along with the Trump-bashing at John McCain’s funeral service and the Bob Woodward book—“have an impact in terms of a cumulative effect” in undermining Trump’s presidency.

While the former CIA director did allow that he thinks “things will get worse before they get better” due to Trump’s “very dangerous” status as a “wounded lion,” he expressed vague hope that the Mueller team would find something “out there” to take Trump down.

To see the full transcript of Brennan’s appearance on the “Today” show, check out the link from NewsBusters.



An article by David Limbaugh titled “Mr. Anonymous Exposes an Even Deeper State” was posted at townhall.com on Sept. 7, 2018. Following is the article.

If Democrats and resistance Republicans think they are going to depose President Trump or thwart his presidency by endlessly savaging him in the name of protecting the republic, they don't have any concept of the fierce resolve of his supporters.

The latest salvo in the resistance's efforts to nullify the will of the American electorate is an anonymous New York Times op-ed purportedly penned by a "senior official" in the Trump administration.

This pretend super-patriot declares that Trump faces "a test to his presidency unlike any faced by a modern American leader . . . The dilemma—which he does not fully grasp—is that many of the senior officials in his own administration are working diligently from within to frustrate parts of his agenda and his worst inclinations. I would know. I am one of them."

Well, congratulations. But this sounds far more like a damning admission of an unelected, self-important saboteur than a persuasive indictment of the duly elected president.

And FYI, Trump does fully grasp it. What do you think he's been shouting about for two years running?

The anonymous author assures us that he and his fellow guardians of the Constitution want the president to succeed. They even agree with much of his agenda. But, the author says, "the president continues to act in a manner that is detrimental to the health of our republic."

These selfless servants "have vowed to do what (they) can to preserve our democratic institutions while thwarting Mr. Trump's more misguided impulses until he is out of office."

Just how does President Trump represent such a dire threat to our democratic institutions—an inflammatory but unsupported talking point of the resistance?

Here's the bill of particulars: "In addition to his mass-marketing of the notion that the press is the 'enemy of the people,' President Trump's impulses are generally anti-trade and anti-democratic."

And what policy successes Trump has achieved "have come despite—not because of—the president's leadership style, which is impetuous, adversarial, petty and ineffective."

It's obvious that Democrats and the Trump-obsessed and -hating media believe that by alleging frequently enough that Trump is combative toward the liberal media and a threat to our democratic institutions, they have made a compelling case.

The problem is that they never adduce any evidence.

Trump didn't start the war with the liberal media.

They have been relentlessly brutalizing him from the beginning.

But even if Trump threw the first volley in this war of words, it is still simply that—a war of words—not a dire threat to the republic.

The liberal media are always unfair to Republicans, except those who act like Democrats, but they emit an especially toxic venom toward this president.

I, for one, am delighted that Trump fights back, that he does not sit idly and passively take their abuse like many of his GOP predecessors.

The liberal media's outrageously biased and dishonest coverage doesn't just offend Trump; it bothers many of us and is contrary to America's best interests.

But Trump has no power to shut down the media or limit their power on his own initiative and has not tried to. So enough hyperventilating that his harsh criticism of their despicable antics somehow threatens the Constitution.

Together, the conspiratorially united Trump attackers from the fifth column have just as much rhetorical power as the president, with his bully pulpit. They are just not used to Republican officials counterpunching.

They mistakenly believe they are sacrosanct and above criticism. But no one in his right mind would argue that the press itself, while historically occupying a watchdog position, should be above scrutiny themselves.

How about the author's charge that the president's impulses are generally anti-trade and anti-democratic? Impulses? What does that mean? That is sheer obfuscation. Impulses are not a threat to the Constitution or the republic.

There is no question that President Trump has implemented aggressive policy changes in trade, but he couldn't have been more transparent about his intention to do so during the campaign, and he was elected on that basis.

I consider myself a free trade advocate, too, but I don't see Trump's ultimate aim as protectionism as much as I see it as an effort to secure more favorable trade deals for the United States.

Whether he has been or will be successful with that and whether it is wise policy are legitimate subjects for debate, but for Mr. Anonymous and his fellow coup-fantasists to contend that this somehow represents a threat to our democracy is egregiously absurd.

It's more than just hyperbolic; it's flat-out wrong and inflammatorily dishonest.

It is also dishonest to imply that Trump's alleged anti-democratic impulses threaten the republic.

He is not the one who has acted outside his constitutional authority, but I can cite you a dozen cases in which President Obama did. So don't act as if this president is a unique threat to our institutions.

What he is a threat to is their notion of the ideal Republican—one who will "reach across the aisle" and, in the name of civility and bipartisanship, surrender on major policy decisions.

Particularly objectionable is the writer's claim that Trump's policy successes have come despite the president's leadership style.

This is exactly wrong, and it's precisely why the whining author and his henchmen have no credibility and his cowardly missive will produce the opposite effect he intends.

One reason even former Trump skeptics have come to appreciate him is that they believe his successes most likely would not have come without his grit and determination to fight against a conglomeration of leftist politicians and institutions determined to thwart his agenda.

Many in Trump's place would have long since rolled over and capitulated, and the country would be back on its way to Obama-style destruction, which is the type of threat that truly concerns those who believe in America as founded.

The author's concern over Trump's alleged preference for autocrats and dictators and his underappreciation of our allies is another deceptive sound bite suggesting that Trump would betray America's interests because he is enamored of the world's bad-boy power players and that he is gratuitously offending our allies.

But this criticism doesn't square with Trump's policies, many of which are anything but favorable to Russia's strategic interests.

And his criticism of Canada's Justin Trudeau came after Trudeau took a cheap shot at him on his way out of the nation. Why should Trudeau have gotten a pass for slamming Trump and his effort to secure fairer trade deals?

The recent president infamous for betraying our allies (Israel, sometimes Britain) and coddling our enemies (Iran) was President Obama. Game, set, match.

I find it appalling that Mr. Anonymous boasts of undermining this president and galling that he actually shows himself to be the very type of threat to the republic he claims President Trump is.

But we owe him our gratitude for vindicating our suspicions of a deeply entrenched resistance to this constitutionally elected chief executive.



**Isaiah 55:6-11**—"Seek you the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. 'For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,' says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."