

Eye on the World

April 28, 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 April 28, 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 Quentin Fottrell titled "The Richest 1% are on Track to Control Two-Thirds of the World's Wealth by 2030" was posted at marketwatch.com on April 21, 2018. Following is the article.

Inequality around the world has reached an irreversible tipping point.

The U.K.-based House of Commons Library said this month that, if current trends continue, the richest 1% will control nearly 66% of world's money by 2030.

Based on 6% annual growth in wealth, they would hold assets worth approximately \$305 trillion, up from \$140 trillion today, *the Guardian* reported. This follows a report released earlier this year by Oxfam, which said that just eight billionaires have as much wealth as 3.6 billion people—the poorest half of the world.

The U.S. actually has a greater gap between rich and poor than many European countries.

The divergence in the levels of inequality has been "extreme" between Western Europe and the U.S., according to a separate report, released earlier this year by the World Inequality Lab, a research project in over 70 countries based at the Paris School of Economics, and co-authored by the French economist Thomas Piketty. "The global middle class has been squeezed," it said.

There is an opportunity gap as well as a wealth gap, particularly when it comes to education. In the U.S., out of 100 children whose parents are among the bottom 10% of income earners, only 20 to 30 of them actually go to college.

However, 90 out of 100 children go to college if their parents are within the top 10% earners. What's more, research has shown that when elite colleges open their doors to students from poor backgrounds, academic performance at the institution doesn't decline.

Many of the world's richest people are already transferring their money to their children.

Ultra high-net-worth individuals will transfer \$3.9 trillion to the next generation by 2026, according to a study released last year by global wealth consultancy Wealth-X. This reflects a 5% decline from the report's 2014 estimate of \$4.1 trillion, but this is because the massive global wealth transfer among the world's newest superrich has already begun.



An article by Rachel Alexander titled "Europe Reaping What It Sowed With Refugees" was posted at townhall.com on April 23, 2018. Following is the article.

The refugee and immigrant problem in Europe continues to worsen. Europeans opened their borders during the last few years to radical Islamists and others fleeing oppressive or impoverished conditions in Syria and other parts of the Middle East and North Africa.

But instead of encouraging the new immigrants to assimilate, many of the European governments are bending over backwards to help them not assimilate. This is a losing proposition, since many of the refugees subscribe to radical Islam. It is incompatible with Western culture.

■ Europeans are afraid to venture into certain areas, known as "no-go zones," where the violent young men walk the streets. Many Europeans no longer leave their homes after dark.

■ Jews are warned not to wear anything identifying themselves as Jewish in public, such as skullcaps, or to speak Hebrew.

■ Jews in France have been beaten in the streets for wearing skullcaps. It is considered unsafe for them to walk in certain parts of Marseille and Lyons.

■ In the UK, the "Shomrin," or guardians, patrol the streets in many areas to protect Jews.

■ In Denmark, an elderly man was assaulted by men who appeared to be radical Islamists. They ripped his necklace off of him, which had a Star of David pendant.

■ Women are afraid to walk or jog alone due to the increase in rapes. They are warned not to show too much skin or they may be attacked. The term

“rapefugee” has become common among opponents of the open borders policy. Andrew McCarthy, writing for National Review, coined the term “rape jihad.”

- Close to 150 schools in the UK now require girls to wear hijabs, because they’re predominantly Muslim.

- Germany has been one of the most welcoming countries for refugees.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel admitted last month that there are no-go zones in Germany, something European politicians had been denying existed.

She stated in 2010 while in Potsdam that multiculturalism had “utterly failed.” But that did not stop her from opening Germany’s borders to the refugees in 2015.

She ignored a European Union rule instructing countries to deport Syrian refugees back to their own country, and instead let them stay. Obama praised Merkel in April 2016 during a trip to Germany for being on “the right side of history” with her open-border immigration policy.

After Merkel opened the borders, violent crime increased by 10 percent in Germany during 2015 and 2016. More than 90 percent of it is attributed to young male refugees.

The study, published by the Zurich University of Applied Sciences, found that it is due to the refugees coming from Muslim countries characterized by “male dominance” and an acceptance of “macho culture” that justifies violence.

Demands are increasing to medically screen the refugees in order to determine their age. Many young men over 18 claim to be minors in order to receive asylum.

Abdul D., an Afghan immigrant, stabbed his German ex-girlfriend to death. He said he was 15, but the girl’s dad says he is not. The violence reached tragic levels with the the 2015 New Year’s Eve molestation and rapes in Cologne and the Berlin Christmas market attack in 2016.

Sweden’s foreign minister, Margot Wallström, claims that her country has a “feminist foreign policy.” But how is letting a significantly higher percentage of male refugees into the country, many who are violent, feminist?

According to the Swedish government, 71 percent of all applicants for asylum to Sweden in 2015 were male. More than 90 percent of alleged “unaccompanied minors” are male.

- European political correctness has brought about this situation.

- Concerned about discriminating against Muslims, no efforts are made to determine whether the refugees are associated with radical Islam. But they have proven to be unassimilable.

Cheryl Benard, writing for *The National Interest*, says an Afghan translator told her that young Afghan immigrants “are motivated by a deep and abiding contempt for Western civilization.”

Europeans are the enemy and their women are the spoils. They believe European civilization is going to fall and will be replaced with Islamic theocracies. The Europeans are too weak to crack down on them and stop this from happening.

■ Unfortunately, those who point out the incompatibility of radical Islam with Western civilization are labeled racist and guilty of discriminating against Muslims.

The reality is, the radical Islamists are discriminating against the Europeans by forcing them to conform to their standards and behavior.

Until Europe begins screening for radical Islamists, their numbers and associated violence will continue to increase. Multiculturalism needs assimilation to work, otherwise it ends in civil war.



A Reuters article by Olga Yagova and Libby George titled "Trump's Revenge: U.S. Oil Floods Europe, Hurting OPEC and Russia" was posted at reuters.com on April 23, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

As OPEC's efforts to balance the oil market bear fruit, U.S. producers are reaping the benefits - and flooding Europe with a record amount of crude.

Russia paired with the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries last year in cutting oil output jointly by 1.8 million barrels per day (bpd), a deal they say has largely rebalanced the market and one that has helped elevate benchmark Brent prices LCOc1 close to four-year highs.

Now, the relatively high prices brought about by that pact, coupled with surging U.S. output, are making it harder to sell Russian, Nigerian and other oil grades in Europe, traders said.

"U.S. oil is on offer everywhere," said a trader with a Mediterranean refiner, who regularly buys Russian and Caspian Sea crude and has recently started purchasing U.S. oil. "It puts local grades under a lot of pressure."

U.S. oil output is expected to hit 10.7 million bpd this year, rivaling that of top producers Russia and Saudi Arabia.

In April, U.S. supplies to Europe are set to reach an all-time high of roughly 550,000 bpd (around 2.2 million tonnes), according to the Thomson Reuters Eikon trade flows monitor.

In January-April, U.S. supplies jumped four-fold year-on-year to 6.8 million tonnes, or 68 large Aframax tankers, according to the same data.

Trade sources said U.S. flows to Europe would keep rising, with U.S. barrels increasingly finding homes in foreign refineries, often at the expense of oil from OPEC or Russia.

In 2017, Europe took roughly 7 percent of U.S. crude exports, Reuters data showed, but the proportion has already risen to roughly 12 percent this year.

Top destinations include Britain, Italy and the Netherlands, with traders pointing to large imports by BP, Exxon Mobil and Valero.

Polish refiners PKN Orlen and Grupa Lotos and Norway's Statoil are sampling U.S. grades, while other new buyers are likely, David Wech of Vienna-based JBC Energy consultancy said.

"There are a number of customers who still may test U.S. crude oil," Wech said.



"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.

■ A Reuters article titled "Iran's Khamenei Urges Muslim Nations to Unite Against U.S.: State TV" was posted at reuters.com on April 26, 2018.

■ An article by Anna Ahronheim and Avraham Gold titled "Lieberman: If Iran Strikes Tel Aviv, Israel Will Hit Tehran" was posted at jpost.com on April 26, 2018.

■ An article by Eric Sumner titled "Trump: Iran Messed With Obama, They Don't Mess With Me" was posted at jpost.com on April 26, 2018.

■ An article by Patrick Goodenough titled "As US Jerusalem Embassy Move Draws Near, Abbas Vows He Won't Allow It" was posted at cnsnews.com on April 23, 2018.

■ An article by Jeremy Sharon titled "Could the Next Knesset Rabbi Be a Woman?" was posted at jpost.com on April 26, 2018.

■ An article by Holly Ellyatt titled "Russia Claims It has US Tomahawk Cruise Missile and Will Use It to Improve Its Own Weapons" was posted at cnbc.com on April 25, 2018.

■ An article by Daniel Boffey titled "Isis Trying to Foment a Wave of Migration to Europe, Says UN Official" was posted at theguardian.com on April 26, 2018.

■ An article by David Courbet and Frank Zeller titled "German Music Award Scrapped As National Anti-Semitism Row Rages" was posted at yahoo.com on April 25, 2018.

■ An article by Tom Phillips titled "'Breathtaking Homicidal Violence': Latin America in Grip of Murder Crisis" was posted at theguardian.com on April 26, 2018.

■ An article by Mark Browne titled "Scores Assassinated in 'Most Violent' Election Season in Mexico's History" was posted at cnsnews.com on April 18, 2018.

■ A Reuters article by Frank Jack Daniel titled "'Cut Off Hands': Mexican President Candidate's Plan to Deter Thieves" was posted at reuters.com on April 23, 2018.

- An article by Amanda Woods titled "Mexican Rapper Admits to Dissolving Students' Bodies in Acid" was posted at nypost.com on April 26, 2018.
- An article titled "Archaeologists Find Bust of Roman Emperor in Egypt" was posted at abcnews.com on April 22, 2018.
- An article by Michael W. Chapman titled "Catholics to Outnumber Protestants in Northern Ireland by 2021" was posted at cnsnews.com on April 23, 2018.



An article by Jason Gonzales titled "The 29-Year-Old Hero From Waffle House Shooting: 'I Saw the Opportunity and I Took It' " was posted at tennessean.com on April 24, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

James Shaw Jr. cried at least four times Sunday after a tragic morning where he wrestled a gun away from a shooter at an Antioch Waffle House.

The shooting left four dead and injured numerous others.

- The first time Shaw Jr. cried was in an ambulance at 4 a.m. while he was transported to the hospital for a gunshot wound. One of the paramedics asked Shaw Jr. questions while checking his blood pressure.

"He asked if I had kids," Shaw Jr. said. "I thought I could have possibly never seen my daughter again. That hurt."

- Shaw Jr. cried the second time when he talked to his daughter Brooklyn.
- Shaw Jr. cried for the third time during a church service. Friends and family gathered at church with Shaw Jr.
- Shaw Jr. cried for the fourth time during a news conference.

The 29-year-old's actions are credited with saving numerous lives after the suspect, clothed in only a green jacket, opened fire with an AR-15 rifle at 3:25 a.m. at the Antioch Waffle House on Murfreesboro Pike.

Shaw Jr. rushed the gunman, grabbed the gun's barrel, pulled it away and threw it over the Waffle House counter. He suffered a gunshot wound and burns from grabbing the gun's barrel.

Shaw Jr. said he doesn't feel like a hero.

He was only trying to stay alive.

"It feels selfish," Shaw Jr. "I was just trying to get myself out. I saw the opportunity and pretty much took it."

Friends, families and the community disagree.

"He is a hero in my books," said Brennan McMurry, 28, a longtime friend of Shaw's who was with him at the Waffle House.

Shaw Jr. found himself at the Murfreesboro Pike Waffle House after leaving a packed nearby Bell Road Waffle House. He and McMurry walked into the Murfreesboro Pike Waffle House at about 3:20 a.m.

Chaos broke out just minutes later.

Police say Travis Reinking, 29, opened fire at about 3:25 a.m. Shaw Jr. believed the noise came from one of the employees dropping dishes. He couldn't recall how many shots there were, just that a man was on the floor.

Shaw Jr. said he jumped toward the bathroom and the suspect shot in that direction. He said he was grazed by a bullet.

"I remember I was like "Dang, I'm basically in a barrel," Shaw Jr. said. "There is no place for me to go."

As the suspect came through the door, he needed to reload, Shaw Jr. said. That's when he said he rushed him.

"I distinctively remember thinking that he is going to have to work for this kill," Shaw Jr. said. "I had a chance to stop him and thankfully I stopped him."

He added: "I grabbed the gun and kept it down. He had one hand on it. I pulled it away and threw it over the bar."

He pushed the gunman out the door after a brief tussle. The man, naked from the waist down, walked away, Shaw Jr. said. He didn't follow the shooter, fearing he had another gun.

Police continued to search for Reinking on Sunday evening and issued homicide warrants for the four victims.

Shaw Jr., even after being called a hero, didn't want to take credit for saving those that were at the Waffle House.

When asked to describe himself by reporters at a 2 p.m. news conference, Shaw Jr. said he's a pretty cool guy. He also said that the only combat training he has is wrestling his daughter to bed.

"I choose to react because I didn't want to die. I just wanted to live. I didn't really fight that man to save everyone else. That might not be a popular thing to say," Shaw Jr. said.

No one, including Nashville Police Chief Steve Anderson at the news conference, agreed.

Anderson said: "Shaw Jr. is a hero."



An article by Hanna Krueger titled "Waffle House Armed Robbery Suspect Hospitalized With Gunshot Wounds: New Orleans Police Department" was posted at nola.com on April 20, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

New Orleans police have arrested one suspect in connection with the armed robbery at the Waffle House on Elysian Fields Avenue on Thursday night (April 19).

Ernest Thomas was arrested on one count of armed robbery and one count of attempted armed robbery, but remains in the hospital as he recovers from gunshot wounds, NOPD said.

Around 10:19 p.m. Thursday, Thomas and another man with semiautomatic handguns entered the Waffle House in the 2900 block of Elysian Fields Avenue, police said. The other man jumped the counter and demanded money from the cashier, while also taking \$8 from a customer, according to an NOPD release Friday afternoon.

Thomas stood on the side by the counter and served as lookout for the other man. A customer armed with his personal firearm drew his weapon as the other robber approached him, causing the robber to flee. Thomas then pointed his own weapon at the armed customer, the police release said.

The customer fired several shots at Thomas, who then ran out of the Waffle House and fled in a white Chrysler with the other robber. The customer later told police that he believed he had struck Thomas.

Later in the night, a white Chrysler pulled up at a local emergency room and dropped off a man with several gunshot wounds to the back, hip and arm. The man matched witness descriptions of the injured robber, according to the release.

A Burger King in the 6300 block of Elysian Fields Avenue was also robbed at gunpoint 45 minutes prior to the Waffle House encounter. NOPD is investigating "these incidents as possibly being related," said department spokesman Aaron Looney.

Since the investigation remains ongoing, police said more charges may be filed against Thomas. He remains in the hospital, and had not yet been booked as of Friday evening. No photo of him was immediately available. The search for the other robber is ongoing, police said.



An article by Michelle Malkin titled "Return of the Feckless Chick-Fil-A-Phobes" was posted at michellemalkin.com on April 18, 2018. Following is the article.

Move over, Trump Derangement Syndrome. Another unhinged liberal pathology is back: Chick-fil-A-phobia.

Perhaps, in the interest of public health, the CDC should launch a weekly C-F-A-P surveillance report to map the recurrence of this culturally infectious disease.

■ Early-onset symptoms include fear of pressure-cooked poultry, allergic reaction to waffle potato fries and an irrational hatred of cow costumes.

■ Anti-Christian prejudice and coastal elitism are common comorbidities associated with this debilitating progressive condition.

Ground zero for the latest outbreak? The headquarters of *The New Yorker* magazine.

This week's issue online features the bigoted lament of writer Daniel Piepenbring, who decries the fast-food chain's "creepy infiltration" of the Big Apple and warns against the company's "pervasive Christian traditionalism."

Chick-fil-A opened its fourth location in the city last month. The largest franchise in the country, it seats 140, employs 150, and along with the other NYC locations, donates an estimated 17,000 pounds of food to a local pantry for the homeless and hungry. The company is reportedly on track to become the third-largest fast-food chain in the world.

What are the Chick-fil-A-phobes so afraid of?

- A private business succeeding in the marketplace based on its merits, without coercion or cronyism.
- An enterprise that values hard work, honesty and integrity.
- A family-owned American Dream come true that creates jobs, pays taxes, satisfies customers of all backgrounds and gives back to the community.

Horror of horrors, what menaces these sandwich-sellers of faith be!

Chick-fil-A's corporate mission to "glorify God" and "enrich the lives of everyone we touch" leaves *The New Yorker* scribe terminally heartsick about the "ulterior motive" of its restaurant execs. So do the founding family's commitments to faithful marriages, strong families, Sundays off and the highest standards of character for their employees.

The frightened *New Yorker* critic is especially perturbed by the "Bible verses" enshrined at Chick-fil-A's Atlanta headquarters and by the restaurant's popular bovine mascots—which he dubs "morbid" and the "ultimate evangelists"—whose ubiquity on New York billboards and subway corridors is akin to a "carpet bombing."

Notice, by the way, how these hysterical Chick-fil-a-phobes have no qualms about the success of Jewish-owned delis or the spread of Muslim halal food shop operators in New York City who openly pay tribute to their faiths.

Imagine a reporter freaking out over Quran verses or Torah citations hung up on a business owner's wall.

Welcome to Social Justice 101, where discriminating against Christian-owned business in the name of opposing discrimination is the definition of tolerance.

We've been here before, of course.

It was a liberal activist reporter and gay marriage advocate at *The New York Times*, Kim Severson, who helped launch the first nationwide witch hunt against Chick-fil-A in 2011.

The former vice president of the National Gay and Lesbian Journalists Association used her straight-news platform to invoke fear of “evangelical Christianity’s muscle flexing” and spread false and libelous attacks on Chick-fil-A founder Truett Cathy and his family as “anti-gay.”

Her propagandizing in the radical rag of record helped stoke boycotts and regulatory crackdowns by pandering Democrat Mayors Thomas Menino in Boston, Rahm Emanuel in Chicago, and New York City’s Bill de Blasio.

Ultimately, those media-manufactured efforts to stifle Chick-fil-A’s free enterprise and First Amendment rights failed.

The company’s products have proved irresistible to customers on all sides of the political spectrum. Gastronomical satisfaction trumps anti-Christian zealotry and zealous anti-Trumpism.

And that’s what chaps the thin hides of the far-left journalists at *The New York Times* and *The New Yorker* who choke at the sights and smells of good, old-fashioned capitalism.

If leftists only want to eat and drink at a global fast-food company whose progressive CEO shares their Democrat-supporting, gun-grabbing, open-borders, gay marriage-boosting values, they should stick to Howard Schultz’s Starbucks cafes. Oh, wait . . .



An article by Michelle Malkin titled “Alfie and Haleigh and Charlie and Jahi” was posted at michellemalkin.com on April 25, 2018. Following is the article.

When British hospital officials tried to pull the plug on 23-month-old toddler Alfie Evans on Monday night in arrogant defiance of his parents’ wishes, many Americans took to Twitter to count their blessings that they live in a country that would not allow such tyranny.

“Stories like Alfie Evans make me realize how grateful I am to live in America where freedom still exists,” one young social media user wrote.

“Folks, is this what we want for America? Parents rendered helpless before the gods of socialized medicine?” retired Army Lt. Col. Allen West asked.

Alfie’s plight comes less than a year after another British baby boy with a rare genetic condition, Charlie Gard, was taken off life support after his parents lost a similar battle with judges and medical officials.

“WAKE UP AMERICA! We cannot let this happen in the U.S.,” social media user Dian tweeted.

But it has happened—and continues to happen—in America. How quickly the public forgets.

In 2005, medical experts and child welfare bureaucrats in the state of Massachusetts deemed 11-year-old Haleigh Poutre “virtually brain-dead,” in a “persistent vegetative state,” and not worth saving after she suffered such brutal beatings and sexual abuse by her stepfather that she was left in a coma.

Doctors at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield and extermination agents at the Massachusetts Department of Social Services won a court order to remove Haleigh’s ventilator and feeding tube. They collaborated on a “treatment” schedule to starve her of nourishment and oxygen until she succumbed to “death with dignity.”

Haleigh and higher powers had other plans.

As state officials prepared to remove Haleigh’s life support, the supposedly impossible happened: She emerged from the vegetative state that all the smarty-pants in lab coats had concluded was “irreversible.” She began breathing on her own and picked up toys on command.

“There has been a change in her condition,” a DSS spokeswoman grimly announced. “The vegetative state may not be a total vegetative state.”

Like Alfie, Haleigh had an army of grass-roots pro-family and pro-life supporters who helped pressure the state-sanctioned murderers and bungling bureaucrats to back down. Fast forward to 2018.

At 24, Haleigh lives with adoptive, loving parents. She is confined to a wheelchair, but attends school and occupational therapy. She laughs, she smiles, she lives.

Among Haleigh’s prominent guardian angels: the Terri Schiavo Life & Hope Network, founded by Schiavo’s brother, Bobby Schindler, after a Florida judge ordered brain-injured Terri to be deprived of water and food, leading to her death by dehydration after 13 days in 2005.

As Schindler noted after Haleigh’s life was saved: “This is just one incident that made headline news. Indeed, most of the general public is completely unaware of how much these types of decisions are made every day and how our medical rights have been eroded by laws that have been changed to make it easier to deliberately kill our medically vulnerable.”

Back in Britain, Alfie defied the medical professionals and survived the night off the ventilator as his parents begged court officials to take him to Rome. Benefactors have offered to pay for transportation and medical care; Italy granted Alfie citizenship.

As Alfie’s life hangs in the balance, I think of another child written off by the experts here in the U.S.: Jahi McMath, whom medical experts declared “brain dead” after a routine tonsillectomy gone wrong in 2013. Children’s Hospital Oakland pushed to have all life-sustaining medical treatment terminated; the professionals predicted quick deterioration.

But Jahi’s mother (a professional nurse), Latasha “Nailah” Winkfield, refused to give up on her child. California declared Jahi legally brain dead, so with the

Schiavo Foundation's help, Winkfield moved with her daughter to a long-term care facility in New Jersey.

Medical ethics writer Wesley Smith visited Jahi last fall and reported: "At the time of the tragedy, I believed . . . that Jahi was, indeed, dead. But I now have strong doubts. It's nearly four years later, and Jahi's body still has not broken down. Her skin remains smooth. There are no foul odors in her room as would be expected when a brain-dead person's body deteriorates. She has experienced no visible bodily decline . . . Disabled is not dead."

So, where are all the left's human rights champions when you need them?

Once again, there have been no rallying cries from Hollywood celebrities, no tweetstorms from the self-anointed guardians of children who embrace gun control in the name of saving lives and abortion in the name of choice.

Alfie's life matters and Charlie's life matters and Haleigh's life matters and Jahi's life matters because all lives matter.

Parents' rights are human rights. If we yield to the culture of death and the culture of expediency that permeate government-run health care systems around the world, no lives are safe.



An article by Walter Williams titled "A Mayor's Most Important Job" was posted at jewishworldreview.com on April 18, 2018. Following is the article.

When World War II ended, Washington, D.C.'s population was about 900,000; today it's about 700,000.

In 1950, Baltimore's population was almost 950,000; today it's around 614,000.

Detroit's 1950 population was close to 1.85 million; today it's down to 673,000.

Camden, New Jersey's 1950 population was nearly 125,000; today it has fallen to 77,000.

St. Louis' 1950 population was more than 856,000; today it's less than 309,000.

A similar story of population decline can be found in most of our formerly large and prosperous cities. In some cities, population declines since 1950 are well over 50 percent. In addition to Detroit and St. Louis, those would include Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

During the 1960s and '70s, academic liberals, civil rights advocates and others blamed the exodus on racism—"white flight" to the suburbs. However, since the '70s, blacks have been fleeing some cities at higher rates than whites.

It turns out that blacks, like whites, want better and safer schools for their kids and don't like to be mugged or have their property vandalized. Just like

white people, if they have the means, black people can't wait for moving companies to move them out.

At the heart of big-city exoduses is a process that I call accumulative decay. When schools are rotten and unsafe, neighborhoods become run-down and unsafe, and city services decline, the first people to leave are those who care the most about good schools and neighborhood amenities and have the resources to move.

As a result, cities lose their best and ablest people first. Those who leave the city for greener pastures tend to be replaced by people who don't care so much about schools and neighborhood amenities or people who do care but don't have the means to move anywhere else.

Because the "best" people—those who put more into the city's coffer than they take out in services—leave, politicians must raise taxes and/or permit city services to deteriorate. This sets up the conditions for the next round of people who can do better to leave.

Businesses—which depend on these people, either as employees or as customers—also begin to leave. The typical political response to a declining tax base is to raise taxes even more and hence create incentives for more businesses and residents to leave.

Of course, there's also mayoral begging for federal and state bailouts. Once started, there is little to stop the city's downward spiral.

Intelligent mayors could prevent, halt and perhaps reverse their city decline by paying more attention to efficiency than equity. That might be politically difficult.

Regardless of any other goal, mayors must recognize that their first order of business is to retain what economists call net positive fiscal residue. That's a fancy term for keeping those people in the city who put more into the city's coffers, in the form of taxes, than they take out in services.

To do that might require discrimination in the provision of city services—e.g., providing better street lighting, greater safety, nicer libraries, better schools and other amenities in more affluent neighborhoods.

As one example, many middle-class families leave cities because of poor school quality. Mayors and others who care about the viability of a city should support school vouchers.

That way, parents who stay—and put a high premium on the education of their children—wouldn't be faced with paying twice in order for their kids to get a good education, through property taxes and private school tuition.

Some might protest that city service discrimination is unfair. I might agree, but it's even more unfair for cities, once the magnets of opportunities for low-income people, to become economic wastelands.

Big cities can be revitalized, but it's going to take mayors with guts to do what's necessary to reverse accumulative decay.

They must ensure safe streets and safe schools. They must crack down on not only violent crimes but also petty crimes and misdemeanors, such as public urination, graffiti, vandalism, loitering and panhandling.



An article by Walter Williams titled “Educational Fraud Continues” was posted at jewishworldreview.com on April 24, 2018. Following is the article.

Earlier this month, the 2017 National Assessment of Educational Progress, aka *The Nation’s Report Card*, was released. It’s not a pretty story.

- Only 37 percent of 12th-graders tested proficient or better in reading, and only 25 percent did so in math.
- Among black students, only 17 percent tested proficient or better in reading, and just 7 percent reached at least a proficient level in math.

The atrocious NAEP performance is only a fraction of the bad news.

Nationally, our high school graduation rate is over 80 percent. That means high school diplomas, which attest that these students can read and compute at a 12th-grade level, are conferred when 63 percent are not proficient in reading and 75 percent are not proficient in math.

For blacks, the news is worse. Roughly 75 percent of black students received high school diplomas attesting that they could read and compute at the 12th-grade level. However, 83 percent could not read at that level, and 93 percent could not do math at that level.

It’s grossly dishonest for the education establishment and politicians to boast about unprecedented graduation rates when the high school diplomas, for the most part, do not represent academic achievement. At best, they certify attendance.

Fraudulent high school diplomas aren’t the worst part of the fraud.

Some of the greatest fraud occurs at the higher education levels—colleges and universities. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 70 percent of white high school graduates in 2016 enrolled in college, and 58 percent of black high school graduates enrolled in college.

Here are my questions to you: If only 37 percent of white high school graduates test as college-ready, how come colleges are admitting 70 percent of them?

And if roughly 17 percent of black high school graduates test as college-ready, how come colleges are admitting 58 percent of them?

It’s inconceivable that college administrators are unaware that they are admitting students who are ill-prepared and cannot perform at the college level.

Colleges cope with ill-prepared students in several ways.

- They provide remedial courses. One study suggests that more than two-thirds of community college students take at least one remedial course, as do 40 percent of four-year college students.
- College professors dumb down their courses so that ill-prepared students can get passing grades.
- Colleges also set up majors with little analytical demands so as to accommodate students with analytical deficits. Such majors often include the term "studies," such as ethnic studies, cultural studies, gender studies and American studies. The major for the most ill-prepared students, sadly enough, is education. When students' SAT scores are ranked by intended major, education majors place 26th on a list of 38 (<https://tinyurl.com/pjmga9y>).

The bottom line is that colleges are admitting youngsters who have not mastered what used to be considered a ninth-grade level of proficiency in reading, writing and arithmetic.

Very often, when they graduate from college, they still can't master even a 12th-grade level of academic proficiency.

The problem is worse in college sports. During a recent University of North Carolina scandal, a learning specialist hired to help athletes found that during the period from 2004 to 2012, 60 percent of the 183 members of the football and basketball teams read between fourth- and eighth-grade levels. About 10 percent read below a third-grade level. Keep in mind that all of these athletes both graduated from high school and were admitted to college.

How necessary is college anyway?

One estimate is that 1 in 3 college graduates have a job historically performed by those with a high school diploma.

According to Richard Vedder, distinguished emeritus professor of economics at Ohio University and the director of the Center for College Affordability and Productivity, in 2012 there were 115,000 janitors, 16,000 parking lot attendants, 83,000 bartenders and about 35,000 taxi drivers with a bachelor's degree.

I'm not sure about what can be done about education. But the first step toward any solution is for the American people to be aware of academic fraud at every level of education.



An article by Xavier Schafer titled "Comey Adapts the Harvey Weinstein Defense" was posted at americanthinker.com on April 24, 2018. Following is the article.

At present, James Comey is under DOJ investigation for obstruction of justice, theft of records, and revealing classified information, at the very least.

Against this backdrop, former FBI deputy director Andrew McCabe is insisting that Comey knew of his leaks and that there are email and phone records that prove it.

Deputy A.G. Rod Rosenstein is saying history will prove he did the right thing by firing Comey and that the American people do not have all the facts.

Former attorney general Loretta Lynch is asserting that Comey never raised objections regarding the handling of the Hillary Clinton email probe, likely in response to Comey, who referred to "a development still unknown to the American public" regarding Lynch and the probe.

Indeed, Comey's legal woes are dire and likely to get far worse.

So what does Comey do? He decides to channel his inner Weinstein.

When Harvey Weinstein was accused of raping a multitude of women last year, he responded by saying he was going to do three things: 1) give the NRA his full attention, 2) organize a foundation to give scholarships to female directors, and 3) make a movie about Trump.

By responding in this way, Weinstein was signaling to the left, "I am 100% on your side. I will do anything to make up for my past transgressions. Please don't abandon me."

Just like Weinstein last year, Comey is doing the same thing, only with a book instead of a movie.

In his book, Comey likens Trump to a mob boss and says he is morally unfit for office. Comey writes that Trump is shorter than he expected, has smaller hands than him, is orange from tanning beds, and wears ties that are too big. He may even have pee parties with prostitutes, Comey writes.

Then, in an ABC interview posted last Wednesday, Comey announced that he is no longer a Republican. The party's values, you see, aren't in line with his. Comey also disclosed that his wife and four daughters all supported Clinton and then participated in the Women's March after Trump's inauguration.

In effect, Comey is motioning to the left, "I am 100% on your side. I too will happily cover my beautiful brown hair with a vagina hat at any pro-Clinton march. Whatever you want, I will do; just don't abandon me."

Sadly, Comey destroyed himself the second he adopted his Harvey Weinstein Defense.

Comey had one job, just one: to be the "objective" Republican who always saw things the Democrats' way. He was supposed to be the David Brooks of law enforcement, and now he has ruined it all with his pettiness and partisanship.

The left is now mad at Comey because his actions destroyed the credibility of the Mueller investigation, and all because he wanted to get rich. The Clintonites in particular are furious because they still blame him for Hillary's loss.

Finally, the left's social justice warriors are especially indignant that Comey would even consider criticizing an African-American woman.

It's too late. Not even a vagina hat can save Comey now.



"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.

Finances

- An article by Stephanie Yang and Alison Sider titled "Oil is Fast Approaching \$70; Is the Economy Ready?" was posted at wsj.com on April 22, 2018.
- An article by John Bowden titled "Sen. Sanders to Announce Proposal Promising Jobs to All Americans" was posted at thehill.com on April 24, 2018.
- An article by Zlatl Meyer titled "Subway to Close About 500 US Restaurants, While Opening 1,000-Plus Overseas" was posted at usatoday.com on April 25, 2018.

Illegal immigration

- An article by Timothy Meads titled "Students Need a Reminder Obama Also Sent Troops to the Border" was posted at townhall.com on April 21, 2018.
- An article by Stephen Dinan titled "M-13 Member Tries to Sneak Into U.S. As Illegal Immigrant Child" was posted at washingtontimes.com on April 24, 2018.
- An article by Adolfo Flores titled "The Central American Caravan That Angered Trump has Reached the US Border" was posted at buzzfeed.com on April 25, 2018.

Comments about weapons

- An article by Craig Bannister titled "Effingham, IL. Declares Itself 'Sanctuary County'—for Gun Owners" was posted at cnsnews.com on April 23, 2018.

Comments about Trump support

- An article by Dylan Stableford titled "Scooter Libby Prosecutor Says Trump's Pardon was a Loyalty Message to Cohen" was posted at yahoo.com on April 24, 2018.
- An article titled "Giuliani: Mueller Won't Find a 'Stitch of Evidence' That Trump Colluded With Russians" was posted at abcnews.com on April 26, 2018.
- An article by Cortney O'Brien titled "Ted Cruz Pens the Time Magazine Tribute to Trump" was posted at townhall.com on April 19, 2018.
- An article by Katie Pavlich titled "Judicial Watch Sues for Comey's Conversations With Special Counsel Mueller" was posted at townhall.com on April 20, 2018.
- An article by Susan Jones titled "Nunes: 'No Official Intelligence' was Used to Launch FBI's Trump-Russia Probe" was posted at cnsnews.com on April 23, 2018.

Comments about Trump opposition

- An article by Matt Vespa titled "DNC Suing Trump Campaign, Russia and Wikileaks for Colluding to Win 2016 Election" was posted at townhall.com on April 20, 2018.
- An article by Katie Pavlich titled "Comey Leaked Classified Information to His Friend and He's Being Investigated for It" was posted at townhall.com on April 20, 2018.
- An article by Katie Pavlich titled "Judicial Watch Finds New Classified Emails; Others Confirm Collusion Between State Department and Clinton Foundation" was posted at townhall.com on April 25, 2018.
- An article by Cortney O'Brien titled "Maxine Waters Confronted About Contradictory Comey Remarks" was posted at townhall.com on April 25, 2018.
- An article by Kyle Olson titled "Maxine Meltdown: Trump 'Just Get Out!'" was posted at theamericanmirror.com on April 25, 2018.
- An article by Guy Benson titled "Fired, Proven Liar [Andrew McCabe]: I May Sue Trump for Defamation and Wrongful Termination, You Know" was posted at townhall.com on April 20 2018.
- An article by John Nolte titled "Stephen Colbert Leads Social Justice Mob Against Kanye West" was posted at Breitbart.com on April 26, 2018.

News about the media

- An article titled "Hostility Toward Journalists Rising Worldwide; Watchdog Says" was posted at yahoo.com on April 25, 2018.
- An article by Matt Vespa titled "Hey Media, Can We Quit Saying That Cuba's New President was 'Elected'?" was posted at townhall.com on April 23, 2018.
- An article by Katie Yoder titled "CNN Host to Planned Parenthood Prez: 'Why are You Leaving? We Need Your Help!'" was posted at newsbusters.org on April 23, 2018.
- An article by Alex Griswold titled "Joy Reid Blog Mocked 'Chubbed-Out Shrew' Rosie O'Donnell, Backed 'Kick-Ass Funny' Donald Trump" was posted at freebeacon.com on April 25, 2018.
- An article by Jason Schwartz and Christiano Lima titled "Joy Reid Will Stay on Air at MSNBC Amid Outcry Over Alleged Anti-Gay Posts" was posted at politico.com on April 25, 2018.

General interest

- An article by Matt Vespa titled "Boomerang: Feminist Writer's Attempt to Mock Chick-Fil-A's Branding Does Not Go According to Plan" was posted at townhall.com on April 19, 2018.
- An article by Daniel John Sobieski titled "Hardly a Stir When Starbucks Denied a Cop" was posted at americanthinker.com on April 23, 2018.

- An article by William L. Gensert titled “Was the Starbucks Incident a Setup?” was posted at americanthinker.com on April 25, 2018.
- An article by Melanie Arter titled “Jerry Brown: 3 Billion Will Die From Global Warming” was posted at cnsnews.com on April 19, 2018.
- An article by John Ingham titled “Climate Change is ‘Not As Bad As We Thought’ Say Scientists” was posted at express.co.uk on April 25, 2018.
- Schumer: ‘Ensure That Woman and Minority Owned Businesses Have a Fair Shot in the Marijuana Industry’ ” was posted at cnsnews.com on April 23, 2018.
- An article by Lawrence Ferber titled “New Yorkers are Flocking to This Midwest Sanctuary [Columbus, Ohio]” was posted at nypost.com on April 25, 2018.
- An article by Elise Young titled “Autism Disorder Increases in U.S. Children, CDC Study Finds” was posted at bloomberg.com on April 26, 2018.



An article by Tyler Moss titled “8 Best Places to See Wildlife in the U.S.” was posted at cntraveler.com on April 23, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

In Swahili, the word safari means “journey” or “trip.” Yet in English, the term implies an African tour with the express purpose of observing native fauna—lions, elephant, antelopes, oh my!

But if you wanted to see the United States’ “Big Eight” in their natural habitat, where would you go? Here, eight destinations (and the creatures therein) across the country.

- To see bison: Custer State Park, North Dakota

Located in western South Dakota among the Black Hills, Custer State Park provides a peaceful home for America’s “First National Mammal” (thus named by President Obama in 2016).

Herds of bison—more than 1,000 strong, in total—wander the grounds, munching on ample rangeland.

Visit in autumn to witness the annual buffalo round-up, where cowboys initiate a stampede to corral the 1,400-pound animals to sort and brand them; or visit year-round to view the bison from the safety of a jeep tour.

- To see Kodiak bears: Kodiak archipelago, Alaska

Full of fjords, towering mountains, and glacial valleys, the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1941 for the specific purpose of protecting Kodiaks, the largest subspecies of brown bear.

Today, the 1.9 million acres of protected land serve as the habitat for some 3,000 bears, which are best seen in summer months—when the tempera-

tures aren't frigid and the Kodiaks aren't deep in hibernation—via local groups like Kodiak Wildlife Tours.

■ To see moose: Northern Maine

The Pine Tree State has the largest population of moose in the mainland U.S., with estimates near 75,000. The Maine Highlands and Aroostook County in the north provide more remote areas specifically worth exploring—especially from May through the fall, when moose are more prone to wander.

Increase your odds of spotting the shy giants by booking a tour, like one with Northeast Whitewater, where you can observe moose from a canoe alongside a registered tour guide.

■ To see alligators: the Everglades, Florida

Both American alligators and crocodiles can be found in Everglades National Park, the only place in the world the species cohabitate in the wild. Still, gators—who prefer freshwater marshes and swamps, but can also thrive in the brackish Glades—are the more plentiful species.

With males growing up to 15 feet in length, and females up to ten feet, these massive reptiles won't be hard to spot with the help of a guide (like those at Down South Airboat Tours).

To avoid clouds of mosquitoes, impromptu thunderstorms, and insufferable humidity, think about visiting the Everglades outside of the summer months, as the gators can be seen year-round.

■ To see bald eagles: Klamath Basin, California/Oregon border

The bald eagle has served as an official symbol of the U.S. since the Continental Congress put it on the Great Seal in 1782.

Today, one of the best places to catch the majestic birds in action is the Upper Klamath Basin, which straddles the Oregon/California border.

Plan a trip between November and March, when bald eagles flock for feeding. Before you go, check with the Klamath Basin Audubon Society for information on upcoming birding trips with expert guides.

■ To see dolphins: Oahu's West Coast, Hawaii

Unlike the other animals in this list, which are best viewed from a distance, travelers can get up close and personal with the dolphins that congregate off the western coast of Oahu. (If you don't want to leave your beach chair, though, the jumping spinner dolphins—present in the waters year-round—can even be seen some days from shore.)

For a truly immersive experience, consider an eco-friendly boat excursion with a group like Wild Side Specialty Tours, where you can swim with a pod after some simple training.

■ To see mountain goats: Glacier National Park, Montana

What can jump 12 feet in a single bound—and will trek up to 15 miles to lick a natural salt deposit?

Chances are the snow-white mountain goat was not your first guess, but these nimble creatures that wander the steep cliffs of Glacier National Park are well-worth your attention.

Plan your expedition with the resources available from the National Park Service, and aim to go between May and October, when trails are least likely to be obstructed by snow.

A good place to start? Logan Pass, via Going-to-the-Sun Road, where the goats are especially prevalent.

■ To see elephant seals: Point Reyes National Seashore, California

In the heat of mating season (December through March), up to 2,500 elephant seals crowd the beaches of the Point Reyes National Seashore, about an hour and a half north of San Francisco.

Named after their short, elephant-like snout, these marine creatures can weigh as much as 5,500 pounds.

Prior to visiting, check for seasonal closures, as some beaches overrun with seals may have restricted access—although you can still view the pinnipeds from a distance at the Elephant Seal Overlook, near Chimney Rock.



An article by Amanda O'Donnell titled "Austin Named Best Place to Live in America for Second Year in a Row" was posted at statesman.com on April 11, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

It's another good day to live in Austin, Texas.

Last year, Austin knocked Denver from the No. 1 spot on U.S. News and World Report's "Best Places to Live in the U.S." And this year, it didn't budge.

As in years past, the publication ranked the 125 largest cities in the country based on a variety of factors and data. Five indexes were used to compile the list: job market, value, quality of life, desirability and net migration. Cities were graded on each of these indexes on a 10-point scale, which were then averaged for an overall score.

Overall, Austin earned a 7.7 out of 10. Of the measurements, and unsurprisingly, Austin scored highest in the net migration category with 9.4. Austin also scored high in the desirability index with an 8.9.

The top 10 cities are:

1. Austin
2. Colorado Springs, Colorado
3. Denver
4. Des Moines, Iowa
5. Fayetteville, Arkansas
6. Portland, Oregon
7. Huntsville, Alabama
8. Washington, D.C.
9. Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota
10. Seattle

Nine other Texas cities were included on the list, but didn't make the top 10:

14. San Antonio
18. Dallas
26. Houston
90. Killeen
105. El Paso
106. Corpus Christi
113. Beaumont
115. McAllen
121. Brownsville

It's not all sunshine in the greatest place to live in the U.S., however. Or maybe it's too much sunshine, in at least one category.

U.S. News and World Report noted Austin's higher-than-average housing costs, its notoriously bad traffic, issues with segregation and those hot, hot summers as negative factors.



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."