

# Eye on the World

## Aug. 11, 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 August 11, 2018.

**Compiled by Dave Havis**

**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).



Various videos and an article by Anna Ahronheim titled "Israel Pounds Hamas After 19 Injured in Rocket Barrage, One Critical" were posted at jpost.com on Aug. 8, 2018. Following is the article.

---

The Israel Air Force retaliated by striking targets in the Gaza Strip on Wednesday evening after 19 people were treated for injuries resulting from rocket attacks from Gaza against southern Israel.

A rocket hit Eshkol Regional Council at 06:00 am Thursday, critically injuring a 30 year old woman and lightly wounding another man from shrapnel.

Following the barrages throughout the night, the IAF struck over 100 terror targets including a plant used to manufacture components intended for the construction of tunnels as well as a tunnel for maritime terrorism along Israel's coast.

A number of terror targets in several military sites, including weapons and rockets, as well as a military compound that serves as a central logistic warehouse were also hit by IAF jets.

Red Alert sirens continued to sound in the South throughout the night, with the latest salvo fired at 05:45 am Thursday morning.

Hamas issued a statement saying: "We are delivering on our promise. The resistance accepted the responsibility to even the playing field with the enemy and it is succeeding in doing so."

According to the IDF, over 150 projectiles were launched from the Hamas-run enclave as of early Thursday morning; 25 were intercepted by the Iron Dome missile defense system.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu with Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman held a security assessment with senior military and defense officials at the IDF Kirya Headquarters in Tel Aviv following the initial rocket barrage.

According to Barzilai Medical Center, six people were treated for body injuries and nine people were treated for shock.

Four of the projectiles fell in Sderot. A 34 year old was in light-to-moderate condition with wounds from glass shards and a 20 year old was in light condition with injuries to his limbs from Iron Dome shrapnel.

Civilians were treated at the scene after suffering from stress, including two pregnant women who started having contractions.

Two homes in Sderot were also reportedly hit by the shrapnel, as well as a home in Hof Ashkelon. Several cars were also damaged, as was a factory in Sderot.

The rocket fire from Gaza came shortly after an IDF tank struck Hamas posts in Gaza after shots were fired across the border towards civilian engineering vehicles working on the IDF's underground barrier with the coastal enclave.

At least one Gazan citizen was reported injured.

"Terrorists shot at civilian vehicles that were being used in an effort to construct the barrier around the security fence in the northern Gaza Strip. One vehicle was hit," the IDF said.

Earlier on Wednesday, the IDF closed several roads near the Gaza border after warning that it was concerned about a retaliatory attack by Hamas after two of its elite members were killed in an IDF strike on Tuesday.

According to the IDF, Route 25 and several other smaller roads were closed after Hamas was identified as having cleared several military positions along the border and threats made by the group.

The rocket fire also comes as a senior Hamas official said that UN and Egyptian-mediated cease-fire talks between the terror group and Israel have reached "advanced stages," with a deal expected to be signed soon.

"We can say that actions led by the United Nations and Egypt are in advanced stages and we hope it could yield some good from them," Khalil Al-Hayya, deputy Hamas chief in Gaza, told Al Jazeera television.

"What is required is for calm to be restored along the border between us and the Zionist enemy (Israel)."

On Sunday, Israel's Security Cabinet met to discuss the proposed cease-fire agreement. The Prime Minister's Office released a statement afterward saying that the IDF was ready for any eventuality.

Despite the cease-fire talks, dozens of fires have ignited following the continued launching of aerial incendiary devices into southern Israel. In response, IDF aircraft have continued to strike the cells launching the devices.

Hundreds of such devices have been launched towards Israel since late March when Gazans began weekly protests along the border with Israel.

The protests have been called the greatest threat to Israeli security in the region since Operation Protective Edge in 2014, due to the combination of terror tunnels, riots, attempted infiltration and the use of incendiary items.

According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, 158 Gazans have been killed since the start of the weekly "March of Return."



A Reuters article titled "Ecuador Declares State of Emergency Over Venezuelan Migrants at Border" was posted at reuters.com on Aug. 9, 2018. Following is the article.

---

Ecuador on Wednesday declared a state of emergency in three provinces due to an unusually high volume of Venezuelan migrants crossing over the northern border with Colombia after fleeing the OPEC nation's economic crisis.

Venezuela's hyperinflation and chronic product shortages have fueled an exodus of citizens who typically travel by land via Colombia, often continuing south toward Andean nations including Ecuador, Peru and Chile.

"The government of Ecuador has declared a state of emergency related to human migration in the provinces of Carchi, Pichincha and El Oro to provide urgent attention to the Venezuelan migrants on the northern border," the foreign ministry said in a statement.

It added that Ecuador this week began receiving 4,200 Venezuelan migrants arriving each day. It did not say how many had been arriving before or why the numbers had increased.

The state of emergency, which will last for the month of August, is meant to speed up the deployment of doctors and social workers to attend to the migrants' needs, as well as police to provide support for immigration proceedings.

The statement added agencies including the International Organization for Migration and the U.N. Refugee Agency, UNHCR, would also help in the effort.



An article by Ellen Manning titled "Australia Suffers Worst Drought in Decades As Farmers Get Increased Power to Shoot Kangaroos" was posted at yahoo.com on Aug. 8, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

---

Australia is in the grips of its worst drought in decades, leading to farmers being given authority to shoot kangaroos competing with livestock for sparse pasture.

The conditions in New South Wales state this year have been the driest and most widespread since 1965.

According to the state government, 100% of New South Wales' land area of more than 309,000 square miles is now in drought.

Australia's prime minister Malcolm Turnbull has unveiled a package of measures to assist farmers coping with the conditions.

They include lifting the number of kangaroos that farmers are allowed to shoot as they compete with livestock for sparse pasture during the intensely dry spell.



An article by Abbas Al Lawati titled "Saudi Arabia Carries Out Rare Crucifixion for Murder, Theft" was posted at bloomberg.com on Aug. 8, 2018. Following is the article.

---

Saudi Arabia executed and crucified a Myanmar man in the holy city of Mecca on Wednesday in a rare form of punishment reserved for the most egregious crimes.

Elias Abulkalaam Jamaleddeen was accused of breaking into the home of a woman from Myanmar, firing a weapon in it then repeatedly stabbing her, which led to her death, the official Saudi Press Agency reported, citing an Interior Ministry statement. He was also accused of stealing weapons and trying to kill another man whose home he broke into, as well as attempting to rape a woman.

The ruling was supported by the country's supreme court and endorsed by the king.

Crucifixions in Saudi Arabia entail hanging a body in public after an execution, and are unusual. A Yemeni man was crucified in 2010 for raping and killing a girl and shooting dead her father.



An article by Bill Donahue titled "Pope's Death Penalty Ruling Excites the Catholic Left" was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 3, 2018. Following is the article.

---

"If the Pope were to deny that the death penalty could be an exercise of retributive justice, he would be overthrowing the tradition of two millennia of Catholic thought, denying the teaching of several previous popes, and contradicting the teaching of Scripture (notably Genesis 9:5-6 and Romans 13:1-4)."

Those are the words of Cardinal Avery Dulles, one of the most brilliant and esteemed members of the Catholic hierarchy in the past century.

“Not all moral issues have the same moral weight as abortion and euthanasia . . . There may be a legitimate diversity of opinion even among Catholics about waging war and applying the death penalty, but not however with regard to abortion and euthanasia.”

Those are the words of Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, before he became Pope Benedict XVI.

Pope Francis has changed all that, declaring the death penalty to be always wrong, even in cases involving national security. He ordered the Catholic Catechism to reflect his ruling.

Some in the media, as well as Catholic activists, are saying this now puts Catholics in public life who support the death penalty in a real jam. But does it?

The front-page story in the New York Times on this subject opens with the following: “Pope Francis has declared the death penalty wrong in all cases, a definitive change in church teaching that is likely to challenge Catholic politicians, judges and officials who have argued that their church was not entirely opposed to capital punishment.”

This seriously misunderstands the difference between the three branches of government. The only ones who are directly affected are lawmakers, not executives or judges.

A lawmaker is free to weave his religious values into any law he wishes to write, and if the voters do not agree with his bill, they can vote him out of office. An executive is obliged to enforce the laws passed by the legislature, regardless of whether they are in accord with the teachings of his religion. A judge is obliged to interpret the laws as passed by the legislature, and is not permitted to weave his religious values into his decision.

The Times story quotes John Gehring, an official at Faith in Public Life, saying, “If you’re a Catholic governor who thinks the state has the right to end human life, you need to be comfortable saying you’re disregarding orthodox church teaching.” That shouldn’t be difficult—all he needs to do is ask New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo how he manages to be comfortable denying the Church’s teaching on abortion.

Gehring is not exactly a credible voice. He is employed by an outlet that is funded by the atheist, anti-Catholic, pro-abortion, billionaire George Soros. Furthermore, Gehring was condemned by the bishops in 2012 for smearing them in public. To be exact, in a leaked email, he told the media about the “inflammatory and irresponsible” rhetoric of “several bishops,” and he tutored reporters on how to handle the Church hierarchy.

Gehring, and those on the Catholic left, have always defended pro-abortion Catholics like the Kennedys, and they have gone to the mat for Nancy Pelosi, that great Catholic champion of abortion. So it is a little late in the game to lecture pro-death penalty Catholics to get on board now that things have changed.

I would like to make the Catholic left an offer: If you condemn pro-abortion Catholic politicians, conservative Catholics will condemn pro-death penalty Catholic politicians.

I have a feeling no one has the guts to take me up on this, because if they did, it would put them in a much bigger jam than conservative Catholics. Defending abortion rights means much more to them than condemning the death penalty means to conservatives.



An article by Cristina Maza titled "Jehovah's Witnesses in Russia Are Fleeing to Finland to Escape Persecution" was posted at newsweek.com on Aug. 8, 2018. Following is the article.

---

Jehovah's Witnesses who face persecution in Russia are fleeing to nearby Finland, where they are allowed to worship freely, according to the religious group's representatives.

There are nearly 300 Jehovah's Witnesses currently seeking asylum in the Nordic country, but it's unclear when their asylum claims will be processed. For now, many of the group's members are in limbo.

"Some people have been here for one year in the camp or refugee center. We received a few days ago the news that some will be moved to another camp. It's hard because they have a life and friends there already and they are being moved again, they'll have to build everything again. I think maybe they are being moved because more people are coming," Jukka Palonen, a Jehovah's Witness from Finland, told Newsweek.

"The Finish government is doing its best, they are offering housing and food. But it's still not so nice. We're pretty sad about what's happening in Russia at the moment. These families have small children and they are afraid the Russian government could take their children away. And what have they done? Nothing," Palonen added.

Some of the refugees are staying in an old Finnish prison near the small town of Joutseno in the country's South Karelia region. The witnesses attend services in one of the local churches. But around 20 people are expected to be relocated to northeastern Finland in the near future, the group said.

In Russia, the Orthodox Church has emerged as a powerful political force in a post-communist country, and the church's allies have launched vicious campaigns against what they call "sects."

The Russian government labeled the Jehovah's Witnesses an extremist sect in April 2017, and worshippers have been jailed and tormented ever since. Many of the roughly 175,000 Jehovah's Witnesses living in Russia have either gone into hiding or started fleeing to Finland, members of the group said.

Nevertheless, arrests of practicing Jehovah's Witnesses have taken place in towns and cities across Russia. Most recently, on August 2, a young couple in the city of Kostroma had their house raided by armed policemen.

A video of the arrest shows armed and masked policemen breaking down the door of the couple's home and pinning an unarmed and shirtless young man, 21-year-old Sergey Rayman, to the ground.

Representatives of the Jehovah's Witnesses told Newsweek that the young man will be held in pre-trial detention for two months while his wife, 25-year-old Valeriya Rayman, is under house arrest.

In May, the Russian government also seized a \$31.8 million real estate complex in St. Petersburg from the group's members.

Even though the Russian Orthodox Church has expressed enthusiasm for the country's clampdown of Jehovah's Witnesses, analysts consulted in a recent piece by Newsweek indicated that the ban is motivated by political and security concerns.

"The Jehovah's Witnesses were targeted because they do not support the wave of patriotism sweeping the country during the confrontation with the West," Roman Lunkin, a religion analyst at the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow, told Newsweek in May. "There is a real fear of religion and religious activity among the authorities and the security services."

Finland is a member of the European Union, and last month the European Court of Justice, the supreme court that governs all EU law, ruled that the Jehovah's Witnesses must comply with EU data privacy laws and seek consent before recording people's personal details during their door-to-door preaching.

The ruling came after Finland's data protection supervisor filed a lawsuit to prohibit Jehovah's Witnesses from collecting personal data.

"In today's judgment, the Court of Justice considers, first of all, that door-to-door preaching by members of the Jehovah's Witnesses Community is not covered by the exceptions laid down by EU Law on the protection of personal data," the court's statement read. "The processing of personal data carried out in connection with door-to-door preaching must therefore comply with the rules of EU law on the protection of personal data."



An article by Travis Fedschun and Mike Arroyo titled "More Than 90 Killed After 6.9 Magnitude Earthquake Strikes Indonesia's Lombok Island, Near Bali" was posted at foxnews.com on Aug. 6, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

---

A powerful earthquake near the popular tourist mecca of Bali killed at least 91 people and wounded hundreds more, damaging thousands of homes and other buildings as people were seen running into the streets screaming.

It happened just one week after another quake in the same region killed more than a dozen people.

A spokesman for the country's disaster agency said Monday the number dead had risen to 91 and could rise further since rescue crews still have not

reached some areas that suffered damage. Officials said most of the deaths were due to collapsing homes.

The United States Geological Survey said the quake, initially listed as a magnitude 7.0 earthquake but later downgraded to a magnitude 6.9, was reported around 7:46 a.m. ET off the country's Lombok Island, located next to Bali.

The quake was about 19 miles deep and had an epicenter about a mile east-south-east of Loloan, according to the USGS. Dwikorita Karnawati, head of Indonesia's Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency, told MetroTV that the tsunami warning has ended, adding that the warning was for the lowest level of tsunami, and that small waves just 6 inches high were detected in three villages.

Indonesia's Disaster Mitigation Agency promptly issued an alert, saying that there was the "potential" for a tsunami to take place.

The Indonesian Agency for Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics later said on Twitter that "tsunami aftermath" was detected in Carik and Badas.

A video posted to social media shows a tourist running through the hallway of a hotel as the building shakes.

There were no immediate reports of injuries, but a set of photos posted to Twitter show damage in Bali.

National Disaster Mitigation Agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho told KompasTV that the quake strongly jolted Mataram, the capital of West Nusa Tenggara province, and may have caused damage there. He said the quake was also felt in parts of neighboring Bali island, where video aired by Kompas TV showed patients being evacuated from a hospital in Bali's Tabanan district.

Just last week, a magnitude 6.4 quake hit Lombok, located just east of Bali, on July 29, killing 16 people. Hundreds of tourists were stranded on Mount Rinjani after the quake triggered a landslide, and more than 1,400 houses were damaged.

Like Bali, Lombok is known for pristine beaches and mountains. Hotels and other buildings in both locations are not allowed to exceed the height of coconut trees.

Indonesia is prone to earthquakes due to its location on the "Ring of Fire," an arc of volcanoes and fault lines encircling the Pacific Ocean. In December 2004, a massive magnitude 9.1 earthquake off Sumatra triggered a tsunami that killed 230,000 people in a dozen countries.



"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.

---

■ An article by Kim Mackrael titled "In Canada's Grocery Carts, a Boycott U.S.A. Movement Starts Rolling" was posted at wsj.com on Aug. 5, 2018.



- A Reuters article by Aziz El Yaakoubi and David Ljunggren titled "Saudi Arabia Freezes New Trade With Canada for Urging Activists' Release" was posted at reuters.com on Aug. 6, 2018.
- An article titled "State Department on Saudi Arabia-Canada Spat: We're Staying Out" was posted at huffpost.com on Aug. 6, 2018.
- An article by Victoria Loguinova and Maxime Popov titled "Russia Used Lessons From Georgia War in Ukraine Conflict" was posted at yahoo.com on Aug. 4, 2018.
- An article by Sandy Fitzgerald titled "Analyst: Russia Buying Gold to Thwart Dollar 'Blackmail' " was posted at newsmax.co on Aug. 4, 2018.
- An article titled "Hot Weather Forces 4 French Nuclear Reactors to Shut Down" was posted at Breitbart.com on Aug. 5, 2018.



An article by Michael Reagan titled "Tweet Presidentially, Mr. Trump" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 8, 2018. Following is the article.

---

Trump is still being Trump.

Whether he's holding his stand-up political rallies in Wilkes-Barre or Ohio, or delivering his incendiary early morning tweet storms, he's not going to change his wild and crazy ways.

He's been doing a lot of great stuff in Washington, but if he wants to stay there he'd better be careful.

The raw party numbers are against him.

Last time around, in 2016, the Democrats had a deplorable candidate - Hillary Clinton - who lots of Democrats didn't like, either, and therefore didn't show up to vote for at the polls.

Now Democrats have someone even bigger to collectively hate—Donald Trump.

He's already given them plenty of reasons to put on their "Impeach Trump Hats" and get out and vote for Democrats in the November congressional elections.

But last week the president made things more difficult for himself by foolishly making a few million new enemies in the sports world by personally attacking LeBron James.

Responding to the negative things the NBA superstar had said in a CNN interview with professional Trump-hater Don Lemon, the president tweeted:

"LeBron James was just interviewed by the dumbest man on television, Don Lemon. He made LeBron look smart, which isn't easy to do. I like Mike!"

Though the president sided with Michael Jordan fans in the great debate over who's the greatest NBA player of all time, "Mike" sided with LeBron James, who had charged the president with using athletics and athletes to divide the country.

Through a spokeswoman, Jordan responded, "I support LeBron James. He's doing an amazing job for his community."

Though the Lemon interview included CNN's standard anti-Trump political slant, it was focused on James' foundation's contribution of \$2 million to help at-risk public school kids in his hometown of Akron, Ohio.

The tweeter in chief might have been pleased with himself for scoring a few political dunks and inflaming the anti-Trump media for the millionth time.

But if he wants to keep Congress Republican this fall, or have a second term, he's going to have to change—and learn.

We know he gets beat up unfairly by the liberal media and Democrats every day, all day. But so did Ronald Reagan. My father fought back on the issues or made jokes, but he never attacked anyone personally.

President Trump should not have kept quiet about the Lemon and LeBron insults, but he's got to learn how to turn his enemies' blind hatred of him to his own advantage.

He should have tweeted something like, "I'm sorry LeBron disagrees with me personally and doesn't appreciate the historically low unemployment rates and middle-class tax cuts my policies have created. But I like what he'd doing for those third and fourth graders in Akron. Our star athletes can do great things for their communities and I hope others follow LeBron's generous example."

It wouldn't have been very Trumpian. It wouldn't have fit in a tweet. And it wouldn't have gotten the liberal media's panties in a twist for three days.

But it would have immediately turned Lemon's and LeBron's cheap shots back on them and the rest of the liberal media and allowed the president to score a few political three-pointers of his own.

As some point President Trump has to rise above this personal crap.

His family already knows how to do it. First Lady Melania Trump publicly supported James' work in Akron through a spokesman. First Daughter Ivanka supported the press against her father, saying she didn't think journalists were the "enemy of the people."

In one smart tweet the president could have turned the tables on Lemon and LeBron.

The liberal media would never have given him credit for taking the high road, but that's OK. It's time the man who is president of us all starts acting presidential.

It'd be for his own political good. But more important, it'd be for the good of the country.



Looking back to June, here is an article by Michael Reagan titled "Liberal Media's Double Standard Unfair to Trump" that was posted at [dailyprogress.com](http://dailyprogress.com) on June 15, 2018.

---

Wonder why Fox News is number one in cable?

It's because CNN, MSNBC, and CBS and the rest are so relentlessly negative about Donald Trump they force people to watch Fox to find out the truth about the growing economy or the historically low unemployment rates for blacks.

Take this week's Singapore summit.

No matter what President Trump accomplished in Singapore in his face-to-face meeting with North Korea's Kim Jong-un, for Joe, Mika and their fellow foreign policy experts in the media, it was not enough.

Or it was too much.

Or Trump was naïve or stupid.

Or he gave away too much.

Or he didn't ask "Little Rocket Man" about his gulags.

Or he was just trying to win a Nobel Peace Prize.

My favorite complaint about the Singapore summit from liberals was that by merely meeting with Kim Jong-un, President Trump gave a thug the legitimacy he didn't deserve.

As if American presidents haven't met with thugs like Kim Jong-un since the beginning of time.

Just two years ago Barack Obama and a delegation of a thousand staffers, insiders and reporters flew into Havana to slobber over Raul Castro and the ghost of his brother Fidel.

The in-bed-with-Obama embedded media loved Obama's move. They called it historic. They called it a Berlin Wall moment—a step toward the liberation of the Cuban people.

But the mainstream media never complained that Obama didn't ask Comrade Raul to be nicer to the impoverished people living under his communist dictatorship or release the gay Cubans held in his prisons.

Not a peep from the MSM. Not even crickets.

Trump, on the other hand, can't win with the mainstream media.

One month they're saying his tough rhetoric about North Korea is going to start World War III. A month or two later they're complaining his Singapore statement wasn't strong enough and he was too soft on Kim Jong-un.

It reminds me of the way the liberal media treated my father back in the 1980s when he was calling the USSR “The Evil Empire” and trying to meet with Soviet leaders about nuclear arms control.

The mainstream media and the foreign policy establishment were constantly pushing my dad to hurry-up and meet with the USSR’s leaders, who kept dying on him until Mikhail Gorbachev came along.

The media of the day wanted my dad to sign a deal in Reykjavik with Gorbachev, ASAP. They wanted him to sign away Star Wars, take our missiles out of Europe—give up whatever it took to make the Soviets happy and avert Armageddon.

My father stuck to his guns.

He ignored the impatient liberal media, the foreign policy “experts” and some of his own staffers and within a few years the Berlin Wall was down and the USSR was history.

My father learned that negotiating successfully one-on-one with an enemy like Gorbachev is a process that takes time. The two leaders didn’t accomplish or sign anything at those meetings, but ultimately my father and Gorbachev developed a liking for each other.

But that relationship didn’t stop my father from telling Gorbachev at their first meeting that either you come to the table and negotiate in good faith or we’ll jack up our military spending and bankrupt you, which we eventually did in the long run.

Trump’s message to Kim Jong-un was similar, only blunter and much tougher—either you’ll come to the table or you’ll cease to exist.

Ronald Reagan and Donald Trump both used the negotiating tools they had in their hip pockets.

In the long run Trump may or may not be as successful as my father.

We’re still in the first days of a long process, but the biased media are impatient and irrational.

They want everything settled yesterday and the Korean Peninsula denuked tomorrow.

But even if it turns out the way they want, they’ll figure out some way to give the credit to Nancy Pelosi, Barack Obama or Dennis Rodman long before they give it to President Trump.



An article by Saritha Prabhu titled “How Spygate is Turning Democrats Like Me Against Our Party” was posted at [thefederalist.com](http://thefederalist.com) on Aug. 3, 2018. Following is the article.

---

I don't much like Donald Trump and didn't vote for him (or Hillary) in 2016, but I've been feeling sorry for him for about 18 months now. It feels strange feeling sorry for someone who's a boor, a narcissist, an egomaniac, and a serial philanderer, plus the 37 other negative traits usually used to describe him.

But it has something to do with the fact that he has been treated in a grossly unfair manner by the mainstream media and the political and cultural left, on a scale we've never seen before.

One story of the last two years is how this most alpha of alpha males has become an underdog of sorts in American politics today. Of course, you won't find this narrative in any of the mainstream media outlets. This narrative merely exists in the minds of millions of voters who are outside the core Democratic base: those of us who are Republicans, moderates, independents, former Democrats like myself. We've been silently watching, listening, observing the opposition to Trump in the last eighteen months, and it's been the most sickening thing to see, more appalling than what the right did to President Obama.

As one voter put it in an article I read a while ago, the hatred shown toward Trump has been "un-American." I agree with that sentiment, even as I simultaneously hold the thought that Trump is not someone whose character needs defending.

Memo to the left: Know why Trump's poll numbers have been steady or rising slightly in spite of the invective you've been pouring on him every minute of every day?

It's because the economy is booming, and also because most Americans are fair-minded and think that even a flawed sinner like Trump doesn't deserve to be figuratively kicked every day in a manner that's often dishonest, exaggerated or out-of-context.

Trump ran as the most anti- of anti-establishment candidates in 2016, and almost everything the political and media establishments have done since then have confirmed what millions of voters have realized: these establishments are out-of-control, they want presidential candidates and presidents they can control, and they won't abide a true outsider.

In effect, their post-election behavior has confirmed that a President Trump was necessary for this time in American politics.

The reality is, there was no peaceful transition of power on Jan. 20, 2017. From the time Trump won the Republican nomination, there has been a concerted effort from different quarters—the press, Hollywood, academia, the Democratic Party—to smear and undermine him.

Some of this was legitimate and what naturally happens in an election. But a lot of the opposition to him was breathtaking and unprecedented, and we've been learning more as time passes by. The highest levels of the FBI secretly spied on his campaign, and they did it by misleading the FISA court and using an unverified dossier paid for by the Hillary Clinton campaign.

And the unprecedented opposition continued with a fake Russia collusion narrative and a dubious special counsel investigation to undermine and possibly

remove a duly elected president elected by the masses whom the establishment happens not to like. If they are successful, we don't have a constitutional republic anymore, folks. It's that simple.

I was a long-time Democrat who "walked away" from the party because I couldn't stomach the Democrats' anti-democratic antics. Post-2017, it is like the mask has been ripped off.

It has become apparent that the Democratic Party and its media supporters seem to have a problem with representative democracy and how it works. They lost an election they thought they'd handily win, and their reaction to it has been to have a long, screeching public tantrum.

Bill Maher and other liberal commentators have openly talked about the urgent necessity to "remove" Trump.

Remove Trump? Are they serious?

I thought the way it works if you lose an election is you try to present a better argument before the electorate the next time and win the next election, and not simply try to get rid of the election-winner.

In the last eighteen months, the left, the so-called deep state and their media enablers have tried their damndest to get rid of Trump even if it meant trampling over the rule of law and the Constitution.

- That is why those who used to care deeply about civil liberties have been mum when the civil liberties of Trump, Carter Page and others have been violated.

- That is why one of the only principled liberal, Prof. Alan Dershowitz, who has been arguing about and defending the civil liberties of the Trump team, has been getting grief and facing ostracism from the left.

- That is why the mainstream media has not only derelicted its investigative duties, but has been shamelessly spinning one of the biggest stories of our time—how the FBI abused its power to spy on an American political campaign.

The striking thing is, the side that has been accusing Trump of subverting democracy has been guilty of it themselves. In America, even a serial killer has rights and deserves due process. But in the eyes of the left, Trump deserves neither.

But the public isn't dumb. Those of us who aren't hardcore Democrats recognize what's going on and have come to see something that seems counter-intuitive: This loud, brash president is actually a victim and an underdog in American politics today, and he hasn't been getting a fair shake since he won the election, or been given a proper chance to lead the country.

And so we feel sorry for him, and angry and repulsed by his opposition.



An article by Michael Brown titled "3 Reasons Why So Many Millennials Love Socialism" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 3, 2018. Following is the article.

---

It's true that socialist Bernie Sanders is anything but a millennial. And it's true that socialism was popular long before any millennials were born. But there's no doubt that socialism is becoming increasingly popular among young people today. Why?

According to the Daily Caller, "Young people view socialism as more attractive than older people. Of people ages 18-29, 55 percent considered socialism favorably compared to other age groups, according to a 2016 Gallup poll. Only 37 percent of people between the ages 30 and 49 viewed socialism as positive. Twenty-seven percent of people between 50 and 64 years old thought of socialism positively."

So, millennials, especially younger millennials, have a very favorable view of socialism. But do they—or most of us—even know what it is?

Prof. Jay Richards offers this helpful primer.

"Marx and his disciples claimed that 'capitalism' must give way to 'socialism,' where private property would be abolished and an all-powerful state would own everything on behalf of the people. That's what Marx meant by the word socialism, and that's the main dictionary definition. This was only supposed to be a stage, though, not the end of all our strivings. At some point, under socialism, people would lose their silly fondness for property, family, religion, and other evils. A 'new socialist man' would emerge and then the state would 'wither away.' Everyone would enjoy peace, prosperity, and the brotherhood of man. Marx and his acolytes called that final, stateless paradise 'communism.' "

And how has that vision worked itself out in history?

Prof. Richards states: "Here's the point: Those regimes led by mass murderers with their gulags, death camps, man-made famines and killing fields were socialist. That's not slander. It's what these countries called themselves. USSR stood for the 'Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.' You gotta break millions of eggs with socialism to make the communist omelet. Socialism, you might say, was the necessary evil to reach the bliss where no state would be necessary."

Yet the lure of socialism continues, getting stronger in the last few years, especially among American youth. Why?

Here are three simple reasons.

■ **Young people want "equality."**

The word "equality" has become almost sacred to the younger generation, and in many ways, that's a good thing. They want a level playing field. They want everyone treated fairly. They want to leave behind our discriminatory, racist past. All that is positive.

Unfortunately, there is often a passion for equality that is not based on realism (or function, as in all the talk about "marriage equality," where sex differences are blurred).

The fact is that life is not always fair. There are winners and losers. And some people work harder than others, because of which they succeed more.

That success is well-deserved and should be appreciated. But all too often today, success through hard work is scorned.

Question: "Why should you have more than I do?"

Answer: "Because I worked hard for it."

Response: "But that's not fair."

Socialism, then, is the fix!

### ■ **Young people today have a deep sense of entitlement.**

Conservapedia.com defines the entitlement mentality as "a state of mind in which an individual comes to believe that privileges are instead rights, and that they are to be expected as a matter of course."

I am owed a free lunch, and it's got to be a good lunch too. The lunch of my choosing. I deserve it.

As explained by Dr. John Townsend in his book *The Entitlement Cure*, "Entitlement is the belief that I am exempt from responsibility and I am owed special treatment. Entitlement is: The man who thinks he is above all the rules. The woman who feels mistreated and needs others to make it up to her."

This dangerous attitude is crippling a whole generation. As expressed by Kate S. Rourke in her article, "You Owe Me: Examining a Generation of Entitlement," "Children in the most recent generation of adults born between 1982 and 1995, known as 'Generation Y,' were raised to believe that it is their right to have everything given to them more than any other previous generation."

Socialism plays right into this mindset, especially the fuzzy, idealized, quite-unrealistic socialism being put forward today: "We all get our free lunch!"

Unfortunately, that can only happen when the government owns all the lunches. Do young people understand this?

### ■ **Young socialists haven't done the math.**

The obvious question is this: "If you're getting a free lunch—no, if we're all getting a free lunch—who's paying for it?"

The immediate, thoughtless answer is: "The government!"

And that leads to the real question: "Who's paying the government?"

The answer is as painful as it is obvious: "You are!"

As one news commentator suggested, there's no reason to wait for the government to become socialist. Just start paying more taxes today and do your part. Right!



Do you remember the viral video clip where a young Florida woman, Peggy Joseph, was ecstatic after hearing candidate Barack Obama speak in 2008? She said, "I won't have to worry about puttin' gas in my car, I won't have to worry about payin' my mortgage." Obama will take care of it!

Six years later, working as a nurse and the suburban mom of four kids, she was asked by filmmaker Joel Gilbert, "Did Obama pay for your mortgage and did he pay for your gas?"

She laughed and replied, "Absolutely not! Mortgage got worse and gas prices got higher . . . At that time we needed a change but a change for the better not the worse."

When I asked my assistant Dylan, himself in his early 30s and a married father of four, why he thought so many young people were into socialism, he answered, "Perhaps because of being so absorbed with social media that they're used to soundbite answers and haven't thought it through."

Or, as Jay Richards stated, "Too many of us are still clueless about socialism and communism. I blame biased media and fuzzy thinking."

The bottom line is that most young proponents of socialism simply haven't done the math. Had they done so, they'd start working the capitalist system a little harder. They would find it far more rewarding than socialism.



An article by Daniel John Sobieski titled "Chicago's Blacks Turn Against Rahmbo [Rahm Emanuel]" was posted at [americanthinker.com](http://americanthinker.com) on Aug. 4, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

---

When President Trump announced that the unconstitutional DACA program (put in place by President Obama after Congress refused to pass it into law) would be allowed to expire unless Congress took action on border security, former White House chief of staff and current Chicago mayor Rahm Emanuel (aka "Rahmbo") announced that Chicago would become a "Trump-free zone," a sanctuary city welcoming and protecting any and all illegal aliens.

He said: "To all the Dreamers that are here in this room and the city of Chicago: you are welcome in the city of Chicago. This is your home and you have nothing to worry about."

He added: "Chicago, our schools, our neighborhoods, our city, as it relates to what President Trump said, will be a Trump-free zone. You have nothing to worry about. And I want you to know this, and I want your families to know this. And rest assured, I want you to come to school . . . and pursue your dreams."

The problem is that he forgot the beleaguered African-Americans in his city burdened by debt and high taxes as its citizens fight poverty, joblessness, and high crime rates.

They have dreams too, such as getting to school alive or being able to do their homework with a bullet piercing their bedroom window.

On Thursday [Aug. 2], this key and long-taken-for-granted part of the Democrat constituency, took to Chicago's streets, and one expressway, to ask where they must flee to find the sanctuary Rahm Emanuel promises for illegal aliens.

An anti-violence march in Chicago briefly closed Lake Shore Drive on Thursday afternoon, as protesters demonstrated against the city's spiraling crime crisis and called for Mayor Rahm Emanuel to step down.

A spokesman for Chicago police said Lake Shore Drive was closed for about 35 minutes on Thursday afternoon, as demonstrators marched toward Wrigley Field, where the Cubs were scheduled to play later in the evening . . .

The demonstrators waved signs demanding Emanuel's resignation and chanted "one city, one Chicago" and "Rahm has to go," as fans watched from inside the park . . .

Ahead of the march, protesters made clear they didn't want the Democratic mayor's support or blessing—they were urging him to resign over what they called his inability to get gun crime under control.

Demonstrators said they took that route because if they had protested in their neighborhoods, the city's cultural and political elites and the national liberal media would have paid little heed to what was really a protest of Rahm Emanuel's indifference to his citizen constituents as he embraces illegal aliens.

Certainly the media would have ignored the calls for Trump's help and demands for Emanuel to resign:

State Rep. La Shawn Ford, a Democrat who represents the West Side of Chicago, called on President Trump to help the city.

"Not everyone believes Chicago is a Trump-free zone. If he's serious about helping the people . . . I accept his help. We can't turn any help away," said Ford, adding that seniors and children need to have safe streets and federal authorities need to help the local police.

Much of Chicago's violence stems from gang bangers, particularly those imported from south of the border, and from the steady supply of illegal drugs that are a consequence of the open borders and sanctuary city policies Rahm Emanuel supports. It is called "gun violence" when it is in fact gang violence fueled by drug trafficking.

As Katie Pavlich writes at TownHall: "As the violence in Chicago's gang plagued neighborhoods rages on, the underlying cause of the Windy City's murder rampages can be found thousands of miles away along a porous border. According to a report from Breitbart's Jeremy Segal, Mexican drug cartels are 'allowed' to run Chicago's streets and young African-American men are killing each other as a result."

Rahm Emanuel faces another tough reelection bid in 2019. He and other mayors not only believe we should have open borders but that those who cross them to enter sanctuary cities such as his should be allowed to vote.

Coincidence? I think not. He and his ilk are willing to trade American lives for votes. If you can't find enough voters, you import them in the form of undocumented Democrats.

Meanwhile, blacks in Chicago are getting wise. It may be time for regime change in Chicago. As President Trump said in the campaign as he actively called for black votes—what do you have to lose?



"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 Craig Bannister titled "Pro-Life Groups Demand End to Federal Funding for Research Using Aborted Baby Parts" was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 7, 2018.
- An article by Terence P. Jeffrey titled "Government Jobs Down 13,000 in July" was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 3, 2018.
- An article by Terence P. Jeffrey titled "Manufacturing Jobs Up 400,000 Under Trump; +37,000 in July" was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 3, 2018.
- An article by Phil Kerpen titled "Trump is Right to End Obama's Fuel Economy Scheme" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 6, 2018.
- An article by Katie Pavlich titled "Millions Drop Off Food Stamps Under Trump, Small Business Optimism Soars to All-Time High" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 7, 2018.
- An article by Arjun Kharpal titled "Apple Could Be Used As a 'Bargaining Chip' in China-US Trade War" was posted at cnbc.com on Aug. 7, 2018.
- An article by Charles Blahous titled "Even Doubling All Projected Individual and Corporate Income Taxes Could Not Finance Medicare for All" was posted at cnsnews.com on Aug. 7, 2018.
- An article by Frank Konkel titled "Get Ready for a Massive Government Spending Spree" was posted at nextgov.com on Aug. 8, 2018.

## Illegal immigration

- An article by Alan Gomez titled "DHS: 600,000 Foreigners Overstayed Visas in 2017" was posted at usatoday.com on Aug. 7, 2018.

- An article by Brian Lonergan titled "Paychecks or Principles: Sanctuary Laws Force Police to Choose" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 8, 2018.
- An article titled "Immigration Raids in Nebraska, Minnesota Target Businesses" was posted at apnews.com on Aug. 8, 2018.

### **Comments about weapons**

- An article by Awr Hawkins titled "[Littlefield, Texas] Police: Concealed Permit Holder Intervenes, Saves Mother of Four Under Assault" was posted at Breitbart.com on Aug. 4, 2018.
- An article by Jay Croft, Deanna Hackney and Eric Levenson titled "Chicago Shootings in One Weekend: 66 Shot, 12 Fatally, Police Say" was posted at CNN.com on Aug. 5, 2018.

### **Comments about Trump support**

- An article by Timothy Meads titled "Rubio: I 'Guarantee' Any Strong Russian Collusion Evidence Would Have Been Leaked by Now" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 5, 2018.
- A 70-Year-Old Grandmother Who Spends 14 Hours a Day Tweeting Hundreds of Messages in Support of Donald Trump Was Reportedly Flagged As a Bot" was posted at BusinessInsider.com on Aug. 6, 2018.
- An article by Jeremy Wallace titled "Ted Cruz Asks Trump to Campaign for Him in Texas" was posted at Chron.com (Houston) on Aug. 7, 2018.

### **Comments about Trump opposition**

- An article by Andy Ngo titled "Anarchy Breaks Out in Portland, With the Major's Blessing" was posted at WSJ.com on Aug. 3, 2018.
- An article by Shane Dixon Kavanaugh and Gordon R. Friedman titled "Protesters Storm Portland City Hall, Injuring Guards; Arrests Made" was posted at OregonLive.com on Aug. 8, 2018.
- An article by Silvo Canto Jr. titled "I Remember When We Called Them Mobs" was posted at AmericanThinker.com on Aug. 8, 2018.
- Looking back to 2017, an article by Jason Whitlock titled "How a Gawker-Affiliated Website [Deadspin.com] Made ESPN Politically Correct" was posted at WSJ.com on May 7, 2017.
- An article by Michael Bohlin titled "Stephen A. Smith Sounds Off on Donald Trump on *First Take*" was posted at 247sports.com on Aug. 6, 2018.
- An article by Warner Todd Huston titled "Steve Kurr Mocks Reported NRA Financial Hardships: 'Thoughts and Prayers Should Suffice'" was posted at Breitbart.com on Aug. 4, 2018.
- An article by Nick Schwartz titled "10 Times LeBron James Stood Up to Donald Trump" was posted at USA Today.com on Aug. 4, 2018.

- An article by Pam Key titled "Al Sharpton: Trump's 'Intoxicated' Base Will Tire of His 'Lounge Act' " was posted at [breitbart.com](http://breitbart.com) on Aug. 5, 2018.
- An article by Melanie Arter titled "Sen. Elizabeth Warren: Trump 'Really Good' at Politics of Division 'And Kissing Up to Two-Bit Dictators' " was posted at [cnsnews.com](http://cnsnews.com) on Aug. 6, 2018.
- An article by Aris Folley titled "West Hollywood City Council to Vote on Removing Trump's Walk of Fame Star" was posted at [thehill.com](http://thehill.com) on Aug. 6, 2018.
- An article by Maya Lora titled "Rosie O'Donnell Leads Anti-Trump Broadway Sing-Along at the White House" was posted at [thehill.com](http://thehill.com) on Aug. 6, 2018.
- An article by Susan Jones titled "Rosie O'Donnell: Trump Pays People to Show Up at His Rallies and He Rigged the Election" was posted at [cnsnews.com](http://cnsnews.com) on Aug. 7, 2018.
- An article by Kyle Olson titled "Socialist Star Ocasio-Cortez Strikes Out: All Endorsed Candidates Lose Tuesday Primaries" was posted at [theamerican-mirror.com](http://theamerican-mirror.com) on Aug. 7, 2018.
- An article by Katie Honan titled "New York City Launches Voter Registration Drive in Jails" was posted at [wsj.com](http://wsj.com) on Aug. 7, 2018.

### **News about the media**

- An article by John R. Lott Jr. titled "The Media is Encouraging Violence Against Themselves" was posted at [townhall.com](http://townhall.com) on Aug. 8, 2018.
- An article by Brady Kenyon titled "Levin: 'Media Have Abandoned a Pretense of Seeking Objectivity for Ideological Activism' " was posted at [cnsnews.com](http://cnsnews.com) on Aug. 3, 2018.
- An article by Jonathan Mizrahi titled "Eric Trump: If My Father Cured Cancer, the Media 'Wouldn't Give Him Credit' " was posted at [cnsnews.com](http://cnsnews.com) on Aug. 3, 2018.
- An article by Nicholas Fondacaro titled "NBC's Geist, Todd Suggest Trump Only Insults the Intelligence of African-Americans" was posted at [newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org) on Aug. 5, 2018.
- Looking back to July, an article by Jasmine C. Lee and Kevin Quealy titled "The 487 People, Places and Things Donald Trump Has Insulted on Twitter: A Complete List" was posted at [nytimes.com](http://nytimes.com) on July 10, 2018.
- An article by Thomas Lifson titled "Outrageous: Media Shrug Off Feinstein Spy Scandal Story" was posted at [americanthinker.com](http://americanthinker.com) on Aug. 7, 2018.
- An article by Larry Elder (a black conservative) titled "The New York Times Hires Left-Wing Bigot [Sarah Jeong] for It's Editorial Board" was posted at [townhall.com](http://townhall.com) on Aug. 9, 2018.

## General interest

- An article by Frank Schwab titled "NFL Great Jim Brown, Known for His Activism, Says He Would Never Kneel for Anthem" was posted at yahoo.com on Aug. 8, 2018.
- An article titled "14,000 Fight California Fires, Some From Prison or Overseas" was posted at apnews.com on Aug. 8, 2018.
- An article by Phoebe Weston titled "A 'Swarm' of 153 Earthquakes Hit the Region Around Yellowstone National Park Supervolcano Last Month, Seismologists Reveal" was posted at dailymail.co.uk on Aug. 9, 2018.
- An article by Shirin Rajaei titled "Black Lives Matter Protesters Crash Wedding of Cop Linked to Stephen Clark Shooting" was posted at sacramento-cbs.com on Aug. 7, 2018.
- An article by Betsy McCaughey titled "Electric Grid Hacking More Perilous Than Election Hacking" was posted at townhall.com on Aug. 8, 2018.
- An article by Dominic Patten titled "Hollywood Bets Big on Gavin Newsom [for California Governor] With Heavyweight Fundraiser at Universal" was posted at deadline.com on Aug. 8, 2018.
- An article by Elizabeth Nolan Brown titled "Senate Democrats Are Circulating Plans for Government Takeover of the Internet" was posted at reason.com on July 31, 2018.
- An article titled "Brent Bozell: I Don't Support Alex Jones, But Ban is a 'Dangerous Cliff' " was posted at newsbusters.org on Aug. 6, 2018.
- An article by Tyler Durden titled "The Crackdown Continues: Twitter Suspends Libertarian Accounts, Including Ron Paul Institute Director" was posted at zerohedge.com on Aug. 7, 2018.
- An article by Rick Moran titled "Facebook Says That Farrakhan's Anti-Semitic Posts Don't Violate Hate Speech Rules" was posted at american-thinker.com on Aug. 8, 2018.



***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."