

# Eye on the World

## Nov. 17, 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 Nov. 17, 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 Anna Ahronheim titled "Over 460 Rockets Fired at Israel, Soldier Injured by Anti-Tank Missile" was posted at jpost.com on Nov. 12, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

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Israel's military struck more than 70 Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad targets across the Gaza Strip, after several heavy barrages of rockets from the coastal enclave were fired toward southern Israel, the IDF said Monday evening.

The barrage began around 4:30 p.m. after a Cornet anti-tank missile was fired toward a bus full of soldiers at the Black Arrow Memorial Site in the Sha'ar Hanegev region.

A 19-year-old soldier was transferred to Soroka University Medical Center in Beersheba in critical condition after he was hit standing near the bus. No other soldiers were injured.

More than 460 rockets were fired from the Gaza Strip toward southern Israeli communities, as well as the Dead Sea and the West Bank's Hebron Hills.

The army stated that some 60 rockets had been intercepted by the Iron Dome missile defense system, but others hit inside the cities of Ashkelon, Sderot and the communities of Ofakim and Netivot, causing severe damage but only light injuries.

A house in Ashkelon was hit by a rocket; one person was treated for shock.

"The way we are living isn't normal," Shimon Tamsul from Sderot told *The Jerusalem Post* during a lull on Monday night. "We either have to somehow make peace with Gaza or go to war and reoccupy it. I would leave Sderot if I could, it's not life here. But where would I go? My family is here."

His wife Yoly agreed, saying that everyone in the college town suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder, including their two-year-old grandchild.

"We all have PTSD," she said. "A car backfires and we jump . . . even when we are abroad. I drive to Petah Tikva to visit family and I am afraid that there will be an incoming rocket siren. We don't live here in the South . . . We don't live!"

"There was a Tzeva Adom [red alert siren] and we ran to the safe room," Tamsul's five-year-old granddaughter Roni said. "Tonight we are going to sleep in the safe room!"

Daniel Aflalo, another Sderot resident told the *Post* that residents have been living the same situation for the past 15 years.

"You heard they are talking about a cease-fire? It's like that all the time. They call for a cease-fire and we give it to them. We allowed Qatar to give them \$15 million and look what we got," he said.

According to the army, the majority of the projectiles fell in open areas, causing no damage or injuries.

In response to the rocket barrage, Israel Air Force jets, helicopters and tanks struck more than 70 Hamas and Islamic Jihad targets across the Gaza Strip—including three attack tunnels, two of them belonging to Islamic Jihad; four Hamas military compounds in Rafah and Deir el-Balah; another four belonging to Islamic Jihad; a Hamas observation post in Jabalya; an Islamic Jihad weapons manufacturing site in Jabalya and Rafah; and launch sites.

"The Hamas terrorist organization bears responsibility for everything in and out of the Gaza Strip, and it will bear the consequences for the terrorist acts against Israeli citizens," read a statement by the IDF Spokesperson's Unit.

The Gaza Health Ministry said that three Gazans were killed in the strikes and several others wounded. The fatalities were identified as Muhammed al-Tatri, 27; Muhammed Oudeh, 22; and Hamad al-Nahal, 23. Two of them were later claimed by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine as being members of the terror group's military wing.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman and IDF Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Gadi Eisenkot as well as other senior defense establishment officers held security consultations regarding the escalation on the southern border at the IDF's Kirya Military Headquarters in Tel Aviv.

The rocket barrages came after an elite IDF officer with the rank of Lt.-Col was killed on Sunday night in a deadly IDF raid in the southern Gazan city of

Khan Yunis, along with seven Hamas terrorists, including the Khan Yunis battalion commander.

Thousands of Gazans attended the funerals following the raid, chanting for revenge.

Israeli planes bombed the studios of Hamas's television station in the Gaza Strip on Monday during a surge in cross-border fighting, Palestinian officials and witnesses said.

There was no immediate word of casualties in the air strike on Al-Aqsa Television, which destroyed its premises in Gaza City and damaged nearby buildings. Named after a major mosque in Jerusalem, it said that it would resume broadcasts soon.

Many local residents had fled after Israel phoned in calls to evacuate and launched at least five non-exploding missiles nearby as warnings, witnesses said.

The IDF confirmed that jets had struck the Gaza City television station, accusing it of "broadcasting harsh incitement" against Israel as well as "training and using other methods to carry out attacks against IDF soldiers and civilians."

The military also accused the channel of sending messages to Hamas operatives in the West Bank, calling for terrorist attacks and training on how to carry them out.

"This was an attack on a central Hamas military asset that was carried out following the extensive IDF attacks and in response to the terrorist attack led by the Hamas terrorist organization against Israeli civilians," read a statement released by the military, adding that "the IDF is determined to carry out the task of defending the citizens of Israel, and is prepared for any scenario."



An article by Katie Pavlich titled "Hamas Just Launched More Than 300 Rockets Into Israel, International Community is Silent" was posted at town-hall.com on Nov. 13, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

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Over the past two days terrorist organization Hamas, in partnership with Islamic Jihad, launched more than 300 rockets from the Gaza Strip into Israeli communities.

Is there any outrage from the international community? Hardly.

- 400 rockets fired at Israeli civilians.
- 67 Israelis injured.
- UN Human Rights Council reaction were zero statements, zero emergency sessions, zero condemnatory resolutions and zero commissions of inquiry.

Egypt is currently negotiating a ceasefire.

But while the international community refuses to condemn the action of Hamas, the United States is paying close attention.



An article by Eve Watling titled "Israel vs. Iran: Which Country Has the Strongest Military Force?" was posted at newsweek.com on Nov. 15, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

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In May 2018, the international community watched anxiously as relations between long-time foes Iran and Israel seemed to reach a new low.

Donald Trump had just announced the U.S. would pull out of the 2015 nuclear agreement with Iran, much to Tehran's displeasure. Meanwhile, new skirmishes in Syria between Israeli and Iranian military promoted both UN and EU leaders to call for restraint on both sides.

The conflicts may have died down, but months later Israel and Iran remain at odds, and an end to hostilities looks remote. In November 2018, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called Iran a "murderous terror regime . . . that is endangering the entire world," and praised Donald Trump's decision to restore sanctions.

The two countries have been engaged in a proxy war for decades, with Israeli military fighting Iran-backed Hezbollah in Lebanon in 2006, and clashing with Iranian troops during the Syrian conflict.

While an all-out war seems unlikely, both countries have formidable armed forces, with very different strengths. The Israeli army is known for cutting-edge innovation and its unmatched air force, as well as its giant stash of nukes.

Iran may not have nuclear capabilities or futuristic tech, but it does have sheer heft, with a population ten times that of Israel and far more active personnel.

We've broken down the military might of both nations, including their soldiers, equipment, technology and economy, to get the full picture of where each country's military excels, and where it falls down.

#### ■ Israel's active personnel

According to Global Firepower, Israel has 170,000 active personnel and 445,000 reserve components. Military service is compulsory for all non-Arab citizens of Israel over the age of 18. Even though its population is just 8.5 million, Israel punches above its weight when it comes to military-trained population.

#### ■ Iran's active personnel

Iran, which has a population of around 82 million people, has 534,000 active military personnel, and 400,000 in reserve. It is the largest force in the Middle East. All men over 18 must join the military or be conscripted for up to two years.

### ■ Israel's fit-for-service population

Israel has 3 million people who are fit for service, an important factor in any protracted war.

### ■ Iran's fit-for-service population

With its far larger population, Iran has 39.6 million citizens who are fit for service, over 10 times as many as Israel.

### ■ Israel's defense budget

According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, Israel spent \$16.5 billion on its military in 2017, or 4.7 percent of GDP, excluding about \$3.1 billion in military aid from the U.S. This number has decreased from 2014 levels.

### ■ Iran's defense budget

Iran spent \$14.5 billion in 2017, a 37 percent increase from 2014's spending levels. Although this isn't a great deal less, Israel's higher spending on a smaller army suggests that Israel's equipment quality is likely much higher.

### ■ Israel's tanks

Israel has 2,760 tanks, which remain a vital part of ground offensives. Their Merkava battle tank is among the best-designed and heavily armored in the world. The latest model became the first tank to have an advanced AI and sensor system and an Iron View VR helmet that gives the soldiers a 360-degree view of the outside environment.

### ■ Iran's tanks

Iran has 1,650 tanks in its army. Their main battle tank is the Karrar, or Striker. The home-produced tanks have an electro-optical fire control system, laser rangefinder, ballistic computer and can fire at stable and mobile targets. Its design is based on the Soviet T-72 tank, pictured here in 2006.

### ■ Israel's armored fighting vehicles

Israel has 10,575 armored fighting vehicles, including the 2,760 tanks. As is fitting for such a high-tech nation, Israeli AFVs have become known for innovation, and is developing combat robots that will be able to carry out missions alongside ground troops among other AFVs.

### ■ Iran's armored fighting vehicles

In comparison, Iran has just 2,215 armored fighting vehicles, including 1,650 tanks. Their equipment includes the Boragh armored personnel carrier, which is fully amphibious with infrared night vision equipment.

### ■ Israel's towed artillery

Israel has just 300 towed artillery units, including the Soltam M-71, a 155mm, 39 caliber towed howitzer.

### ■ Iran's towed artillery

Iran has 2,188 towed artillery units, considerably more than Israel.

### ■ Israel's rocket projectors

Israel has 148 rocket projectors. Perhaps its most notable rocket system is the Iron Dome, a defense system that guards Israel against air attacks. The Iron Dome uses radar tracking to detect threats, with information processed in the Battle Management and Control (BMC) center. The missile-firing unit then responds to attacks with highly maneuverable missiles equipped with sensors.

### ■ Iran's rocket projectors

Iran has 1,533 rocket projectors. This year, *The New York Times* reported on evidence that Iran was secretly building advanced missiles in the middle of the desert, missiles which may possibly have long-range capabilities.

### ■ Israel's air force

Israel has a well-equipped air force, with 596 aircraft in total. Its pilots are well-trained and experienced, regularly striking the Gaza Strip.

### ■ Iran's air force

Iran has 505 total aircraft, most of which are American planes supplied to the country before the Islamic Revolution in 1979. Other parts of its fleet are from Saddam Hussein's Iraqi Air Force, from when the dictator stashed them in Iran during the 1991 Persian Gulf War.

### ■ Israel's fighter and interceptor planes

Israel's 252 fighter planes include the Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II aircraft, a rare fifth-generation fighter plane; by 2024 it will have 50 of these planes. A new \$11 billion deal with US aerospace giant Boeing is reported to include a fleet of F-15IA fighter jets, Chinook transport helicopters along with V-22 tilt-rotor aircraft and other weapons.

### ■ Iran's fighter and interceptor planes

Iran has 150 fighter planes, mainly American-made F-4, F-5 and F-14 fighters from the 1970s. Gen. Amir Ali Hajizadeh, commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps' paramilitary air force, has said Iran plans on updating some of their Soviet-era Sukhoi Su-17 planes, but recent moves to buy new planes have not materialized.

### ■ Israel's helicopters

Israel has around the same amount of helicopters as Iran, with 147 units. Much of their inventory comes from the U.S., including the Bell 206, AH-64 Apache and Sikorsky UH-60.

### ■ Iran's helicopters

Iran has 145 helicopters. The official IRNA news agency announced in 2017 the design of the four-bladed Saba-248, which can fly in temperatures ranging from minus 13 to 131 degrees Fahrenheit.

### ■ Israel's maritime power

Israel is not a big maritime power, with only 65 naval assets in total, making it the smallest branch of the Israel Defense Forces. Coastal security, especially protecting Israel's gas rigs from missile attacks, is a priority.

### ■ Iran's maritime power

With its large coastline, it's unsurprising that Iran has more of a sea presence, with 398 total naval assets. In August 2018, Gen. Alireza Tangsiri, the naval head of Iran's Revolutionary Guards, said Iran had full control of the Persian Gulf. Much of Iran's fleet consists of small speedboats and flotillas armed with missiles.

### ■ Israel's submarines

Israel has only six submarines in total. Their Dolphin-class submarines, manufactured in Germany, have a sonar device that can detect very distant noises by filtering disrupting sounds. They can carry up to 16 missiles or torpedoes, and operate in shallow waters. They are equipped with the unusual asset of 650-millimeter tubes, which has caused speculation that these subs even have the capability to launch nuclear-tipped cruise missiles.

### ■ Iran's submarines

Iran has 33 submarines, including 21 home-produced Ghadir-class mini-submarines, which carry two 533-millimeter torpedoes. Iran plans to produce two 60-meter-long submarines armed with six torpedo tubes and a maximum speed of 23 miles per hour, although these plans seem to be facing delays.

### ■ Israel's frigates

Israel has no frigates whatsoever, favoring small, agile ships packed with missiles.

### ■ Iran's frigates

Iran has five Moudge-class frigates, which trace their design to the British Vosper of the 1960s. In January 2018 one of the frigates crashed into a jetty nearby her home port of Bandar Anzali amid waves and high winds, killing two sailors. It was carrying four Qader anti-ship cruise missiles, a 76-millimeter Fajr-27 gun and several smaller cannons, an anti-aircraft gun, two anti-air missiles and torpedoes.

### ■ Israel's patrol craft

Israel has 32 patrol craft, including Dvora- and Dabur-class boats, and unmanned boats such as the Protector USV. The Protector is a remote-controlled boat armed with a Typhoon machine gun.

### ■ Iran's patrol craft

Iran has 230 patrol boats, which are crucial to its swarm tactic against the U.S. Navy in the Persian Gulf. Knowing that the U.S. Navy would be able to crush larger boats, the many small boats crewed by what the Iranians call "martyrdom-seeking combatants."

### ■ Israel's merchant maritime strength

Israel has 42 ships in its merchant marine fleet. Merchant fleets operate under civilian control in peacetime but can be commissioned into the military fleet in wartime.

### ■ Iran's merchant maritime strength

Iran has a huge number of commercial ships compared to Israel—739 in total.

### ■ Israel's nuclear power

Although secretive about its nuclear ambitions, it's believed that Israel possesses between 75 and 400 warheads, according to the Federation of Atomic Scientists. Israel's Jericho ballistic missiles are reportedly equipped with a 750kg nuclear warhead and have a range of 4,800 to 6,500 kilometers.



An article by Ben Shapiro titled "Nationalism and Patriotism Don't Have to Be Opposites" was posted at [dailywire.com](http://dailywire.com) on Nov. 14, 2018. Following is the article.

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On Sunday, French President Emmanuel Macron spoke at a ceremony marking the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I. There, he took the opportunity to slam President Trump's "America First" nationalism.

"Patriotism," Macron said, "is the exact opposite of nationalism: Nationalism is a betrayal of patriotism. By putting our interests first, with no regard for others, we erase the very thing that a nation holds dearest, and the thing that keeps it alive: its moral values."

This statement has a sort of European charm. It's also false. And dangerous.

Nationalism, when opposed to patriotism, can indeed be terrible. It can suggest that the interests of one nation override the interests of every other nation, that imperialism and colonialism are worth pursuing out of love of blood and soil.

But when combined with patriotism, nationalism can also be a bulwark against tyranny. Nationalism can stand up to international communism. Nationalism can refuse to bow before the dictates of multiculturalism, which suggest that all cultures and practices are of equal value.

Patriotism is a philosophy of national values: It is a statement that your nation has values that are eternal, true and noble. American patriotism prizes God-given indi-



vidual rights protected by limited government. Were America to lose God-given individual rights protected by limited government, it would no longer be America.

But patriotism doesn't mean that it is the job of America to spread our values everywhere else to the detriment of our own national strength. Our patriotism encompasses American nationalism: We believe that America must come first so that America can be strong enough to promote her values where appropriate.

It is simply a fact that human beings resonate to nationalism. The question is whether that nationalism can be grafted to a worthwhile philosophy.

The German troops of World War I marched into battle out of national pride; so, too, did the American doughboys. Americans have fought and died for their flag and their families; so have soldiers of other nations. But America is great because that flag stands for certain values, and American families are built on those values.

The opposite of nationalism, then, isn't patriotism. It's internationalism, or the idea that all human beings share similar values, and that, therefore, borders and national interests are irrelevant.

That philosophy is utterly foolish and dangerous. Simply view tape of thousands of radical Muslims marching in Pakistan to protest the acquittal of a Christian woman from charges of blasphemy and realize that not all people believe the same things.

But that multicultural philosophy has led Europe to open her borders to waves of migrants who may not share European values, and who have led to cultural polarization and, indeed, the rise of right-wing nationalist movements.

It's that philosophy that has led Europe to leave behind her uniquely Western heritage in favor of a broader outlook that has undermined her cultural solidarity.

Nationalism, then, isn't the problem. Lack of values is. And mistaking anti-nationalism for a value system in and of itself endangers free citizens who hold worthwhile national values dear.



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

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■ A Reuters article by Elizabeth Piper, Kylie MacLellan and William James titled " 'I'm Going to See This Through'—May Vows to Fight for Brexit Deal" was posted at reuters.com on Nov. 15, 2018.

■ An article titled "Pope Warns Against Telling Lies, Says 'To Gossip is To Kill' " was posted at apnews.com on Nov. 14, 2018.

- An article by Julia Kollwe titled "Alarm Over Talks to Implant UK Employees With Microchips" was posted at the guardian.com on Nov. 11, 2018.
- An article by Joel Gehrke titled "China Will 'Firmly Reject' Diplomatic Request to Visit Uighur Camps" was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on Nov. 15, 2018.
- An article by Chris Pleasance titled "Saudi Arabia Will Behead Khashoggi Killers: Prosecutors Charge 11 Suspects and Say Five Face the Death Penalty for Murdering Journalist With a Lethal Injection—But Crown Prince is Cleared" was posted at dailymail.co.uk on Nov. 15, 2018.



A Reuters article by Terray Sylvester titled "Crews Search for California Fire Victims As List of Missing Grows" was posted at reuters.com on Nov. 15, 2018. Following is the article.

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The search for victims of a catastrophic blaze that reduced a northern California town to ashes intensified on Thursday as authorities posted an expanded list of nearly 300 people reported missing in the deadliest and most destructive wildfire in California history.

At least 56 people have been confirmed dead so far in the Camp Fire, which erupted a week ago in the drought-parched Sierra foothills 175 miles (280 km) north of San Francisco and now ranks as one of the most lethal single U.S. wildfires since the turn of the last century.

Authorities attributed the high death toll in part to the staggering speed with which the wind-driven flames, fueled by desiccated scrub, raced through Paradise, a town of 27,000 residents.

Nearly 9,000 homes and other buildings, including most of the town, were incinerated last Thursday night, hours after the blaze erupted, according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire).

What was left was a ghostly, smoky expanse of empty lots covered in ash and strewn with twisted wreckage and debris.

Thousands of additional structures were still threatened by the blaze, and as many as 50,000 people remained under evacuation orders. An army of firefighters, many from distant states, labored to contain and suppress the flames.

The revised official roster of 297 individuals whose whereabouts and fate remained unknown is more than double the number of people Butte County Sheriff Kory Honea said on Wednesday night had been reported missing by loved ones.

Honea said the list of missing [bit.ly/2BaiYxy](https://bit.ly/2BaiYxy) would fluctuate as more names are added and others are removed, either because they turn up safe or come to be identified among the dead.

## **DNA samples**

The sheriff has asked relatives of the missing to submit DNA samples to hasten identification of the dead. But he acknowledged some of those unaccounted for may never be conclusively found.

The Butte County disaster coincided with a flurry of smaller blazes in Southern California, most notably the Woolsey Fire, which has been linked with three fatalities and destroyed at least 500 structures in the mountains and foothills near the Malibu coast west of Los Angeles.

The latest blazes have capped a pair of calamitous wildfire seasons in California that scientists largely attribute to prolonged drought they say is symptomatic of climate change.

The White House said on Thursday that President Donald Trump, who has been criticized as having politicized the fires by casting blame on forest mismanagement, plans to visit the fire zones on Saturday to meet with displaced residents.

Fire officials said the Woolsey Fire had little to do with forest management because it occurred mostly in dry brush, chaparral and oak woodlands, and the Paradise Fire began in an area consisting primarily of private timber and scrub not managed by the government.

Cal Fire said that 40 percent of the Camp Fire's perimeter had been contained, up from 35 percent, even as the footprint of the blaze grew 2,000 acres to 140,000 acres (57,000 hectares). Containment of the Woolsey fire grew to 57 percent.

## **Tent city**

Those who survived the flames but lost their homes were adapting to a refugee lifestyle and many found a haven at a still-open Walmart store in Paradise. A section of the store's parking lot was roped off for use as a distribution center for clothes, food and coffee, while people who fled their homes set up dozens of tents in an adjacent field or slept in their cars in the parking lot. Portable toilets were brought in.

Evacuees milling in the parking lot faced morning temperatures that dropped into the mid-30s Fahrenheit and many wore breathing masks for protection from lingering smoke.

Nicole and Eric Montague, along with their 16-year-old daughter, went to the Walmart parking lot for free food but have been living with extended family in nearby Chico, in a one-bedroom apartment filled with 15 people and nine dogs.

They recounted being stunned at how swiftly the fire roared through Paradise.

"We didn't have any time to react," Eric said. "The news didn't even know the fire was coming. It just happened so quick."

Nicole said she decided to flee once her home's mailbox caught fire and neighbors' propane tanks began exploding. With approaching flames and

immovable traffic, her evacuation with her daughter was so harrowing that she called Eric to say they were going to die.

"I called him and said, 'Honey, I'm not going to make it. I love you,'" Nicole said.



An article by Walter Williams titled "We Have An Identity Problem" was posted at [jewishworldreview.com](http://jewishworldreview.com) on Nov. 14, 2018. Following is the article.

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According to a recent report in *The New York Times*, Health and Human Services Department officials have been circulating a proposal to define sex.

Their memo says, "Sex means a person's status as male or female based on immutable biological traits identifiable by or before birth." They add, "The sex listed on a person's birth certificate, as originally issued, shall constitute definitive proof of a person's sex unless rebutted by reliable genetic evidence."

I think the latter statement lacks complete rigor. It's chromosomes, not what's on a birth certificate, that determine one's sex. Therefore, if a fetus has XX chromosomes, a female is born, and if a fetus has XY chromosomes, a male is born.

What's an open-and-shut case in biology can become confused in the political/social arena, particularly when one's sex is referred to as one's gender.

By the way, before modern times, the term gender was used solely when referring to the grammar of some languages, such as French, in which nouns and pronouns are masculine, feminine or neuter and require words syntactically associated with them.

Gender has become completely disassociated with biological reasoning.

For example, in the past when a person signed up for a Facebook account, "male" and "female" were the only options. In 2014, Facebook introduced 50 gender options, including intersex, gender nonconforming, non-binary and androgynous.

In addition to the muddying of waters about one's sex, race has become muddied. Sen. Elizabeth Warren has long claimed that she has Native American heritage. Harvard University and the University of Pennsylvania saw her as making a contribution to their law schools' racial diversity agenda by being on their faculties.

Recently, many doubted her heritage and lampooned and harangued the Massachusetts Democrat as "Pocahontas." (She also has been dubbed Lieawatha.) Warren's recent effort to settle the issue through DNA analysis blew up in her face. She is only between 1/64th and 1/1,024th Native American.

This new liberal agenda allowing flexibility in determining one's identity was used by Rachel Dolezal to land a job as president of the Spokane, Washington, office of the NAACP and to become a professor of Africana studies at Eastern Washington University.

Dolezal was born Caucasian but chose to be a black person; she was outed by her white parents. The NAACP defended Dolezal, saying, "One's racial identity is not a qualifying criteria (sic) or disqualifying standard for NAACP leadership."

By the way, as far as Dolezal is concerned, she's still a black person. She has a new legal name, Nkechi Amare Diallo, which means "gift of God" in Ibo.

You might ask, "Williams, what's the problem? This is America, and people are whomever they say they are."

Here's something for you to consider: For males between the ages of 17 and 21 to pass the Army's fitness test, they must do 35 pushups, do 47 situps and run 2 miles in 16 minutes, 36 seconds. Females in the same age group pass the fitness test by doing 13 pushups, doing 47 situps and running 2 miles in 19 minutes, 42 seconds.

Would it be OK for males who cannot meet the male requirement to claim that they are females?

Suppose a man is convicted and sentenced to a 10-year term at California State Prison, Corcoran. Should he be able to claim that he is a woman and be allowed to serve out his sentence at the California Institution for Women?

Before the U.S. Supreme Court is the case Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard.

The plaintiffs allege that the university's admissions office discriminates against those of Asian descent. Those Asian students, with off-the-charts SAT scores, could have easily avoided anti-Asian discrimination simply by claiming that they were black or Hispanic.

Who at Harvard would have dared challenge their racial claim? After all, it's politically incorrect on college campuses to suggest that one's skin color, one's eye shape or the sound of one's voice indicates his or her race.

With privileges being determined by race and sex, we need something like South Africa's apartheid-era Population Registration Act of 1950 to define in clear terms who belongs to what race and what sex and thereby prevent race and sex fraud.



An article by Cal Thomas titled "What's Wrong With Florida Elections?" was posted at townhall.com on Nov. 13, 2018. Following is the article.

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Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL) had the best line when it comes to the latest Florida election in which contests for governor and the U.S. Senate are still undecided.

Rubio tweeted: "Bay County was hit by a Cat 4 Hurricane just 4 weeks ago, yet managed to count votes & submit timely results. Yet over 41 hours after polls closed #Broward elections office is still counting votes?"

With lawyers descending on the state in what looks to some like a replay of the 2000 “hanging chad” presidential election, an automatic recount has been triggered for both contests.

President Trump and other Republicans are crying foul and accusing Democrats of trying to “steal” the election. Given the history of voter fraud in this country and the heavily Democratic makeup of Broward and Palm Beach counties, their suspicions may be justified.

Vote-stealing isn’t new. After the initial vote count in the 1948 Texas Senate race, which saw Lyndon Johnson losing to his opponent Coke Stevenson by 20,000 votes, previously “unreported precincts” and other “adjustments” were made in the vote totals. Johnson came out the winner by a mere 87 votes, earning him the derisive title “Landslide Lyndon.”

In the 1960 presidential race, which saw the tightest popular vote margin since Grover Cleveland defeated James Blaine in 1884 by just 23,000 votes, Republicans claimed Richard Nixon was robbed.

As Politico reported in a 2016 article, “In Illinois, (John F. Kennedy) won by just 8,800 votes, largely due to margins in Chicago, where Mayor Richard Daley—a Kennedy stalwart—tightly controlled the Cook County organization. In Texas, home of his running mate, Lyndon Johnson, the Kennedy-Johnson ticket won by a margin of 46,000. Had Nixon carried both states, he would have won the Electoral College, 270 to 252.”

In the 2008 Minnesota Senate race between Republican incumbent Norm Coleman and Democrat Al Franken, Coleman won the election by the narrowest of margins.

According to CNN, “The initial count from the November 4 election put Coleman, a first-term senator, 215 votes ahead of Franken.” The slim margin triggered an automatic recount. The canvassing board finally determined that Franken “won by 225 votes.”

After Franken was sworn in, a conservative group called Minnesota Majority began investigating claims of voter fraud. The group found 1,099 felons, all of them ineligible, had voted. As John Fund and Hans von Spakovsky note in their book “Who’s Counting?: How Fraudsters and Bureaucrats Put Your Vote at Risk,” most felons favor Democrats when they can vote.

Which brings us back to Florida. With vote margins in the races for governor and Senate so tight, Republicans are worried that history will repeat itself.

Brenda Snipes, the supervisor of Elections in Broward County, has held her job for 15 years. Her history, to put it charitably, has been checkered. Last May, a judge ruled that Snipes violated federal and state election laws when she destroyed ballots in the 2016 congressional race in which Tim Canova lost a primary contest to incumbent Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz.

The recount process will be anything but pleasant. Snipes and others who are responsible for this dysfunctional, incompetent and possibly criminal behavior should be replaced, the sooner the better for Florida and for the country.



An article by Ann Coulter titled “GOP to Dems: Here, Take Our Wallets Too!” was posted at [anncoulter.com](http://anncoulter.com) on Nov. 14, 2018. Following is the article.

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Election recounts would be more plausible if Democrats occasionally let the Republican win. But they don’t. Ballots miraculously discovered days and weeks after the election—in the back seat of a car, after helpful “corrections” to the ballots by election supervisors, etc.—invariably result in a surprise win for the Democrat.

Voters are just supposed to accept that, unless Republicans win an election by an insuperable margin, the Democrats will steal it.

And the thieving is cheered on by our media. Whenever President Trump has the effrontery to mention that GOP victories are being stolen by corrupt Democratic officials, the media snippily note that his claim is “UNSUBSTANTIATED.”

Thus, for example, in the first 60 seconds of CNN’s “Erin Burnett OutFront” on Monday, Burnett said:

- “(The email from Trump headquarters) without providing any evidence . . . warns that, quote, corrupt Democrats are trying to, quote, steal election victories in Florida . . .
- “It’s a baseless claim that President Trump has been pushing for days . . .
- “(Gov. Rick) Scott (is) talking about rampant fraud without providing any evidence . . .
- “Now, ‘steal an election,’ ‘committing fraud’ are big claims to make without having evidence.”

Hey! I have an idea! Why doesn’t CNN rustle up some reporters to go and investigate the biggest story of the year?

No, the burden is on random Republicans—who have jobs other than “reporting the news”—to produce bulletproof evidence of voter fraud. Otherwise, it’s just a wacky coincidence that these “recounts” always result in mysterious new votes for Democrats.

If a freelance investigative reporter like James O’Keefe actually does produce the evidence that our media are too lazy and biased to get for themselves, they sneer that O’Keefe can’t be trusted. He’s not a real reporter!

What a real reporter does is call up some left-wing outfit, get a quote, and peremptorily announce that there has never been an illegal ballot cast in any election, ever.

We called the Brennan Center for Justice, and they assured us that voter fraud doesn’t exist. I can prove I called—I’ll show you my phone records! We’re not going to send our reporters on a snipe hunt. Oh, and we also got

an interesting brochure on voter suppression, such as the Nazi-inspired idea that voters should know how to spell their own names.

That's what we get from our crackerjack media. Journalists' phones should be taken away, so they'd be forced to do actual reporting.

Republicans control the state legislature and governor's office in Florida. They control the U.S. Congress and the presidency. If that's not enough to prevent two statewide Florida elections from being stolen, the GOP is more useless than I'd already imagined.

Here's a primer for Mitch McConnell and Paul Ryan on how to deal with all the Senate and House election "recounts" that keep magically flipping seats to the Democrats.

In 1974, Republican Louis Wyman won his race for U.S. Senate in New Hampshire, beating Democrat John Durkin by 355 votes. Durkin demanded a recount—which went back and forth by a handful of votes until the state's Ballot Law Commission concluded that Wyman had indeed won.

Wyman was certified the winner by the New Hampshire secretary of state and was on his way to Washington, D.C., when . . . the Senate refused to seat him. New Hampshire's certification of Wyman as the winner meant nothing, because, you see, Democrats held a majority in the Senate.

The Senate spent months examining disputed ballots. Unable to come up with any method whereby they could declare the Democrat the winner, the Senate forced New Hampshire to hold another election.

Demoralized Republicans stayed home and, this time, the Democrat won.

Hey, Mitch! Don't Republicans hold a majority in the Senate?

In 1984, Democrat Frank McCloskey won a razor-thin re-election to the House from Indiana's 8th Congressional District. The state held two recounts, both of which the Republican won. *The Washington Post* reported that there were "no allegations of fraud" in the recount, and 90 percent of ballot disqualifications had been agreed to "by election commissions dominated by Democrats."

Consequently, Indiana's secretary of state certified Republican Rick McIntyre the winner.

But the Democratic-controlled House simply refused to seat McIntyre. Instead, the House undertook its own "recount." You'll never guess who won!

Don't Republicans have a majority in the House for six more weeks?

In 2008, Sen. Norm Coleman of Minnesota won his re-election bid against challenger Al Franken by 725 votes. But for several weeks after the election, Democratic precincts kept discovering new votes for Franken—including ballots sitting in cars, as well as a write-in vote for "Frankenstein"—which was counted as a vote for Franken. (Duh.)



These late-discovered ballots eventually put Franken ahead by 312 votes, whereupon he was immediately certified the winner by the George Soros-backed secretary of state.

The U.S. Senate was in Democratic hands, so there was no question but that Majority Leader Harry Reid would seat the cheater, Franken. And that, kids, is how the Democrats got the 60th vote for Obamacare.

Four years later, we found out that more than 1,000 felons—ineligible to vote—had cast ballots in the 2008 Minnesota election. (To state the obvious, felons support Democrats by about 10-1.)

In the middle of the Democrats' open theft of the Indiana seat in 1984, The New York Times pompously reminded readers of the "basic constitutional principle that Congress is the judge of its own membership and that law-makers can overrule state laws in making that determination."

You've already caved on Arizona, Mitch. How about taking a page from the Democrats' playbook? You don't have to go full Daley Machine. Democrats steal elections they actually lost. Republicans just want you to hang on to the seats they won.



An article titled "Houston Chronicle Retracts 8 Stories After Fraud Investigation: 'We Apologize to Our Readers' " was posted at thewrap.com on Nov. 9, 2018. Following is the article.

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*The Houston Chronicle* announced Thursday [Nov. 8] that they had retracted eight stories after an internal investigation found they relied heavily on sources who seemingly did not exist.

"The relationship between a newspaper and its readers is one of trust," said *Chronicle* executive editor Nancy Barnes in a piece explaining the decision. "This investigation points to an egregious breach of that trust that is an offense to readers and journalists alike. We apologize to our readers, and to the Houston community."

"We will be correcting or retracting all of the affected stories in order to set the record straight to the best of our ability, as I promised when this was first brought to my attention," she added.

In September, the Texas daily was rocked by scandal after questions were raised about the reporting of Austin bureau chief Mike Ward. A lengthy investigation was unable to identify a number of sources Ward quoted on the record for his stories. He ultimately resigned from the paper after being confronted by Barnes.

*The Chronicle* then began an extensive effort to investigate all of Ward's reporting to identify if there were any other instances of phony sourcing dur-

ing his career there. The paper brought in Pulitzer Prize winner David Wood to lead the effort. The results of his investigation led to the the paper's decision to retract the stories.

"Of the 275 people quoted, 122, or 44 percent, could not be found. Those 122 people appeared in 72 stories," said Wood. "It's impossible to prove that these people do not exist, only that with extensive research and digging, the team could not find them. And in this age of online records, including property ownership and court filings, almost everyone can be found quickly."

In addition to the eight retractions, Wood said the paper would also amend a number of stories which relied heavily on sources which could not be independently verified.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "It's All Trump's Fault" was posted at patriotpост.us on Nov. 10, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

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At the same time that liberals chastise President Trump for acting as if everything is all about him, they carry on as if everything is all about him.

Whether one pro-Trump loon is sending prank bombs to leftists or an anti-Trump loon is killing 11 Jews in Pittsburgh, they blame it on Trump.

Most of us can agree that what Robert Bowers did at the Tree of Life synagogue in Squirrel Hill was sheer evil, but the media not only tried to lay the 11 corpses at the president's feet, but, as Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership (JPFO) pointed out, by referring to "shootings" instead of "murders," they tried to politicize the crime itself.

As always happens after these tragic events, the left-wing establishment tried to point the finger at guns instead of giving the finger to the anti-Semite who murdered 11 Jews.

#### ■ Media bias

One often hears even Fox News commentators take Trump to task for referring to the media as the enemy of the people. But the truth is that the president is usually talking about the fake-news media. And anybody who's not willing to admit that 95% of the media, consisting of newspapers, magazines, movies, and nearly every TV news outlet, is biased against Trump is lying through his teeth.

It's not just that newspapers like *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* haven't supported a Republican in a presidential race since 1956 (meaning they even backed Carter against Reagan) or that they make up lies about Donald Trump. There are also lies by omission. By never crediting Trump with anything, including boosting the economy, improving our trade deals, or putting a leash on North Korea, they expose the fact that if the man somehow cured cancer, they'd blame him for putting health care professionals out of work.

They also expose themselves for the left-wingers they are when they even blame Trump for hurricanes, campus violence, and tidal waves, pretending these things never took place when Clinton and Obama were in office. It also means they feel it incumbent on themselves to pretend that shooting GOP House members with real bullets is less serious than mailing pipe bombs that don't explode.

As Eric Golub has observed: "Right now, somebody is plotting to kill someone somewhere for unknown reasons. It's Trump's fault. This . . . is CNN reporting."

Not to be outdone, Linda Posto points out that when Obama lied, it was called a mistake. When Trump makes a mistake, it's called a lie.

#### ■ Migrants in Germany

Democrats and people like Angela Merkel always appear to be overly concerned about the comfort level of foreign invaders and totally unconcerned with their own citizens. At the very least, they should have to explain how 20 million illegal Latinos or a million Muslims have improved the lives of Americans or Germans.

#### ■ Four observations

"Arguing with a woman is like reading the Software License Agreement. In the end, you simply click 'I agree.'"

"Do not touch' must be one of the scariest things a person can read in Braille."

"There's that moment when your steak is sizzling on the grill and you can feel your mouth watering in anticipation. Do you vegans feel the same way when you're mowing the grass?"

"During labor, the pain is so great that a woman can almost imagine what a man feels like when he has a cold."



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Consensus Isn't Science" was posted at patriotpost.us on Nov. 12, 2018. Following are excerpts of the article.

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There are so many lies disseminated by those on the left that you'd need more than one scorecard to keep track. But one of the silliest is what started out as "global warming" and then morphed into "climate change" when Mother Nature wouldn't aid and abet Al Gore in the hoax by melting icebergs, drowning polar bears, and raising sea levels by 20 feet.

The initial giveaway, even before people noticed their heads weren't melting, was that the hucksters kept referring to a consensus of scientists who agreed things were heating up. That's not the way science works. Something has either been proven or it hasn't been. For example, it's been proven that  $e=mc$

squared, whereas Darwin's notion regarding the biological evolution of the species remains only a theory.

I imagine that the phonies who go around peddling false science got their ideas from the advertising of the '40s, '50s, and '60s, when Madison Avenue tried conning people into buying certain brands of laundry soap, cold cream, and cigarettes by using models decked out to look like doctors and other experts telling us that four out of five or nine out of 10 agreed that brand X got whites whiter, that brand Y prevented cavities, or brand Z tasted good like a cigarette should.

That sort of consensus was relatively harmless because everyone knew they were being fed a load of malarkey to get us to buy one product instead of another. But when so-called experts are trying to put certain industries out of business because they don't happen to like oil or coal or the people who drill or dig for it, or even an industrial nation, such as the United States, which has used the energy to make the lives of most Americans better, it's not harmless.

It explains why the socialists have teamed up with the ambulance chasers to make the case that it's oil and coal companies that are behind any bad weather that occurs anywhere on earth, and they must be made to pay through the nose for it.

The fact, as James Murphy made clear in an article titled "Manufacturing Immediate Fear of Climate Change" in a recent issue of *The New American*: "The frequency of hits by hurricanes on the United States has gone down by 50% since the 1930s and 1940s. There's been no increase in floods. Tornadoes are down, but still weather varies a lot, especially hurricanes, year to year, decade to decade.

"If there's a human influence in there, you wouldn't know it because there's so much natural variability. Climate alarmists attempt to lay blame for weather events not on 'Acts of God,' as the old insurance agency vernacular would call them, but on fossil-fuel companies and anyone else they see as complicit in extreme weather events."

And the deeper their pockets, the more complicit they are.

#### ■ List of destructive Americans

Frank Hawkins, a retired former U.S. Army intelligence officer/UP foreign correspondent/businessman, has come up with a list of the 10 most destructive Americans of the past eight decades.

Because I disagree not with the names but with the order in which he placed them, I'm listing them alphabetically:

Bill Ayers; Jimmy Carter; the Clintons, Bill & Hillary; Walter Cronkite; Mark Felt; Valerie Jarrett; Lyndon B. Johnson; Ted Kennedy; John Kerry; and Barack Obama.

His runners-up are: John Brennan; Frank Marshall Davis; Jane Fonda; Jimmy Hendrix; Robert Johnson; Janice Joplin; George Soros; and Arthur Ochs Sulzberger, Jr.

I'm not saying my own list would be the same as his. Although I tend to be with him when it comes to politicians, I verge slightly when it comes to those who have done the most to destroy pop culture.

#### ■ List of quotes

We'll close with a bunch of quotes that are attributed to a lot of people I don't believe ever said anything funny or original in their lives, so I'll only credit them to those who might actually have said them.

"As I sat, strapped in my seat waiting during the countdown, one thought kept crossing my mind: every part of this rocket was supplied by the lowest bidder." —John Glenn

"After the game, the King and the Pawn go into the same box." —Italian proverb.

"When a man opens a car door for his wife, it's either a new car or a new wife."

"Wood burns faster when you have to chop it yourself."

"The only reason they say: 'Women and children first' is to test the strength of the lifeboats." —Jean Kerr

"Lawyers believe a man is innocent until proven broke."

"We are here on earth to do good unto others. What the others are here for, I have no idea."

"I don't believe in astrology. I am a Sagittarius and we're very skeptical." —Arthur C. Clarke

"The first piece of luggage on the airport carousel never belongs to anybody."

"Hollywood must be the only place on earth where you can be fired by a man wearing a Hawaiian shirt and a baseball cap." —Steve Martin

"If God had intended for us to fly, he would have made it easier to get to the airport."

"The weather person is the only person I know that can be wrong 99.9% of the time and still have a job the next day." —Johnny Carson

"I have kleptomania, but when it gets really bad, I take something for it." —Robert Benchley



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

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## **Finances**

- An article by Terence P. Jeffrey titled "Feds Collect Record Taxes in October; Still Run \$100B Deficit" was posted at [cnsnews.com](http://cnsnews.com) on Nov. 14, 2018.
- An article by Paul Bedard titled "Debt Ceiling Will Be Set to Record High of \$22 Trillion, Fund Government to Just Summer" was posted at [washingtont Examiner.com](http://washingtont Examiner.com) on Nov. 8, 2018.
- An article by Terence P. Jeffrey titled "The Welfare Generation: 51.7% Kids in 2017 Lived in Households Getting Government Assistance" was posted at [cnsnews.com](http://cnsnews.com) on Nov. 8, 2018.
- An article by Kari Paul titled "Tulsa is Paying People More Than \$10,000 Just to Move There" was posted at [marketwatch.com](http://marketwatch.com) on Nov. 15, 2018.

## **Illegal immigration**

- An article by Justin Rohrlich and Dave Gershgorn titled "The DEA and ICE Are Hiding Surveillance Cameras in Streetlights" was posted at [qz.com](http://qz.com) on Nov. 9, 2018.
- An article by Lauren Etter and Michael Smith titled "The War Inside 7-Eleven [Concerning ICE Agents at Their Establishments]" was posted at [bloomberg.com](http://bloomberg.com) on Nov. 9, 2018.
- An article by Tony Lee titled "Pelosi: 'Now We Can Talk About' Comprehensive Amnesty Bill" was posted at [breitbart.com](http://breitbart.com) on Nov. 9, 2018.
- A video and an article by Salvador Rivera titled "Video Shows Group Climbing Border Fence" were posted at [fox5sandiego.com](http://fox5sandiego.com) on Nov. 13, 2018.

## **Comments about weapons**

- An article by Tom Joyce titled "California Crisis: Anti-Trump Musician's [Pink] Husband [Carey Hart] Warns, 'Looters Will Be Shot' " was posted at [lifezette.com](http://lifezette.com) on Nov. 14, 2018.

## **Comments about Trump support**

- An article by Susan Jones titled "Graham May Investigate Hillary; If Dems Look Backward, 'We're All Going to Look Backward' " was posted at [cnsnews.com](http://cnsnews.com) on Nov. 15, 2018.

## **Comments about Trump opposition**

- An article by John Bowder titled "Michelle Obama: 'I'd Never Forgive' Trump for 'Birther' Conspiracy" was posted at [thehill.com](http://thehill.com) on Nov. 8, 2018.
- An article by Beth Baumann titled "More Trouble: Florida County Broke State Rules When They Allowed People to Vote by Email, Fax" was posted at [townhall.com](http://townhall.com) on Nov. 13, 2018.

- An article by Katie Pavlich titled "It Sure Looks Like Democrats in Florida Altered Ballots" was posted at townhall.com on Nov. 15, 2018.
- An article by Matt Vespa titled "The First Casualty of the Incoming Democratic House: Trump's New NAFTA Agreement?" was posted at townhall.com on Nov. 13, 2018.
- An article by James Hyerczyk titled "Bank Shares Tumble After Rep. Waters Says Easing Banking Regulations 'Will Come to an End' When She Takes Charge [of the House Financial Services Committee]" was posted at yahoo.com on Nov. 14, 2018.
- An article titled "Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez Joins Climate Protest in Pelosi's Office" was posted at ntknetwork.com on Nov. 13, 2018.
- An article by Laretta Brown titled "New Planned Parenthood President Leana Wen Says the Term 'Pro-Choice' Ignores 'Systematic Racism' " was posted at townhall.com on Nov. 12, 2018.
- An article by Ryan Bomberger titled "Planned Parenthood's New President Tells the Same Old Pro-Abortion Lies" was posted at townhall.com on Nov. 14, 2018.
- An article by Alex Barasch titled "Robert De Niro Bashes Trump Again: 'Down With This Motherf---er' " was posted at variety.com on Nov. 13, 2018.
- An article by Lee Moran titled "Donald Trump Becomes Twitter Laughingstock Over 'Envy of the World' Boast" was posted at huffpost.com on Nov. 15, 2018.
- An article by Amanda Terkel and Kevin Robillard titled "Top Liberal Donors Gather in Washington to Strategize for 2020" was posted at huffpost.com on Nov. 15, 2018.

### **News about the media**

- An article by John Nolte titled " 'No Empathy': Vox's Matt Yglesias Defends 'Terrorizing' Tucker Carlson's Family" was posted at Breitbart.com on Nov. 8, 2018.
- An article by S.A. Miller titled "Antifa Expands Its Hit List As Political Violence Escalates" was posted at WashingtonTimes.com on Nov. 8, 2018.
- An article by Brian Stelter titled "CNN Sues President Trump and Top White House Aides for Barring Jim Acosta" was posted at CNN.com on Nov. 13, 2018.
- An article by Brian Stelter titled "Fox News and Other Outlets Join CNN Fight Over Press Access to White House" was posted at CNN.com on Nov. 14, 2018.
- An article by Leah Barkoukis titled "Woodward Takes Swipe at CNN: 'More Serious Reporting' is the Answer, Not a Lawsuit" was posted at townhall.com on Nov. 14, 2018.

### **General interest**

- An article by Marie McCullough titled "Online Abortion Pills Come to the U.S." was posted at AbqJournal.com (Albuquerque, New Mexico) on Nov. 10, 2018.

- An article by Terence P. Jeffrey titled “Feds Have Not Decided Whether to Extend UCSF’s Contract to Humanize Mice With Aborted Baby Parts” was posted at cnsnews.com on Nov. 14, 2018.
- An article by Eric M. Strauss and Bopha Phorn titled “Officials Investigating 252 Possible Cases of Polio-Like Illness AFM [Acute Flaccid Myelitis]” was posted at abcnews.com on Nov. 13, 2018.
- An article by Terence P. Jeffrey titled “37.8 Percent in Generation That Starts Turning 21 Next Year Was Born to Unwed Moms” was posted at cnsnews.com on Nov. 14, 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.”