

Eye on the World

April 13, 2019

This compilation of material for "Eye on the World" is presented as a service to the Churches of God. The views stated in the material are those of the writers or sources quoted by the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the members of the Church of God Big Sandy. The following articles were posted at churchofgodbigandy.com for the weekend of April 13, 2019.

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).



A Reuters article by Tanishaa Nadkar titled "[Royal Dutch] Shell Sells Stake in Gulf of Mexico Field for \$965 Million" was posted at reuters.com on April 11, 2019. Following is the article.

Royal Dutch Shell on Thursday agreed to sell its 22.45 percent stake in the Caesar Tonga field in the Gulf of Mexico for \$965 million in cash to a subsidiary of Israeli energy conglomerate Delek Group.

Located in the Gulf of Mexico, 300 km south of Louisiana, the field's current production rate is 71,000 barrels per day of oil equivalent, with 90 percent of the output being oil.

The Caesar Tonga field has 30 more years of life and assuming no change in the rate of production, Delek's interest reflects 78 million barrels of oil equivalent reserves, Delek, Israel's government-owned gas retailer, said.

As part of the deal, Delek will sign a long-term agreement with a Shell affiliate to purchase oil produced from the field for 30 years at either market prices or prices matched to third-party offers.

Delek Chief Executive Asaf Bartfeld said the deal, along with exploration in the North Sea and the Gulf of Mexico, would boost its position in the international energy market.

Shell said the deal was likely to close by the end of the third quarter and the latest stake sale would contribute to its ongoing divestment program.

The Anglo-Dutch oil company last year sold its Danish upstream business to Norwegian Energy in a deal valued at \$1.9 billion.

Shell reported a sharp rise in cash generation in 2018 and said in January it would stick to spending discipline this year even as it looks to divest around \$5 billion a year.

Its 2018 profit jumped by more than a third to \$21.4 billion, the highest since the 2014 oil market downturn.

The deal for Caesar Tonga is subject to the right of refusal by Anadarko Petroleum Corp, Equinor ASA and Chevron Corp, which own the rest of the field.



An article by Marcy Oster titled "Israel's Beresheet Spacecraft Fails to Land Safely on the Moon" was posted at jpost.com on April 11, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

The Israeli spacecraft Beresheet did not make the anticipated landing on the moon as planned on Thursday night.

Disappointment set in at the SpaceIL mission center as it became evident that while Beresheet did make it to the moon and won't be capable to carry out it's final mission.

As the spacecraft approached the moon, SpaceIL lost contact with Beresheet several times. The scientists kept hope as the connection was restored, but just minutes before the spacecraft was supposed to touch down, contact was lost once again and it crashed on the moon.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who was at hand to watch the landing, said that Israel will continue to try landing on the moon. Minutes later Netanyahu took to the microphone again to promise "Israel will land on the moon!"



An article titled "Noble's Tomb Found in Egypt Dates Back to Early Pharaohs" was posted at nytimes.com on April 2, 2019. Following is the article.

Egypt says archaeologists have found the tomb of a noble from the time of one of the earliest pharaonic dynasties.

The Antiquities Ministry said Tuesday [April 2] that the tomb uncovered in the Saqqara pyramids complex outside Cairo dates to the 5th Dynasty, which ruled the Nile Valley from 2388-2356 B.C.

Egypt frequently touts new archaeological finds, hoping to encourage tourism.



An article by Elizabeth Nolan Brown titled “Punishing Assange Isn’t Worth Killing a Free Press: Reason Roundup” was posted at reason.com on April 12, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

Julian Assange is exactly the kind of person that prompts bad policy to be made. A polarizing figure with the wrong politics for America’s media establishment and a history of lurid allegations against him, Assange’s fate is easy for many to dismiss as what the WikiLeaks founder deserves.

When Assange, who had been living in the Ecuadorian embassy in London, was arrested by British police Thursday, “few, if any, politicians defended Assange or suggested that it might be wrong to prosecute him,” Joe Setyon pointed out yesterday.

Even libertarian-leaning folks like Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) and Rep. Justin Amash (R-Mich.) have thus far been mum.

Rep. Tulsi Gabbard (D-Hawaii) is pretty much the only elected politician to stick up for Assange’s rights. She told CNN yesterday that Assange had successfully “informed the American people about actions that were taking place that they should be aware of” and that his prosecution by U.S. law enforcement is “some form of retaliation.”

For President Donald Trump’s part, he simply claimed not to know anything about WikiLeaks at all, despite heaping praise on it in the past.

Let’s put aside Assange for a moment—because when laws are written or precedents set based only on whether Bad People are bad, we all lose. We let powerful figures convince us that giving that Bad Person what they deserve is what matters most, consequences be damned. And then we end up creating all sorts of new injustices to “correct” for a perceived past one.

What the government and its cheerleaders are really asking here is for us to suspend fundamental principles and practices underlying free speech and a free press.

It is not uncommon for confidential sources in government, business, and other powerful institutions to leak information to journalists and publishers. This is how we’ve found out about some of the biggest political scandals of the past 100 years.

But now the U.S. Department of Justice is suggesting that these basic news-gathering and reporting functions are criminal.

And officials are relying on hurt feelings about Russia to distract people from what’s really going on.

The American charges that Assange faces relate to WikiLeaks' publication of documents on the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, using files leaked by Chelsea Manning. The feds also accuse Assange of "conspiring" with Manning to uncover more classified information along these lines.

The case does not have anything to do with any alleged Assange ties to Russia, or WikiLeaks' publication of the Democratic National Committee's emails, or the 2016 election at all.

"The Assange indictment is weaker than you might expect," tweeted the constitutional lawyer and former federal prosecutor Ken "Popehat" White yesterday. "It charges that Assange and Manning conspired to access government computers (to hack, in the vernacular). BUT it doesn't say they succeeded."

At *The Washington Post*, Margaret Sullivan suggests that the situation hinges on whether Assange crossed "a crucial line by allegedly encouraging the password hack" instead of just passively receiving the information. I don't think that's quite such a clear demarcation.

Suppose a source says she has information on huge government abuses and could get proof of more if she can guess one password.

Should simply saying "Sure, go for it" count as a crime?

How could it be that this is beyond the pale but otherwise encouraging a source to turn over classified information is not?

First Amendment lawyer Barry Pollack tells Sullivan that the indictment against Assange was narrow and didn't criminalize the mere receiving and publishing of classified information. But the line there is a little too close for comfort for me, and many others.

The indictment may not directly call certain journalist practices criminal, but it does include them—things like using encrypted communications and attempting to protect a source's identity—as among the elements that suggest Assange is guilty of conspiracy

The indictment "poses grave threats to press freedoms, not only in the U.S. but around the world," write Glenn Greenwald and Micah Lee at *The Intercept*.

The Assange prosecution "would be unprecedented and unconstitutional and would open the door to criminal investigations of other news organizations," the ACLU's Ben Wizner tells Sullivan.



"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 Alexander Robertson, Terri-Ann Williams, Rory Tingle, Sarah White, Jemma Buckley, Christian Gysin and Sophie Borland titled “ ‘Narcissist’ Julian Assange Faces Decades in US Jail After He Was Hauled Screaming Out of Ecuadorian Embassy by Eight Officers, Found Guilty of Skipping UK Bail and Charged by American Government With Hacking 750,000 Classified Documents” was posted at dailymail.co.uk on April 11, 2019.
- An article by Michael Morris titled “Piers Morgan: ‘Utterly Ridiculous,’ ‘Damaging’ to Let Children Choose Their Own Gender” was posted at cnsnews.com on April 2, 2019.
- An article by Michael W. Chapman titled “Mormon Church: Now Okay to Baptize Kids of LGBT Parents, Gay Marriage No Longer ‘Apostasy’ ” was posted at cnsnews.com on April 4, 2019.
- An article by Libby Emmons titled “Feminists Couldn’t Get Trans Ideology Out of UK Public Schools, Buat Muslims Did” was posted at thefederalist.com on April 9, 2019.
- An article by Nick Wadhams titled “Why Iran’s Revolutionary Guard Corps Was Just Labeled a Terrorist Organization by the U.S.” was posted at fortune.com on April 9, 2019.
- An article titled “Turkey Says US Move Against Iran Guards Creates ‘Instability’ ” was posted at yahoo.com on April 9, 2019.
- A Reuters article by Tuvan Gumrukcu titled “Turkey Says It Will Look Elsewhere If U.S. Won’t Sell Patriots, F-35s” was posted at reuters.com on April 10, 2019.
- A Reuters article titled “Hezbollah Warns U.S. Over Sanctions Against Iran and Allies” was posted at reuters.com on April 10, 2019.
- An article by Michael Peck titled “Middle East Nightmare: Could Israeli Strikes in Syria Trigger War With Russia?” was posted at nationalinterest.org on April 6, 2019.
- An article by Tom Heneghan titled “Shattered Statues and Satanic Symbols Mark Rise in Attacks on French Church” was posted at ncronline.org on April 2, 2019.
- An article by Tom Philipps titled “Venezuela: Maduro Calls on Armed Groups to Keep Order Amid Electricity Rationing” was posted at theguardian.com on April 1, 2019.
- An article by Scott Smith titled “Maduro Loyalists Strip Venezuela’s Juan Guaido of Immunity” was posted at apnews.com on April 2, 2019.
- A Reuters article by Vivian Sequera and Deisy Buitrago titled “Venezuelans Rally to Demand Power, Water and End to Maduro” was posted at reuters.com on April 6, 2019.



An article by Jeffrey Folks titled “Socialism or Communism: Call It What You Will” was posted at americanthinker.com on April 9, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

For decades, Bernie Sanders has proclaimed that he is a socialist, but is he a communist?

- A common definition of communism is a system in which all means of production are owned, and all workers employed, by the state.
- A familiar definition of socialism is a system in which all means of production are owned or regulated by the state and all workers, therefore, employed or regulated by the state.
- Except for the qualification of “owned or regulated,” there is no difference between socialism and communism.
- Some might view socialism as “communism lite,” but there is nothing “lite” about the government takeover of all major industries that Bernie and other leading Democrats advocate.

Educational system

The Left has already socialized America’s educational system, with SAT scores declining since their peak in 1964 and declining markedly since 2006.

From what was traditionally local schools governed by local school boards, the American system of education became increasingly regulated by the federal government beginning in the 1960s as stipulations on curricula, standards, and treatment of race and sex were attached to the explosive rise in federal funding of education.

By shifting funding away from state and local sources, the federal government was able to gain control of nearly every aspect of public education.

Health care

At the center of the socialist movement is the demand for health care “as a right” with Medicare for All as the solution. Medicare for All is a disarmingly neutral phrase, but it masks a plan for the elimination, and outlawing, of private health insurance.

This would mean government control of the entire process of treatment, including office visits, hospitalization, emergency care, and drug delivery. With Medicare, Medicaid, and Obamacare already “serving” 116.5 million patients, this process is well underway, but a complete takeover would transform expectations about standards and timeliness of care.

Imagine calling HHS to schedule a heart bypass operation and finding yourself on an endless menu runaround. That’s the reality of Medicare for All.

Financial sector

The financial crisis of 2008 made possible a vast expansion in federal control of the financial sector, along with the automotive and housing sectors. Financial firms were forced to accept “bailouts” to which stringent conditions were attached.

Many of those conditions are still in place, and radicals like Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez advocate the renewal of affordable housing policies such as loan quotas for low-income and illegal alien borrowers—the same behavior that caused the financial crisis to begin with.

Energy sector

Another major sector of the economy ripe for picking, as socialists see it, is energy. The Green New Deal has nothing to do with saving the Earth and everything to do with government takeover of the energy sector.

Obama attempted this takeover via EPA, Fish and Wildlife, Interior, and other agency regulation that shut down leasing of mineral rights on federal lands and on vast areas of private lands.

Now radical Democrats want a more direct takeover of the energy sector by mandating the elimination of fossil fuels by 2030. Under this plan, government would be empowered to dictate exactly what sources of energy every American would be permitted to employ, and in what amounts.

Supporters have not considered the fact that the Green New Deal would eliminate most sources of electricity, along with nearly all cars, trucks, trains, and planes now in operation.

Apparently, they're smitten with the idea of a bicycle utopia straight out of Amsterdam. Most Americans will find it difficult to cycle to work.

Appealing to millennial voters

It's not surprising that flashy politicians like Ocasio-Cortez, or seemingly attractive ones like Bernie Sanders and Kamala Harris, can attract Millennial voters.

"Free everything" and a sympathetic view of those struggling in the economy go a long way toward earning votes. Those were the same enticements employed by communists and fascists in the past.

Hugo Chávez began as a populist who promised a better life for the masses. Today there is little food in Venezuela for those masses.

Annulment of freedoms

With the election of Democrats across the board in 2020, America would become a fully socialist country, not at all different from all socialist and communist countries of the past or present.

Socialism means not just control of the economy; it means the annulment of all our freedoms.

This includes the following.

- Revocation of the Second Amendment
- Universal government-funded abortion

- Elimination of religion from the public sphere
- Expansion of “hate speech” laws and other forms of censorship
- Use of the IRS, the FBI, and other agencies to suppress political opposition
- Expansion of the EPA, Fish and Wildlife, and other environmental agencies to control land use and restrict property rights
- Confiscation of wealth via taxation at 70% and more

Other assaults on the freedoms we enjoy.

Is there any substantive difference between this scenario and communism as it existed in the Soviet Union, communist Cuba, and “socialist” Venezuela?

This being the case, why not label Bernie’s socialism for what it is?

What Democrats have in mind in 2020—all of them, from Bernie to Beto, with Kamala, Cory, and Biden in between—is closer to Maduro’s Venezuela than it is to the democratic capitalism that Americans have enjoyed in the past.

Smiley-faced socialism

It is not a benign form of government “helping,” as leftists like to portray it—“you didn’t build that, government built it for you,” so why do you oppose even more government “help”?

The difference between socialism and communism is actually just a matter of semantics.

Smiley-faced socialism is just as oppressive as communism, and it inevitably becomes less smiley-faced.

Like Bernie and the rest in 2020, Obama promised free health care with total choice. What he delivered was little choice, high cost, and “mandates” forcing everyone to purchase health insurance.

Under communism, there are far more mandates, but they are not at all different from what Obama delivered with the Affordable Care Act. Orders are issued, and they are followed, and they are enforced by armed federal agents.

Tired of resisting?

If the American people choose a Democrat for president and a Democrat Congress in 2020, we will become a socialist nation.

- Perhaps the American people are tired of making the effort required by capitalism.
- Perhaps they are tired of arguing with the Left over issues such as health care and “free” education.
- Perhaps they want to just give in and let the socialists have their way.

If they do so, it will enslave our nation for the next hundred years.

The truth is that socialism does not deliver equality but only poverty and oppression. “Democratic” socialism soon becomes less than democratic, and its economy offers only rationing for the poor and special privileges for the political class.

“Medicare for All” would deliver not “Medicare” as we know it, but a degraded version of Medicare—and all would have to accept it, including seniors who had previously benefited from at least some access to health care.

Hardcore collectivism

What Democrats have in mind in 2020 is not smiley-faced socialism; it is hardcore collectivism enforced by armed government agents. Twenty twenty will be a critical election because it will reveal the direction Americans really want to take.

I do not want to live in a socialist or communist nation, but I do not intend to leave. I only hope Trump will be re-elected and that he will continue to defend our liberties and our free-market system. Otherwise, the future will be difficult for all of us.



An article by Ben Shapiro titled “The Open Borders Agenda Rears Its Ugly Head” was posted at townhall.com on April 10, 2019. Following is the article.

This week, President Trump fired his homeland security secretary, Kirstjen Nielsen. Nielsen was, according to media and the Democrats, a monster of the highest order. She was allegedly the force behind the caging of children (that practice began under President Barack Obama and actually ended under President Trump); she was supposedly a barbarian focused on keeping innocent brown children out of America.

And Trump dumped her because even she was not cruel enough to please Genghis Trump, the left claimed.

Stephen Colbert joked, “Sure, she put kids in cages, but Trump was upset . . . So he just needs someone who can be crueler to children than Kirstjen Nielsen.”

Jimmy Kimmel made nearly the same joke: “Goodbye, Kirstjen, and whoever replaces you permanently is going to have some very big cages to fill.”

Trevor Noah quipped, “Basically, the only job she can get now is working with R. Kelly.”

In reality, Trump fired Nielsen because he believed she hadn’t properly taken measures to rein in the humanitarian crisis at the border. That was half true—she didn’t react with alacrity to change the necessary Homeland Security regulations, for example.

But it was also a result of Trump's changing whims with regard to border strategy. Trump was in favor of a no-tolerance border policy that necessarily resulted in family separations; then he was against it; then he was for it; then he was against it.

Most of that vacillation resulted not from brutal bigotry, however, but from a simple fact: Democrats have simply not provided Border Patrol and Immigration and Customs Enforcement with the resources necessary to properly control the border.

Federal courts have ruled that families cannot be held together in custody for longer than 20 days; children must be released to guardians outside detention. This means that the Trump administration, like the Obama administration before it, was left with a choice: Either release parents along with children, or separate parents from children.

The federal courts have made the situation even less tenable. They have stated that the Trump administration cannot work with the Mexican government to house potential asylum claimants on the Mexican side of the border to keep families together; they have stated that the Trump administration cannot separate families for prolonged periods of time. A series of conflicting lower-court rulings has left the general policy in limbo.

This means that Congress ought to act. Everyone should be on the same page with regard to those crossing the border illegally. We should have an expedient system for determining the validity of asylum claims; we should give families the option of staying together in detention pending such determination.

But Democrats in Congress refuse to act. They won't change the regulations to allow families to remain together in custody, and they won't provide the funding necessary to keep detained families in some level of comfort.

Instead, they snipe at the supposed cruelty of the Trump administration, which simply seeks to end the policy of "catch and release" that results in hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants remaining indefinitely in the country.

This week, Tom Perez, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, revealed the truth about the Democratic agenda: It's not about compassion at all, but about politics.

"Tough doesn't equal smart," Perez stated. "Tough equals dumb." The only truly dumb thing is continuing to play politics with the lives of people crossing the border illegally and American citizens being forced to cope with the price of illegal immigration.



An article by Walter Williams titled "Police Aren't Enough" was posted at jewishworldreview.com on April 3, 2019. Following is the article.

Sometimes, during my drive to work, I listen to Clarence Maurice Mitchell IV, host of the Baltimore's WBAL C4 radio show. Mitchell was formerly a member of Maryland's House of Delegates and its Senate.

In recent weeks, Mitchell has been talking about the terrible crime situation in Baltimore. In 2018, there were 308 homicides. So far this year, there have been 69.

That's in a 2018 population of 611,648—down from nearly a million in 1950. The city is pinning its hopes to reduce homicides and other crime on new Police Commissioner Michael Harrison.

Another hot news item in Baltimore is the fact that Johns Hopkins University wants to hire 100 armed police officers to patrol its campuses, hospital and surrounding neighborhoods. The hospital president, Dr. Redonda Miller testified in Annapolis hearings that patients and employees are "scared when they walk home, they're scared when they walk to their cars."

Philadelphia's Temple University police department is the largest university police force in the United States, with 130 campus police officers, including supervisors and detectives.

In 1957, I attended night school at Temple University. There was little or no campus police presence. I am sure that people who attended Johns Hopkins, University of Chicago, and other colleges in or adjacent to black neighborhoods during the '40s, '50s and earlier weren't in an armed camp. In the nation's largest school districts that serve predominantly black youngsters, school police outnumber, sometimes by large margins, school counseling staffs.

Again, something entirely new. I attended predominantly black Philadelphia schools from 1942 to 1954. The only time we saw a policeman in school was during an assembly where we had to listen to a boring lecture on safety. Today, Philadelphia schools have hired more than 350 police officers.

What has happened to get us to this point? Will hiring more police officers and new police chiefs have much of an impact on crime?

No doubt hiring more and better trained police officers will have some impact on criminal and disorderly behavior—but not much unless we create a police state. The root of the problem, particularly among black Americans, is the breakdown of the family unit where fathers are absent.

- In 1938, 11 percent of blacks were born to unmarried women.
- By 1965, that number had grown to 25 percent.
- Now it's about 75 percent.
- Even during slavery, when marriage between blacks was illegal, a higher percentage of black children were raised by their biological mothers and fathers than today.

In 1940, 86 percent of black children were born inside marriage. Today, only 35 percent of black children are born inside marriage.

Having no father in the home has a serious impact. Children with no father in the home are five times more likely to be poor and commit crime, nine times more likely to drop out of school and 20 times more likely to be in prison.

Our generous welfare system, in effect, allows women to marry the government. Plus, there is shortage of marriageable black men because they've dropped out of school, wound up in jail and haven't much of a future.

Unfortunately, many blacks followed the advice of white liberal academics such as Johns Hopkins professor Andrew Cherlin who in the 1960s argued that "the most detrimental aspect of the absence of fathers from one-parent families is not the lack of a male presence but the lack of male income."

Cherlin's vision suggested that fathers were unimportant and if black females "married the government"; black fathers would be redundant.

Most of today's major problems encountered by black people have little or nothing to do with racial discrimination and a legacy of slavery.

People who make those excuses are doing a grave disservice to black people. The major problems black people face are not amenable to political solutions and government anti-poverty programs.

If they were, then they'd be solved by the more than \$20 trillion dollars nation has spent on poverty programs since 1965. As comic strip character Pogo said, "We have met the enemy and he is us."



An article by a cnsnews.com staff writer titled "Candace Owens [A Black Conservative]: 'White Nationalism' Didn't Do This Damage to Blacks, 'Democrat Policies Did' " was posted at cnsnews.com on April 9, 2019. Following is the article.

Candace Owens, 29, the spokesperson for the conservative group Turning Point USA, testified before Congress on Tuesday about hate crimes and white nationalism, where she stressed that "white nationalism" did not cause the major problems affecting blacks today but liberal progressivism and "Democrat policies did."

The House Judiciary Committee held the hearing on Tuesday, the subject "Hate Crimes and the Rise of White Nationalism." The committee is headed by Chairman Jerry Nadler (D-N.Y.)

Below is Candace Owens' opening statement to the committee:

"Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member Mr. Collins thank you for having me here today. I received word on my way in that many of the journalists were confused as to why I was invited and none of them knew that I myself was a victim of a hate crime when I was in high school.

"That is something that very few people know about me because the media and the journalists on the left are not interested in telling the truth about me because I don't fit the stereotype of what they like to see in black people.

"I am a Democrat. I support the president of the United States and I advocate for things that are actually affecting the black community.

"I am honored to be here today in front of you all because the person sitting behind me is my 75-year-old grandfather. I have always considered myself to be my grandfather's child and I mean to say that my sense of humor, my passion, and my work ethic all comes from the man that is sitting behind me.

"My grandfather grew up on a sharecropping farm in the segregated South. He grew up in an America where words like racism and white nationalism held real meaning under the Democratic Party's Jim Crow laws.

"My grandfather's first job was given to him at the age of five years old and his job was to lay tobacco out to dry in an attic in the South. My grandfather has picked cotton and he has also had experiences with the Democrat terrorist organization of that time, the Ku Klux Klan. They would regularly visit his home and they would shoot bullets into it. They had an issue with his father, my great-grandfather.

"During my formative years I had the privilege of growing up in my grandfather's home. It is going to shock the committee but not once, not in a single breath of a conversation did my grandfather tell me that I could not do something because of my skin color.

"Not once did my grandfather hold a gripe against the white man. I was simply never taught to view myself as a victim because of my heritage. I learned about faith in God, family and hard work. Those were the only lessons of my childhood.

"There isn't a single adult today that in good conscience would make the argument that America is a more racist, more white nationalist society than it was when my grandfather was growing up and yet we are hearing these terms center around today because what they want to say is that brown people need to be scared which seems to be the narrative that we hear every four years right ahead of a presidential election.

"Here are some things we never hear. Seventy-five percent of the black boys in California don't meet state reading standards. In inner cities like Baltimore within five high schools and one middle school not a single student was found to be proficient in math or reading in 2016. The singlehood—the single motherhood rate in the black community, which is at 23 percent in the 1960s when my grandfather was coming out, is at a staggering 74 percent today. I am guessing there will be no committee hearings about that.

"There are more black babies aborted than born alive in cities like New York and you have Democrat Governor Andrew Cuomo lighting up buildings to celebrate late-term abortions. I could go on and on.

"My point is that white nationalist—white nationalism did not do any of those things that I just brought up. Democrat policies did.

"Let me be clear: the hearing today is not about white nationalism or hate crimes, it is about fear mongering, power and control. It is a preview of a Democrat 2020 election strategy—the same as the Democrat 2016 election strategy.

"They blame Facebook. They blame Google. They blame Twitter. Really, they blame the birth of social media, which has disrupted their monopoly on old

media. They called this hearing because they believe that if it wasn't for social media, voices like mine would never exist, then my movement Blexit which is inspiring black Americans to leave the Democrat Party, would have never come about and they certainly believe that Donald Trump would not be in office today.

"The goal here is to scare Blacks, Hispanics, gays and Muslims into helping them censor dissenting opinions, ultimately to help them regain control of our country's narrative, which they feel that they lost.

"They feel that President Donald Trump should not have beat Hillary. If they actually were concerned about white nationalism, they would be holding hearings on Antifa, a far left, violent white gang who determined one day in Philadelphia in August that I, a black woman, was not fit to sit in a restaurant.

"They chased me out, they yelled race traitor to a group of black and Hispanic police officers who formed a line to protect me from their ongoing assaults. They threw water at me. They threw eggs at me. And the leftist media remain silent on it.

"If they were serious about the rise of hate crimes they may perhaps examine themselves and the hate they have drummed up in this country. Bottom line is that white supremacy, racism, national—white nationalism, words that once held real meaning have now become nothing more than election strategies.

"Every four years the black communities are offered handouts and fear, handouts and fear, reparations and white nationalism. This is the Democrat preview.

"Of course, society is not perfectible. We have heard testimony of that today. There are pockets of evil that exist and those things are horrible and they should be condemned. But I believe the legacy of the ancestry of black Americans is being insulted every single day.

"I will not pretend to be a victim in this country. I know that that makes many people on the left uncomfortable. I want to talk about real issues in black America. I want to talk about real issues in this country, real concerns.

"The biggest scandal—this is my last sentence—in American politics is that Democrats have been conning minorities into the belief that we are perpetual victims, all but ensuring our failure. Racial division and class warfare are central to the Democrat Party platform. They need blacks to hate whites, the rich to hate the poor. Soon enough it will be the tall hating the short."

In other remarks to the committee, Owens said, "My biography, which I submitted, you reduced it to one sentence, calling me just a 'conservative activist'—and it wasn't what I said or what I submitted to your office last night. I just think that you opened with anti-black bias and I see it coming from the chairman today."



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Franchising 16-Year-Olds" was posted at patriotpost.us on April 6, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

Of all the cynical moves by those on the Left, perhaps Nancy Pelosi's call for granting 16-year-olds the vote might be the most cynical of all.

The physiological fact that the brains of teenagers aren't fully developed has been used successfully to keep adolescents from being prosecuted as adults for serious felonies. It is felt that a 16-year-old doesn't have the mental capacity to understand the full extent of his crime and the inevitable consequences.

It is very like the defense of temporary insanity, except that, unlike, say, shooting the scoundrel discovered in bed with one's wife, the temporary insanity of young males extends for years. In the case of liberals, for decades.

Steve Hanover passed along one of those unintended consequences when he pointed out that jury selection comes from the voter registration rolls. Do you really want to have your case determined by a jury of adolescents, most of whom will have to be constantly admonished by the judge to stop playing with their electronic gizmos and to pay attention to the testimony?

Even as I sit here, I can hear their collective sighs and their world-weary "Whatever's."

■ Rascist, Fascist or having a silly phobia

After I recently wrote that, even in the face of a corrupt media, partisan indoctrination being passed off as education and a major political party that would destroy the country in its pursuit of absolute power, I remain optimistic, I heard from Jay Lehr, who asked that I urge my readers to convince their uncommitted Liberal friends to vote for Trump next year.

I let Jay know that I assumed I was doing that every time I list the President's accomplishments and deride his critics.

Where I disagreed with him was in thinking that there is a single uncommitted Liberal in America. So far as I can tell, every Liberal these days is a Democrat, a Progressive, a Socialist and a Communist, even if they call themselves a Moderate or, amusingly, like Bernie Sanders, an Independent.

Whatever they choose to call themselves, facts roll off their backs like water off a duck's fanny. I have never been able to engage one in debate because if you don't agree with their nonsense, they automatically dismiss you as a racist, a Fascist or suffering from one of the silly phobias they've concocted over the past several years, such as Islamophobia, Homophobia and Transphobia.

■ Anti-Semite, really?

Even when Donald Trump, who has a Jewish son-in-law who is married to a Jewish convert, Ivanka, and three Jewish grandchildren, and, furthermore, refuses to allow even an inch of daylight to separate him from Israel, the loons call him an anti-Semite.

For my part, as bad as things are, how can I give up hope in America when, in spite of being constantly trashed by the media and out-spent by Hillary Clinton and the DNC, Donald Trump was elected in 2016?

■ Spurious hoaxes

You'd have to be as partisan as Chuck Schumer and as stupid as Nancy Pelosi not to take comfort from that miracle.

I never would have dreamed it, but hoaxes have become a major growth industry in this country. Early on, we had the highly-publicized phony rape charges at Duke and the University of Virginia. Even though the truth eventually came out and a few law enforcement officers, college administrators and the Rolling Stone had their reputations tarnished or destroyed, it only seemed to spur the Left on to new and even more spurious hoaxes.

They included, but were not limited, to global warming; climate change; Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction; the Russian dossier/collusion scandal; Covington High School; the Prescott (MO) racist cops; Trayvon Martin; Brett Kavanaugh; and Jussie Smollett.

■ Repeated lies

No matter how often the media, their puppet masters in Congress, and the Deep Staters in various governmental agencies, concoct these elaborate lies and no matter how often they're shot down by inconvenient facts, the Left never lets up. As every dictator has pointed out, repeated often enough, you can make most people believe anything, whether it was Hitler's thousand year Reich or Stalin's numerous five-year plans.

■ Five female members of Congress

Todd Dierdorff, who really knows how to ruin a person's day, sent along a run-down on five of the new female members of the House. These were the ones who were widely acclaimed for the diversity they would be bringing to the new Democratically-controlled House.

Ilhan Omar, who married her brother in the commission of immigration fraud, is the first open supporter of female genital mutilation ever elected to Congress.

Rashida Tlaib, who is linked to the Muslim Brotherhood, celebrated her first day in office by referring to President Trump as a "motherf---er" she intended to impeach.

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, who, still wet behind her ears, announced she was now the boss in the House, alerting her fellow Democrats that if they didn't sign up for her Green New Deal they'd face stiff competition in their primaries. Then, for good measure, she warned Amazon not to even consider moving their east coast headquarters to New York, telling them exactly where they could shove their 20,000 new jobs and their tens of billions in tax revenue.

Abigail Spanberger, the first English teacher from an Islamist school (nicknamed by law enforcement "Terror High" because so many of its students were affiliated with Al Qaeda), to be seated in the House.

Donna Shalala, who was Bill Clinton's Secretary of Health and Human Services, is, at 78, the oldest first term member of Congress. Some people just can't let it go, especially if there's still one more federal pension up for grabs.

I'm not sure if there's any diversity of opinion among the five ladies. But at least they represent five different states: Minnesota, Michigan, New York, Virginia and Florida, so no single state carries the brunt of our contempt.

■ Comey and Mueller

Knowing that two years ago, James Comey and Robert Mueller were best friends, I am curious what their relationship is today. The story of these two men has been so entwined with Donald Trump that if a play were ever written about them, Trump would have to be in a basket poised above the stage like the deus ex machina device employed in old Greek dramas. That was the basket they used in order to lower "God" onto the stage in the last act in order to resolve matters to the audience's satisfaction.

In Comey's case, he was despised by Republicans for bringing partisan politics to the FBI and despised by Democrats for briefly opening a case against Mrs. Clinton about a week before the 2016 election. It took Donald Trump to turn the schmuck into a folk hero by firing him months after he should have been let go. His departure should have been handled by a James Bond villain, who would have pulled the lever dropping Comey through the trapdoor and into the shark tank.

In Mueller's case, he was heralded for nearly two years by the Left as the man who was destined to bring Trump crashing down. No man had ever had so many wonderful things said about him without first having to die. Even Republicans lauded him as non-partisan, as a moral giant in a city surrounded by morally deficient pygmies.

Nobody was more surprised than I was when, after nearly two years and \$25,000,000, it turned out they were right and I was wrong.

But, of course, now, the Democrats have changed their minds about this guy. How dare the special prosecutor of their dreams not turn out to be the partisan hack they always assumed he was?

If the likes of Adam Schiff, Maxine Waters and Jerry Nadler, have anything to say about it, Mueller will never again dare show his face in Washington, D.C. But if he should ever come to L.A., I'd be happy to buy him lunch.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Miscellany" was posted at patriot.us on April 8, 2019. Following are excerpts of the article.

I would like to ask a favor. No matter how fascinating you think it is, please don't forward me any more videos or articles. One, they fill up my in-box;

two, I am always disappointed when I open an email from a reader and instead of a comment or a question, it's just something you're passing along. I appreciate the thought, but I nearly always delete the stuff, so better you should save yourselves the trouble.

I am still open to jokes, memes, cartoons and, as I say, comments or questions.

■ Controlling the schools and media

One of my readers let me know she agreed with one of my recent attacks on Liberals, writing: "It's amazing how blind they are. Saul Alinsky was an effective brain-washer! Look at how many people have bought into his methods."

"Starting, but certainly not ending," I replied, "with Hillary Clinton, who, at an early age, had her brains scrubbed clean and spin-dried by the fool who dedicated one of his demonic books to Satan.

"You can force-feed geese, but generally not people, unless, of course, your side controls the schools and the media. That's where the Left beats us every time. They always have their eye on their distant goal, which is ultimately complete control of the nation. Our side never seems to think beyond the next election."

■ Reason for no wall

I don't think President Trump will ever get his wall built. That's because the Democrats don't want anything to interfere with the flood of potential voters streaming across the border, and too many Republicans are terrified of being labeled racists. As for Trump's national emergency executive order, that is likely to be tied up in the courts for a number of years.

■ Wall in Hungary

I believe President Trump would be well-advised to take a cue from Hungary where they've come up with a barrier that would be better than a 30-foot high wall that merely requires a 31-foot ladder to breach it.

The Hungarians, under the leadership of President Viktor Orban, who has even less use for Muslims than I do, has erected a 14-foot double-line fence with a road running between the two lines, making it easy for border guards to patrol. The fences are 14-feet high and include several layers of razor-wire capable of delivering electric shocks. The barrier features cameras, heat sensors and loudspeakers ready to warn migrants they're about to break the law and will have to face dire consequences.

Prior to the fences going up, over 6,000 illegals were entering the country every day. The day after, the number was down to 870. Over the next month, the number declined to less than 40.

■ Congress refuses to deal

It's too bad that Congress refuses to deal with the problem, which would start with the announcement that we are not accepting refugees from south of the border.

No hearings, no judges, no internments. We've accepted well over 20 million, and we're not taking any more. It's the equivalent of saying, "We gave at the office."

They can go to South America or they can remain in Mexico. Nothing personal. We're sure they're all as honest and hard-working as Nancy Pelosi and her stooges claim they are, but, if so, they should stay home and raise the honesty quotient and devote all that hard work to turning Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador, countries where the natives actually want to live.

■ Why women love cruises

After I recently complained about the tedium of taking cruises, I heard from a kindred spirit, Bruce Bass, who wrote to say he had gone on a couple of cruises "to placate my lovely wife, but I felt like I was imprisoned on a rowboat."

I observed: "Although I know a few guys who claim they've enjoyed the experience, I believe that cruises would go the way of buggy whip manufacturers and high button shoes if it weren't for women. Women seem to love being aboard ships. Maybe it's a carryover from all those romantic movies starring the likes of Cary Grant and Deborah Kerr, Paul Henreid and Bette Davis, Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet or Charles Boyer and Irene Dunne.

Or perhaps it's the fact that for a few days at least, the ladies pretty much have the undivided attention of their mates, inasmuch as sports on TV and golf at the club are out of the question. Also, it gives women the chance to dress up every night for dinner and get their husbands to do the same.

For men, the upside is that for the next few years any time the spouse asks them to do something, actually anything, around the house, they get to say: "Give me a break. Didn't I just take you on a cruise?"

■ Truth hurts

When my friend Dick Barry sent me a smorgasbord of really stupid lies prominent Democrats have told over the past week, I replied: "The truth hurts. I suppose that's why Democrats try so hard to avoid it."



"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.

Deficit

■ An article by Josh Banks titled "US Budget Deficit Running 15% Higher Than a Year Ago" was posted at apnews.com on April 10, 2019.

■ An article by Terence P. Jeffrey titled "\$2,198,468,000,000: Federal Spending Hit 10-Year High Through March; Taxes Hit 5-Year Low" was posted at cnsnews.com on April 10, 2019.

Finances

■ An article by Hugh Son titled "Bank of America Says It Will Make \$5 Billion in Mortgages to Low and Moderate Income Borrowers" was posted at cnbc.com on April 2, 2019.

■ An article by Julia La Roche titled "Walmart Plans to Add Thousands of Robot Helpers to U.S. Stores" was posted at yahoo.com on April 8, 2019.

■ An article by George Skelton titled "Sacramento Wants to Tax Soda, Tires, Guns, Water, Pain Pills, Lawyers, Car Batteries, Etc." was posted at latimes.com on April 8, 2019.

■ An article by Abha Bhattarai titled "'Retail apocalypse' now: Analysts say 75,000 more U.S. stores could be doomed [by 2026]" was posted at washingtonpost.com on April 10, 2019.

■ A Reuters article titled "US Weekly Jobless Claims Drop to the Lowest Level Since 1969" was posted at cnbc.com on April 11, 2019.

Green New Deal

■ An article titled "Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez Wants to Get Rid of Freedom in the Economy: Heartland Institute Executive Editor [Justin Haskins]" was posted at foxbusiness.com on April 2, 2019.

■ An article by Lukas Mikelionis titled "NY Dem [Max Rose] Calls AOC's Green New Deal a 'Socialist' Lie, Dares Her to Recruit Candidate to Beat Him" was posted at foxnews.com on April 4, 2019.

■ An article by Lukas Mikelionis titled "Pelosi Appears to Mock Ocasio-Cortez Over Reliance on Twitter for Support" was posted at foxnews.com on April 9, 2019.

■ An article by Rick Moran titled "GOP Wants to Put Democrats on the Spot Again With Vote on 'Medicare for All' " was posted at americanthinker.com on April 11, 2019.

■ An article by Gregory Wrightstone titled "Ocasio-Cortez's Climatology Lacks Historical Context" was posted at townhall.com on April 12, 2019.

Illegal immigration

■ An article titled "ICE Arrests More Than 280 at Texas Business, Largest Workplace Immigration Raid in a Decade" was posted at yahoo.com on April 4, 2019.

■ A Reuters article titled "Inspired by Migrant Caravans, New Wave of Cubans Seek Asylum" was posted at reuters.com on April 9, 2019.

■ An article by Craig Bannister titled "Sarah Sanders: 'Mexico Now Doing More to Secure Our Border than Democrats' " was posted at cnsnews.com on April 9, 2019.

■ An article by Craig Bannister titled “104 Caravans of 100+ Migrants Hit SW Border in 1st Half of FY19; Only 13 in All of FY18” was posted at cnsnews.com on April 10, 2019.

■ An article titled “Hundreds of Migrants Form Caravan in Honduras to Head for the US” was posted at yahoo.com on April 10, 2019.

Comments about weapons

■ An article titled “Sales Soar After Judge Rules California’s Decades Long Ban on High-Capacity Ammunition ‘Unconstitutional’ ” was posted at yahoo.com on April 3, 2019.

■ An article by Matt Vespa titled “Dick’s Sporting Goods’ War With Gun Owners Cost Them \$150 Million Last Year” was posted at townhall.com on April 6, 2019.

Comments about Trump support

■ An article by Javier E. David titled “Jamie Dimon [JP Morgan Chase CEO] Defends Capitalism, Says US Socialism Would Be ‘A Disaster’ ” was posted at yahoo.com on April 4, 2019.

■ An article by Krystal Hu titled “Hank Greenberg [Chairman and CEO of C.V. Starr] Is ‘Not for Socialism, in Any Form,’ Praises Trump” was posted at yahoo.com on April 7, 2019.

■ A Reuters article titled “More U.S. States Push Ahead With Near-Bans on Abortion for Supreme Court Challenge” was posted at reuters.com on April 11, 2019.

Comments about Trump opposition

■ An article by Mollie Hemingway titled “AG Barr Suggests Multiple Intel Agencies Involved in Anti-Trump Spy Op” was posted at thefederalist.com on April 10, 2019.

■ An article by Joe Schoffstal titled “Confidential Memo: Secretive Liberal Donor Club Plots \$275 Million Spending Plan for 2020” was posted at free-beacon.com on April 11, 2019.

■ An article by cnsnews.com staff titled “Controversy Erupts Over Rep. Ilhan Omar Describing 9/11 Attacks As ‘Some People Who Did Something’ ” was posted at cnsnews.com on April 11, 2019.

■ An article by Craig Bannister titled “Rep. Tlaib Hoists Transgender Flag Next to Michigan’s Outside Her Congressional Office” was posted at cnsnews.com on April 2, 2019.

■ An article by Rick Moran titled “All But One Democrat in the House Co-Sponsors a Bill to Allow Males to Compete on Female Athletic Teams” was posted at americanthinker.com on April 11, 2019.

■ An article by Martin Pengelly titled “Barack Obama Warns Progressives to Avoid ‘Circular Firing Squad’ ” was posted at theguardian.com on April 6, 2019.

- An article titled "Black, Gay Woman Elected Chicago Mayor in Historic Vote" was posted at yahoo.com on April 2, 2019.
- A Reuters article by Steve Holland and Roberta Rampton titled "Trump Steps Back From Mexico Border Threat As Companies Warn of Economic Fallout" was posted at reuters.com on April 2, 2019.
- An article by Alexander Coolidge titled "Want Your Avocados, Tomatoes and Berries? Trump Shutdown of Mexico Border Could Cause Shortages" was posted at usatoday.com on April 2, 2019.
- An article by Kristin Dziczek titled "If Trump Closed the Border With Mexico, the U.S. Auto Industry Would Shut Down in Days" was posted at usatoday.com on April 4, 2019.
- An article by Chris Gardner, Borys Kit and Peter Kiefer titled "Mayor Pete Buttigieg Hits L.A. to Boost Hollywood Support" was posted at hollywood-reporter.com on April 2, 2019.
- An article by Alex Seitz-Wald titled "California Rep. Eric Swalwell Enters 2020 Presidential Race With Focus on Guns" was posted at nbcnews.com on April 8, 2019.
- An article by cnsnews.com staff titled "Kirsten Gillibrand: 'What President Trump Has Done Is Destroy the Moral Fabric of Who We Are' " was posted at cnsnews.com on April 5, 2019.
- An article by Grace Segers titled "Bernie Sanders Raised \$18.2 Million in First Quarter" was posted at cbsnews.com on April 2, 2019.
- An article by Natasha Korecki titled "[Elizabeth] Warren Raises \$6 Million in First Quarter" was posted at politico.co on April 10, 2019.

Harris and O'Rourke

- An article by Courtney Mason titled "O'Rourke and Harris the Perfect 2020 Ticket" was posted at mysanantonio.com on April 2, 2019.

Kamala Harris

- An article by Shane Goldmacher titled "Kamala Harris Raised \$12 Million in First Quarter for 2020 Bid" was posted at nytimes.com on April 1, 2019.
- An article by Craig Bannister titled "Kamala Harris Touts Dog 'Survivors' Bill; Voted Against Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act" was posted at cnsnews.com on April 9, 2019.
- An article by Philip Klein titled "A Potential Weakness in Kamala Harris' California 'Firewall' [Is Hispanic Voters]" was posted at washingtonexaminer.com on April 10, 2019.

Irishman Robert Francis (Beto) O'Rourke

- An article titled "Beto O'Rourke Calls Israeli PM Netanyahu a 'Racist' " was posted at globalnews.com on April 8, 2019.

- An article by David Siders titled "Reality Bites Beto After High-Flying Kickoff" was posted at politico.com on April 8, 2019.
- An article by Molly Roberts titled "How Pete Buttigieg Stole Beto O'Rourke's Mojo" was posted at washingtonpost.com on April 10, 2019.

News about the media

- An article by Matt Vespa titled "Scorched Earth: This Liberal Reporter [Michael Tracey] Torched His Colleagues' Russian Collusion Peddling" was posted at townhall.com on April 10, 2019.
- An article by Alexa Moutevelis Coombs titled "Mag [Teen Vogue] Tells Teens: Nothing 'Wrong With Getting an Abortion,' 'Completely Normal' " was posted at newsbusters.org on April 10, 2019.
- An article by Scott Whitlock titled "ABC, NBC Skip Weirdness of Socialist Bernie Sanders Being a Millionaire" was posted at newsbusters.org. on April 10, 2019.
- An article by Curtis Nouck titled "Newsweek Profile Unapologetically Defends Ilhan Omar's Anti-Semitism" was posted at newsbusters.org on April 10, 2019.
- An article by Nicholas Fandacara titled "Nets Give One Minute to Obama Counsel Indictment, Gave Manafort's 60 Percent of Airtime" was posted at newsbusters.org on April 11, 2019.
- An article by Matt Wilstein titled "Colbert Unloads on Trump for Saying Obama Separated Families" was posted at thedailybeast.com on April 9, 2019.

General interest

- An article by Walter Williams titled "Academia's Other Dirty Big Secret Has Nothing to Do With Cheating and Yet Everything to do With Grades" was posted at jewishworldreview.com on March 20, 2019.
- An article by Walter Williams titled "Even More University Corruption" was posted at jewishworldreview.com on March 28, 2019.
- An article by Jamie Ducharme titled "New York City Is Requiring Some Residents to Get Vaccinated Against Measles; Is That Legal and Ethical?" was posted at time.com on April 10, 2019.
- An article by Schrab Ahman titled "Former Pope Benedict Blames Church's Scandals Partly on the 1960s" was posted at nypost.com on April 10, 2019.
- An article by John Kass titled "Kim Foxx Plays the Race Card to Save Herself From Her Jussie Smollett Fiasco" was posted at townhall.com on April 11, 2019.
- An article by Cody Benjamin titled "LeBron James Reportedly Struggling to Recruit NBA Players for 'Space Jam' Sequel" was posted at cbssports.com on April 6, 2019.



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.”